

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. <i>Picard:</i> <i>Here's to the finest crew in Starfleet! Engage.</i> <i>[Music begins. A fast-paced techno beat.]</i> <i>Picard:</i> <i>Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the USS Enterprise!</i> <i>[Music slows, record scratch, and then music speeds back up.]</i> <i>Sisko:</i> <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!</i> It's a <u>new</u> <i>Star</i> —
00:00:17	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[Record scratch, music stops.]</i>
00:00:19	Adam	Host	No it's not. <i>[Both hosts laugh.]</i>
00:00:20	Ben Harrison	Host	What are you doing?! Worlds collide! <i>[Music resumes.]</i>
00:00:24	Adam	Host	It's a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys a little bit embarrassed to <u>have</u> a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Adam Pranica.
00:00:29	Ben	Host	I'm Ben Harrison. <i>[Music fades out.]</i> I think that that was a fair mistake, because we just recorded a little pickup for our other smash hit <i>Star Trek</i> podcast <i>The Greatest Discovery</i> right before we started on today's episode. We had some erroneous information in the last episode. We just needed to—we needed to fix it!
00:00:49	Adam	Host	We had to set the record straight, as we often do.
00:00:53	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:00:54	Adam	Host	If anyone listens to the very end of the episode, you'll find a lot of corrections—
00:00:58	Ben	Host	Yes.
00:01:00	Adam	Host	—back behind the credits. <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> Uh, read in the Micro Machines voice.

00:01:03 Ben Host Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:01:04 Adam Host To squeeze 'em all in.

00:01:05 Ben Host Yeah. It's the fine print of audio. The Micro Machines voice.

00:01:09 Adam Host I'm wondering if I'm fucking up so much already today because I've been drinking poison.

00:01:15 Ben Host What have you been drinking?! What's poisoning you?

00:01:21 Adam Host I made myself an—*[stifles laughter]*—an iced coffee.

00:01:22 Ben Host *[Stifling laughter]* Uh-huh?

00:01:23 Adam Host Uh, before getting on, because when we record in the afternoons, that's usually afternoon coffee time for me.

00:01:27 Ben Host Oh, yeah.

00:01:28 Adam Host And, uh, so I poured myself a big mug of iced coffee. I added just a—*fwtt [hissing noise]*—just a blip of simple syrup.

00:01:36 Ben Host Uh-huh.

00:01:38 Adam Host Gave it a swish. Threw in some ice, and I'm good to go. And I didn't notice until I took it to the dome... uh, that syrup was moldy!

00:01:45 Ben Host Oh no! *[Laughs.]*

00:01:46 Adam Host And—moldy syrup. And I'm usually, like—like, hot tip. Uh, you wanna put a shot of vodka in your simple syrup, if you can.

00:01:53 Ben Host Yeah.

00:01:54 Adam Host 'Cause it—'cause it helps to, uh—helps it last a little longer.

00:01:58 Ben Host Here's another hot tip, Adam. If you do two cups of sugar to one cup of water, that will also make it last longer. And if you combine those two things, it lasts forever.

00:02:09 Adam Host Wow. Uh, I did not know that.

00:02:11 Ben Host Yeah.

00:02:12 Adam Host That's—ordinarily, that'd be something I would learn from a *Let's Drink About It* program, or—or similar. But...
[Ben laughs.]
Yeah! So I—I've been drinking mold today.

00:02:24 Ben Host Mm.

00:02:25 Adam Host And... it made me wonder, Ben. What is the moldiest or most spoiled thing you've ever consumed—
[Ben laughs.]
—and then what happened to you?

00:02:35 Ben Host I don't know if I've ever gotten sick from a thing that was moldy and known it was because of that. I—I'm, like, a total "cut a bit off of a thing and still eat it if it's got mold on it" guy.

00:02:48 Adam Host Yeah.

00:02:49 Ben Host To a point where, like, my wife has been like, extremely dismayed to see me, like, plow through some leftovers that, you know, she—she

would've thrown away, and I wouldn't.

00:03:01 Adam Host

Uh-huh.

00:03:02 Ben Host

But I'll tell you, I, uh—I was sick a couple of weeks ago, as many people know. I was, like, super duper sick in bed for a week. And—

00:03:10 Adam Host

Many people continue to diagnose you.

00:03:12 Ben Host

I know, it's—it's, uh—it's very fun—

00:03:14 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:03:15 Ben Host

—to be told I had COVID, even though I've tested negative several times.

[Adam laughs, Ben stifles laughter.]

Uh, maybe I did. I don't know. I'm—either way, I'm not sick anymore, so... But thank you for your concern.

But I made dinner the other night, and it—I realized, like, when I sat down, it was—uh, it was Beyond burgers with brussels sprouts as a side. Like, sautéed brussels sprouts with garlic as a side.

00:03:44 Adam Host

Sounds like a gassy combination.

00:03:46 Ben Host

I sat down in front of the plate and realized that it was the exact configuration of foods that I had made the night before I woke up very sick. And I could not—

00:03:56 Adam Host

Wow!

00:03:58 Ben Host

I couldn't get through it. I, like—I could take—I cut the burger in half, I took like four bites, and I was like, "I'm—I'm too grossed out to proceed any further."

00:04:08 Adam Host

Your body really remembers that kind of trauma, in an interesting way.

00:04:11 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:04:12 Adam Host

It's one of the reasons I can't drink Coors Light beer. It's 'cause—

00:04:15 Ben Host

Wow!

00:04:16 Adam Host

—'cause I Century Clubbed that beer.

00:04:18 Ben Host

Oh no.

00:04:19 Adam Host

And my body henceforth was like, "We're not gonna do that again."

00:04:22 Ben Host

That's one of the most right-wing consumer dollars you can spend in the United States, with the Coors company. They're big supporters of the John Birch Society, so...

00:04:32 Adam Host

Oh.

00:04:33 Ben Host

Your gain, man!

00:04:34 Adam Host

Alright!

00:04:36 Ben Host

Don't drink that junk!

00:04:37 Adam Host

I have plenty of other junky beers to drink.

[Ben laughs.]

If that's what I'm into. There's no shortage of porch beer options, that's for sure.

00:04:44 Ben Host Yeah. That's a—that's, like, one of the prime types of American beer.
00:04:48 Adam Host And now that microbrews have finally gotten with the program, and are making more and more porch beers these days...
00:04:54 Ben Host Yeah.
00:04:56 Adam Host ...uh, I'm a happy guy!
00:04:57 Ben Host That's a nice move by the microbrews. Like, make a porch beer that is slightly more interesting than a macro, but still crushable as hell.
00:05:03 Adam Host Yeah. Don't give me too much taste.

[Ben laughs.]

Maybe dial it back on that.

00:05:10 Ben Host One thing that has resulted from my having been very sick is that I, like, accidentally went two weeks without having any alcohol. And I was like, "Wow! I'm, like, well into January without having had any alcohol. I might as well just make this a dry January!"
00:05:26 Adam Host And that's where you're at.
00:05:28 Ben Host That's where I'm at.
00:05:29 Adam Host Wow.
00:05:30 Ben Host And then I realized today, there's a very strong likelihood that the Game of Buttholes—
00:05:34 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*
00:05:35 Ben Host —the Will of the Prophets will fuck my dry January up before it is over. And, uh... I think that the Game of Buttholes is in charge on this one. Not gonna drink for fun, but I'll drink for work. *[Chuckles.]*
00:05:49 Adam Host I mean, and in that case, it doesn't count, right?
00:05:52 Ben Host Yeah. Course not! *[Stifles laughter.]*

Like, there are lots of people in my family that have addiction issues. And I never drank until I was of legal drinking age, because I was really scared of it. And I—I entered the waters of consuming alcohol very delicately, because I did not want to find that I had an addictive relationship with it. And I guess maybe the instinct is just, like, re-prove to myself that that's the case? But also... I mean, like, I know.

[Laughs.]

You know? The rule with addiction is that you do things that, like, fuck up other parts of your life to get more, and that's just never been the relationship I had with—with booze.

00:06:37 Adam Host Right. Because you and I can—can always access as much as we need.

[Ben laughs.]

There's never any tradeoff there.

00:06:45 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. It's an abundance issue for us. *[Laughs.]*

00:06:48 Adam Host *[Chuckles.]* Yeah, right! That's how we know it's not a problem!

00:06:52 Ben Host Uh, yeah.

00:06:53 Adam Host It is a lot like, uh, the *Star Trek* franchise itself.

00:06:56 Ben Host Yeah! Right. We could quit any time.

00:07:00 Adam Host Abundance not a problem. What we're here to litigate is the quality of that product.

00:07:06 Ben Host Yes.

00:07:08 Adam Host And, uh—and we might as well get started with today's episode, Ben.

00:07:11 Ben Host I'm into it. It's season 7, episode 23, "Extreme Measures."

00:07:17 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.]

00:07:26 Music Music Discordant orchestral music begins as Adam speaks.

00:07:27 Adam Host So Gene Hackman kills a... unhousted person—

[Ben laughs.]

—and then, uh, puts their body up on a gurney, and then takes them to some weird, like, speakeasy morgue. Right?

00:07:40 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. You're like, "Why is—?"

00:07:41 Adam Host We should turn this episode into what we remember about *Extreme Measures*, the mid-nineties movie.

[Both laugh quietly.]

00:07:46 Ben Host Yeah. Like, why is it such grainy film stock?

[Music stops.]

Do they think that that makes it look cool? 'Cause it just kinda makes it look more like a B movie, which it already weirdly feels like, despite Gene Hackman being in it.

00:07:58 Adam Host What it really is is a morality play!

[Ben laughs.]

Between two different kinds of medical professionals.

00:08:04 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:05 Adam Host One who's willing to sacrifice today for a better future.

00:08:10 Ben Host Right.

00:08:11 Adam Host And the other, the Hugh Grant character, is like, uh, "No, man! This is inhumane!"

00:08:16 Ben Host "We have these ethics for a reason."

00:08:19 Adam Host Yeah. So did you like this episode?

00:08:21 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.]

00:08:25 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* You know, that's actually on theme for this episode in a lot of ways, that—

00:08:28 Adam Host Yeah?

00:08:30 Ben Host "Do we sacrifice our principles now for a better future?"

00:08:33 Adam Host Right.

00:08:34 Ben Host Because the medical professional in question here is one Dr. Julian Bashir, and his patient is Odo—

00:08:42 Music Music A clip from a Mr. Bucket commercial.

Mr. Bucket: *I'm Mr. Bucket!*

Mr. Bucket and Kids: *Buckets of fun!*

[Music stops.]

00:08:45 Ben Host —who is so close to death that they've proactively put him in a torpedo tube. *[Laughs.]*

00:08:52 Adam Host I gotta say, if I were ever in the hospital for any length of time, and I woke to find myself just in a bodybag half zipped up—

[Ben laughs.]

—while a doctor continued to work on me? I wouldn't have a good feeling about my outcomes!

00:09:07 Ben Host Yeah. I guess this thing is supposedly stabilizing him. But, uh, there's—like, he really wants to know, like, what's the trend line? Like, "If you can plot out how badly I'm falling apart here and tell me how much time I have left, that's exactly the information I wanna know," and Bashir declines to speculate on that.

00:09:31 Clip Clip **Bashir:** A week. Maybe two.

00:09:32 Adam Host *[Odo voice; gravelly]* "Why don't you spring for the good stuff,

Bashir?!"

[Ben laughs.]

"The pure aloe vera that you can only get in Hawai'i and hot weather countries?" *[Laughs.]*

00:09:41 Ben Host

[Odo voice] "I'm not talking about that fake gel—"

[Adam laughs.]

"—that's neon green that you see in the end cap at a CVS during the summer."

00:09:49 Adam Host

[Odo voice] "No! I'm talking about, like, the \$20 a bottle stuff that you get behind the counter!"

00:09:53 Ben Host

[Laughs.]

[Odo voice] "What about a Gold Bond medicated lotion? Would that help?"

[Adam laughs.]

[Odo voices stop.]

00:09:58 Clip Clip

Crunch (*The Big Hit*): I said it should have some lanolin in it! Not some goddamn aloe vera bullshit, motherfucker!

00:10:04 Adam Host

Yeah. I think part of the reason he's in the torpedo is for easy clean-up. You know?

[Ben cracks up.]

Like, because the torpedo's kind of bowl-shaped, obviously. And the, uh—

00:10:13 Ben Host

Yeah. It's concave; it's gonna contain.

00:10:15 Adam Host

The casket is open in such a way that—

[Ben laughs quietly.]

—that, like, anything that flakes off of him is just gonna fall harmlessly inside.

00:10:24 Ben Host

They don't even need to pull another sheet of paper across a biobed. It's, uh, no muss no fuss!

00:10:29 Adam Host

We've watched Changelings die before. And it seems like they tend to explode? So... what—what do you think they're expecting to happen if Odo were to succumb to his disease? Probably just flake into—into dead leaves, right?

00:10:46 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:10:48 Adam Host

And then close up the torpedo, and that's—that's the thing?

00:10:50 Ben Host

It does seem to be, like reinforced. There's, like, ribbing on the sides.

00:10:52 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:10:54 Ben Host

So maybe they're just trying to, like, direct the explosion into the—into the tube?

00:10:57 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* God, I wish so bad that that was the certainty.

00:11:00 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. It's like that—

00:11:01 Adam Host Like, all Changelings explode upon death.

00:11:04 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* It's like that reinforced concrete bowl that the bomb squad sometimes uses, you know?

00:11:09 Adam Host *[Laughing]* Yeah!

00:11:10 Ben Host Like, if they know something's gonna go off, and they don't have any way to, like, defuse it in time, they put it in that bowl?

00:11:17 Adam Host *[Odo voice]* "Doctor, why are you wearing a full-body suit?"

00:11:20 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

[Odo voice] "Why do you have those wire cutters, Bashir?"

[Adam laughs, Ben stifles laughter.]

"What are you doing?"

[Odo voices stop.]

00:11:24 Clip Clip **Dr. Bashir:** Let me emphasize, Odo, that I haven't given up hope.

00:11:28 Adam Host He wants to see Kira. Uh, who, throughout this entire scene I was like, "Where is she?" Like, I'm looking all around the bedside, I'm not seeing her. Uh, she had to wait outside.

00:11:38 Ben Host Yeah.

00:11:39 Adam Host But she's not far away, and she comes in, and she does that nice thing that people who love a sick person do. Like, they walk into the hospital room, and they're—she's like, uh, "How's my flakey little guy doing?"

[Ben laughs.]

"My—my crusty little breadstick?"

[Ben laughs.]

"My—my crunchy little scone?"

00:11:59 Ben Host "That's a big pile of autumn leaves that I'd love to just leap into right there!" *[Laughs.]*

00:12:04 Adam Host "How's my dry bowl of cereal doing?"

[Ben laughs.]

"You know you're my Raisin Bran, don't you? You know it!"

00:12:13 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

He, uh, basically kicks her off the station. If she has her way, she is staying by his side until the end. And he—like, A, would like her to be much more focused on helping the Cardassian resistance. And B, does not want the last thing he sees before he shuffles loose this mortal coil to be grief on Kira's face.

00:12:41 Adam Host This is a great moment for René Auberjonois. Like, I really had some feels here. It's hard not to put yourself in his place, just thinking about—you know, so much of my life, Ben, has been about trying not to be a burden on other people.

00:12:56 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:12:57 Adam Host So, like, when I saw what he was trying to do, I was like, "Yeah, man! I get that completely!" But also, it's an example of an actor knowing, probably, so many times you get this scene where it's like that—that scene in the movie where someone nurses an animal back to health and has to release them into the wild, and has to, like, yell at it to set it free. Like—

00:13:17 Ben Host Yeah. "Get outta here!"

00:13:19 Adam Host Right! But this never feels that way.

00:13:21 Ben Host Yeah.

00:13:22 Adam Host And I think it's because of the quality of the actors and the acting in the scene. It's really nicely done.

00:13:28 Ben Host I agree. I also liked how much of the history of the characters is baked into it. Like, he talks about her losing Bareil, like, in the same room.

00:13:38 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:13:39 Ben Host And he's thinking about, like, the real, lived experience of this character, and not creating a haunted place for her in the future.

00:13:50 Clip Clip **Kira:** Isn't that my choice?

00:13:51 Ben Host She agrees to what he asks.

00:13:53 Adam Host Yeah. Uh, if you love someone... go away.

[Both laugh.]

00:13:58 Ben Host Set yourself free, I guess?

00:14:00 Adam Host Right. *[Laughs.]*

"If you go back, you didn't actually listen to what they were saying?"

00:14:06 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:14:07 Adam Host I think that's how the saying goes, right?

00:14:08 Ben Host Yeah.

00:14:09 Adam Host "If you go back, why are you being such a selfish jerk?"

00:14:11 Ben Host *[Odo voice]* "I know why the uncaged bird sings."

[Adam laughs.]

"Because she won't have to look at me dying."

[Both laugh.]

00:14:21 Adam Host *[Odo voice]* "I'm concerned about seeing the pain in her eyes, and also the fear. Moments before I explode."

00:14:27 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

[Odo voice] "Knowing that I could take her with me."

[Odo voices stop.]

Uh, one of the grossest kisses in *Star Trek* history. She, uh—she kisses him goodbye. Desp—even though he's super flakey.

00:14:40 Adam Host It's like when you, uh—when you bite into a powdered donut, and your face is covered in—in powdered sugar.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

Kira—Kira pulls away from the kiss and it looks like she's, uh, sprayed her face with glue, and then taken a dive into a pile of dead leaves.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

00:14:58 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. She walks down the Promenade, and Chief O'Brien sees her and he's like—

[O'Brien impression; Irish accent] "Oh, she must've had one of them deluxe jumja sticks!"

[O'Brien voice stops.]

00:15:05 Adam Host Outside, it's O'Brien and Garak left to brief Sisko on the status of the Breen weapon. Not a lot of good news about what's going on here.

00:15:16 Ben Host Yeah. Garak and Kira have to kinda cut loose because they, uh—they have to slip past a lot of Jem'Hadar patrols to get back to resistance HQ.

00:15:27 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Good hunting to you both.

00:15:29 Ben Host And so they're off. And this McLaughlin Group—

00:15:35 Clip Clip **John McLaughlin (*The McLaughlin Group*):** Issue one!

00:15:36 Ben Host —kind of changes configurations. Because now it's Bashir and O'Brien there talking to Sisko about, uh, what their big, diabolical plan is W/R/T Section 31.

00:15:51 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** We believe that they are responsible for infecting Odo in the first place.

Sisko: *[Bewildered]* What?!

00:15:55 Adam Host I feel like if we were ever to do an awards show for *DS9*, Avery Brooks's take of "What?"—

00:16:02 Clip Clip **Sisko:** *[Bewildered]* What?!

00:16:04 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Is so good.

00:16:05 Adam Host —is an all-timer. An all-time single-word line-read.

00:16:09 Clip Clip **Sisko:** *[Bewildered]* What?!

00:16:10 Ben Host Yeah.

00:16:11 Adam Host It's incredible.

00:16:13 Ben Host His jaw is on the fucking floor. He is... gobsmacked by this. Because it's like—it's so interesting to me, because, like, nobody ever says

this, but what O'Brien and Bashir have set about doing is a perfectly Section 31–style plan.

00:16:32 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:16:33 Ben Host

It's like, "We're gonna use illegal technology. We're going to spread misinformation. We're going to lure this guy here and torture him until we get the information inside his head. We're gonna, like, completely throw all of the rules, regulations, ethics, and morals out the window in order to trap Sloan and get the solution to Odo's problem."

And at the end of the scene, Sisko's like, "Well... it's a—any number of crimes, but I guess it's what we have to do, because it's already in motion."

00:17:07 Adam Host

Yeah. I—*[sighs]*. I mean, this is also coming from a guy who... not quite explicitly told Worf to kill Gowron in the last episode, you know?

00:17:16 Ben Host

[Laughs.] Right. Yeah.

00:17:19 Adam Host

And isn't this the version of Sisko that I think we were promised at the end of "In the Pale Moonlight," right? The guy who may... feel... justified, in—in taking a path like this.

00:17:30 Ben Host

Yeah. Absolutely. I mean, like, the last time we saw Sloan, it was clear that, like, you can't—like, you can't go for help when Section 31 is in play. Nobody—like, if you start asking for help in Starfleet, people will hear that are in a position to make it harder, not easier, for you to get help. And so you kind of have to go outside the law in order to do it.

But—I don't know. Like, I thought a lot about what could be done with this episode. And this is the episode about saving Odo. And... I wondered if, since this is the end run of the last season, what if it's kill Odo, and then Starfleet has this horrible, like, xenocide on its record, and people have to deal with that? Like, isn't that also an interesting story to tell here?

00:18:32 Adam Host

Hearing you say that almost makes me want more runway, and a season eight. Because—

[Ben laughs.]

Isn't it interesting, like, how neutrally Starfleet has treated Odo almost from the start, right?

00:18:45 Ben Host

Right.

00:18:46 Adam Host

They don't really consider him an ally; they don't really consider him a threat. As a utility, I think he's got such possibilities. Possibilities that really go unrealized for most of the series.

00:18:59 Ben Host

Right.

00:19:01 Adam Host

It's part of the reason that we're in this place with him, and in the show. Right? Is 'cause they just sorta kicked the Odo can down the road, and now, "I guess we'll let him die. 'Cause... we haven't really cared that much about him up until now, anyway."

[Ben laughs quietly.]

It's a strange indifference. Uh, officially, I mean.

00:19:19 Ben Host Yeah. A very, like, cold indifference.

00:19:21 Adam Host Yeah. And I wonder if the show had done more work up until now, in increasing his value to the extent that we've got to save his life, and we have a very strong group of voices on the station going, "We've gotta do all that we can," and a counterargument that says, "He's a huge threat," that would make this conflict... juicier than it is.

00:19:41 Ben Host Hm.

00:19:42 Adam Host Because no one's talking to each other. It's just whisper between Bashir, O'Brien, and Sisko, and then what may or may not be happening at Starfleet HQ.

00:19:51 Ben Host Totally. I mean, like, liking Odo and having him be, like, part of the team on Deep Space 9 is enough for me to believe that these characters will do almost anything to save his life.

00:20:01 Adam Host Right.

00:20:03 Ben Host But I thought that a bigger story could be told. I'm not saying I dislike this episode, I'm just saying, like, they could've gone so many other ways with it, and I think it's interesting that this is what they chose.

00:20:14 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.]

00:20:19 Adam Host So the plan to lure someone from Section 31 is still the plan. Like, first idea best idea is what they're gonna go with.

00:20:27 Ben Host Yeah.

00:20:28 Adam Host And the plan is for Bashir to get this person on the station, and then use a Clip Show Device that he stole from the Romulans to get the information from them about, uh, the ingredients for the cure.

00:20:41 Clip Clip **Sisko:** Since they're illegal in the Federation, I'll assume that's another reason you didn't come to me.

00:20:46 Ben Host He says, "I don't think that this has a great chance of working, and it's illegal and immoral, but... go ahead."

00:20:53 Adam Host After the theme, I had the thought, "Why does O'Brien even wear a uniform anymore?"

[Ben laughs.]

Like... are we sure he's on duty here? We should catch up with Rom doing all of his work, like, "What the fuck?!"

[Both laugh.]

00:21:08 Ben Host Yeah.

00:21:10 Adam Host His life is a living hell now.

00:21:11 Ben Host "I haven't seen Leeta in weeks, and—like, I'm just elbow-deep in the warp cores of different Birds-of-Prey all the time."

00:21:19 Adam Host Yeah!

00:21:20 Ben Host "And nobody's even, like, helping run the schedule for my team, because the chief engineer is AWOL."

00:21:27 Adam Host Yeah, and if he's not AWOL, he's playing darts. That's where he finds Bashir, after hours at Quark's.

00:21:34 Ben Host Yeah.

00:21:35 Adam Host Bashir has broken into his favorite bar, uh, an action that I personally was very jealous of, really.

[Ben laughs.]

Like, get some after-hours time at a bar? Have you ever done that? That's—that's some of the best time!

00:21:48 Ben Host Well, when I used to work at a bar, I would, uh—

00:21:49 Adam Host Oh, yeah.

00:21:50 Ben Host —I would enjoy the after-hours quite a bit. You know, going home at like seven AM after you clock out at 4:30 because you closed at four is, uh—

00:21:59 Adam Host Man.

00:22:00 Ben Host —is fun stuff.

00:22:01 Adam Host That's a late night. That's when I knew I was in with, uh—with our favorite bartender in Seattle. When the sign turned, and the door got locked, and I found myself inside still?

[Ben laughs.]

That's good stuff.

00:22:15 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** How'd you get in?

00:22:16 Ben Host This scene made me wonder, when is the last time Bashir slept?

00:22:20 Adam Host Yeah.

00:22:22 Ben Host Because the last episode was about how he's been pulling, like, all-nighter after all-nighter. Four all-nighters in a row. And now here he is! It's after hours at Quark's. Quark's has gotta have a late closing time, right?

00:22:35 Adam Host Yeah, you know they're going off of New York City closing time hours—

00:22:39 Ben Host Yeah.

00:22:40 Adam Host —and not Seattle closing time hours.

00:22:42 Ben Host *[Chuckles.]*

And there Bashir is. He tosses off a line that the lock was not very complex, which we know to be false. We know that the lock on Quark's is extremely complex.

00:22:54 Adam Host *[Stifling laughter]* Mm-hm.

00:22:55 Ben Host And he's—he's, like, doing that—the dart-throwing of a man who is convicted in how important it is going to be to destroy Section 31.

00:23:03 Adam Host He's doing the kind of dart-throwing that you imagine would feel very good if you were upset, but would be so destructive in—*[laughs]*—

00:23:12 Ben Host Yeah. *[Chuckles.]*

00:23:14 Adam Host —in the wall, in anything around the dartboard...

00:23:16 Ben Host It, uh—it does cut to the wall at one point, and Bashir, on, like, a dot matrix printer has printed out a picture of Sloan and put it up over the dartboard.

00:23:25 Adam Host Yeah.

00:23:26 Ben Host And it is just... Swiss cheese.

00:23:28 Adam Host Bashir makes the case in this scene that I think is—is pretty elegant. Like, he makes the case against conspiracies existing in the first place. Because for something like what's going on here to have happened, the amount of people involved would have had to have been large enough to make it impossible to keep such a secret.

00:23:55 Ben Host Right.

00:23:56 Adam Host That's the gymnastics he's doing in his mind. Like, it just doesn't quite—

00:24:00 Ben Host Right. You're telling me no one of these 73 people ever got drunk and, like, bragged about it to their buddy?

00:24:06 Adam Host Right.

00:24:08 Ben Host Or anything?

00:24:09 Adam Host Right.

00:24:10 Clip Clip **David Ferrie (JFK):** It's a mystery wrapped in a riddle inside an enigma!

00:24:11 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** Well, you won't get any argument from me on that.

00:24:15 Adam Host Like, you know what's gonna melt Odo? Jet fuel.

[Ben laughs.]

And lots of it.

00:24:20 Ben Host Yeah. I mean, it's funny, 'cause like, Bashir seems, like, very fixated on, like, "We've gotta bring 31 down."

And O'Brien is—is like, "Hey, remember Odo?"

[Both laugh.]

00:24:31 Adam Host Yeah.

00:24:32 Ben Host "We gotta save that guy, and then if it's possible, bring 31 down."

And Bashir's like, "Right, right, right."

00:24:37 Adam Host Prize on the eyeball, Bashir.

00:24:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:41 Adam Host This is a good scene for O'Brien, though. This is why they work so well together. There's a compatibility.

00:24:45 Ben Host Mm-hm. And O'Brien doesn't have anything else to do, so he might as well.

00:24:48 Adam Host When Bashir goes to bed that night, he wakes up with Sloan at his bedside. Which begs the question: Has anyone who Sloan appeared at bedside with... jacked it since the first time he did that?

[Ben laughs.]

Like, if you knew someone could appear at any time, I think I'd take a break. Until I knew what was going on.

00:25:08 Ben Host I would definitely be lights-on jacking it—

[Adam laughs.]

00:25:10 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Ding!]*

00:25:11 Ben Host —in that case. 'Cause I would wanna know to be able to throw a blanket over myself.

00:25:16 Adam Host Right.

00:25:17 Ben Host If and when I started to see a transporter beam start to materialize.

00:25:21 Adam Host You know, as much as we're making the case that it's shocking and horrible for the people that Sloan pops in on, imagine how awful it is for Sloan.

00:25:31 Ben Host He's seen awful things.

00:25:33 Adam Host Yeah. The worst things.

00:25:35 Clip Clip **Bashir:** Which I'm happy to see you swallowed.

00:25:36 Ben Host It's no wonder he's so radicalized!

[Adam laughs.]

Like, he's got this, like, totally skewed sample of people at their worst. That's when he always sees them. You know?

00:25:48 Adam Host He's the sort of guy that they made *8mm* about.

00:25:51 Ben Host Bashir has basically set up a Mouse Trap for Sloan. Bashir, like, hits the lever, and it causes a ball to go down a chute and, you know, hit a croquet mallet that knocks into a post that a net is on, and that falls on Sloan. And Sloan is trapped. Some kind of forcefield here. And the game is afoot.

00:26:12 Clip Clip **Sloan:** *[Mild, pleasant]* You've got me.

00:26:13 Ben Host I love that he has to drop the forcefield then, after they've, like, monologued at each other for a second, to phaser Sloan. *[Laughs.]*

00:26:21 Adam Host Yeah. That's big fun. And then Sloan wakes up in a biobed, underneath another forcefield.

00:26:28 Ben Host Yeah.

00:26:29 Adam Host And this is great.

00:26:30 Ben Host It's a very complicated system of forcefields and phasers.

00:26:32 Adam Host I love a bad guy yelling at the guy who's trapped him from within the forcefield.

00:26:39 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:26:40 Adam Host Like, Sloan is super pissed.

00:26:42 Ben Host Yeah! And threatening, like, O'Brien's family and stuff. Like, real depraved shit. And, uh—

00:26:49 Adam Host O'Brien's like, "I don't know who you're talking about, and I know the viewers don't know who you're talking about either!"

00:26:54 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

"What, you mean that offscreen character that occasionally sends crab rolls to us?"

[Adam laughs.]

"We can get crab rolls all kinds of places, dude!"

00:27:03 Adam Host Yeah. I was... positive, before this happened, that Sloan would have a cyanide tooth.

00:27:09 Clip Clip *[Sloan is struggling.]*

Bashir: Damn!

00:27:11 Ben Host I was just—I thought they were lucky that it wasn't a, uh—a Duke Leto tooth, where he exhaled and, like, nearly killed O'Brien or something.

00:27:19 Adam Host Right. Sloan sees the hypocrisy of this scene. The hypocrisy that is suggested in that earlier scene between O'Brien, Bashir, and Sisko is actually described here by Sloan.

00:27:32 Clip Clip **Sloan:** That's a little un-gallant, isn't it?

00:27:34 Adam Host Before he chews on his tooth.

00:27:36 Ben Host He has sort of scrambled his hard drive. Much like when you have a data—a data emergency. You've accidentally wiped the wrong memory card, and that shot you can't get again was on the memory card that got wiped. You gotta get that—you gotta go download that software—

00:27:56 Adam Host *[Pained whisper]* God.

00:27:57 Ben Host —that's \$100 just to see if there's any hope of recovering the file. It's fucking corrupted.

00:28:02 Adam Host I'm getting chills.

[Both stifle laughter.]

Hearing you describe this. But there's never any hope, Ben. You're never getting that shot back.

00:28:09 Ben Host No. You could send it to one of those services, but... gimme a break. That's not happening.

00:28:14 Adam Host The consequence is that he's gonna live—

00:28:16 Ben Host Yeah.

00:28:17 Adam Host —but only for an hour. So we're setting up an artificial countdown here, for the rest of the ep.

00:28:22 Ben Host Yeah! They need a device to go into the brain, and this made me think—this would be a great opportunity to bring back the Underutilized X-Men!

00:28:30 Music Music Brief clip of the *X-Men: The Animated Series* opening theme, by Ron Wasserman. Action-packed rock-techno closed by a sizzle of electricity.

00:28:33 Adam Host No shit!

00:28:35 Ben Host They're great at making brain-probing machinery!

00:28:38 Adam Host Should keep one of 'em around. Or all of 'em!

00:28:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:28:41 Adam Host *[Stifles laughter.]* I love how there's a—there's a pregnancy to the moment of, like, "Well... we're doing real damage here! Do we just let him die in peace, or do we, uh, continue down this road?"

And Bashir's like, "Well, have you seen the movie *Extreme Measures*?"

[Ben laughs.]

00:28:53 Music Music Drawn out orchestral music.

00:28:55 Adam Host "Because an argument between Gene Hackman and Hugh Grant, uh, might be related to what we're going through here."

00:29:03 Ben Host It's tempting. You might see it on a streaming service and be like, "What is this mid-nineties Gene Hackman, Hugh Grant movie that I've never even heard about?"

[Adam laughs quietly.]

"Maybe I'll give this a watch tonight!" And then you'll be like, "What am I watching?" *[Chuckles.]*

[Music record-scratches to a halt.]

And that's sort of the question that they keep asking themselves for the rest of this episode. Because they've got 43 minutes—one episode of television—to get in, find the cure, and get out. They've gotta go brain-splunking.

00:29:32 Adam Host If we're lucky enough to make it to another MaxFunDrive with *The Greatest Generation*—

[Ben laughs.]

—uh, I think a great reward would be a donor-only feed episode of *The Greatest Generation* doing *Extreme Measures*, the Gene Hackman, Hugh Grant movie.

[Ben laughs.]

00:29:48 Music Music The same haunting, discordant orchestral music.

00:29:50 Ben Host Oh, yeah. That would really motivate people.

00:29:52 Adam Host Because—

00:29:53 Ben Host Because that has such a beloved following.

00:29:57 Adam Host We're making that canonical *Greatest Gen*.

00:29:59 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

If we get ten thousand new and upgrad—*[breaks off, laughing]*—

[Music stops.]

00:30:06 Adam Host Someone over at, uh, Amazon Prime is looking at the data, and they're like, "Uh, hey, boss!"

[Ben laughs.]

"Something—something really crazy is going on with the metrics for the mid-nineties Gene Hackman, Hugh Grant movie *Extreme Measures!*"

00:30:20 Ben Host "We can't explain this! It usually gets zero views, and now it's getting... some views!"

00:30:27 Adam Host "It's showing here that it's gotten... three views?"

[Both laugh.]

"My god!"

00:30:33 Ben Host "That's over 300% more views than it normally gets!"

[Both laugh.]

00:30:36 Adam Host "This has to be a mistake."

00:30:37 Ben Host All of Amazon web service goes down as they, like, pull the servers apart trying to find where the error is coming from.

[Both laugh.]

00:30:48 Adam Host "You don't understand, this is impossible!"

00:30:50 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9* and *TNG*.

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

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

Commander, what are you doing now?

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

I'm not Picard

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

Picard:
Exactly.

[Music ends.]

00:31:06 Adam Host We get a really fun set of cross-dissolves here as we go through the process of possibly extending Sloan's life, getting him to wear the Clip Show Headband...

00:31:16 Ben Host Yeah. A second, bigger Clip Show Device is brought in. And—

00:31:20 Adam Host It's kind of a Clip Show Sweatband, it's so thick!

00:31:25 Ben Host Yeah. He's a maniac, maniac on the biobed.

[Adam laughs.]

And he's dying like he's never died before. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:31 Adam Host Right. As Bashir describes it, uh, to an O'Brien who is trying his hardest not to laugh—

[Ben laughs.]

—the plan is to walk around Sloan's mind, as if it were real.

00:31:43 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** You've explained it to me three times, and I still don't get it.

00:31:47 Adam Host Uh, sure there could be some dangers involved.

00:31:49 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:31:51 Adam Host But before Bashir can finish describing the situation, O'Brien has volunteered to go with.

[Ben laughs.]

Volunteered so fast that he's not gonna tell his wife, his kid, or... anyone else on the station that that's what he's gonna do.

00:32:03 Clip Clip **Bashir:** Just have to trust me, Chief.

00:32:04 Adam Host He's gonna hop right in there and be the Sundance to Bashir's Butch Cassidy.

00:32:09 Ben Host Yeah. They, uh—they're going on an adventure inside the mind. And they lie down themselves, and put on their own Clip Show Devices, and jack into the Sloantrix.

00:32:23 Adam Host They're missing someone as a part of this team, Ben. They're missing the body person. The guy who's in the room, monitoring their vitals!

00:32:32 Ben Host I feel like Christopher Nolan watched this episode and stole its premise and made *Inception*, and made that key improvement—

00:32:40 Adam Host Yeah.

00:32:41 Ben Host —that one person stays awake, and has the silver briefcase, and pushes the button or—or tips you into the tub when they need to.

00:32:51 Adam Host *Flatliners* did it first! Like, you need someone with the paddles!

00:32:55 Ben Host Yeah. Gotta have those paddles!

00:32:57 Adam Host I love how Bashir's like—when O'Brien presses him on how they, uh—they Sloan end program—

[Ben chuckles.]

—if they wanted to leave his brain, Bashir's like, "Yeah, I can just raise my blood pressure or something, and that'll break the spell, and that'll get us on outta there."

And O'Brien... totally believes it. It seems pretty believable.

00:33:15 Ben Host He's like, "Cool. So we don't have to, like, play... old Édith Piaf records or anything?" *[Chuckles.]*

00:33:21 Adam Host It's all very simplistic.

00:33:23 Ben Host They materialize inside—

00:33:24 Clip Clip **Lt. Tuck Pendleton (*Innerspace*):** I'm a strange man, surrounded by strangers, in a strange room!

00:33:28 Ben Host —and they are in a Deep Space 9 turbolift, which is... falling rapidly.

00:33:33 Clip Clip *[Dire music and electronic noises.]*

00:33:34 Ben Host And they think they're gonna die.

[Clip audio fades out.]

And then they don't.

[Clip audio fades back in.]

00:33:37 Clip Clip **Bashir:** Are you sure?

[Clip audio stops.]

00:33:38 Adam Host That's so interesting that, uh—that you're a turbolift falls person. Because when I watched this scene, I thought they were going up too fast.

00:33:46 Ben Host Well, I guess the... you know, smashing against the ceiling and smashing against the floor would have the same cat-food-ification effect.

00:33:54 Adam Host You know, it just stands to reason when you and I look at a turbolift moving super fast—

[Ben laughs.]

—you're a "turbolift moves down" and I'm a "turbolift moves up."

00:34:04 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:34:05 Adam Host It's why we work so well together.

00:34:06 Ben Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* You're really the yin to my yang.

It's weird. It's like a cut to commercial, and then they're not going super fast?

00:34:13	Adam	Host	Right. <i>[Laughs.]</i> I wish that the turbolift had open sides, so you get the wind effect?
00:34:20	Ben	Host	That would've been good! They're very ginger about, like, letting go of the guardrails. And the doors open, and they are met by a much softer side of Sloan.
00:34:31	Clip	Clip	Sloan: Welcome!
00:34:32	Ben	Host	He's kinda dressed like Picard getting ready to go on vacation here. And perfectly happy to, uh—to host them, and would even like to tell them the cure to the disease that Odo has. But when he tries, his words come out scrambled.
00:34:51	Clip	Clip	Sloan: Believe me, I wanna tell you what you need to know! Bashir: Then tell us. Sloan: I can't!
00:34:55	Clip	Clip	Music: Quick, panicked horns. Speaker: I can't! <i>[Clip audio stops.]</i>
00:34:57	Adam	Host	There's a threatening feeling to knowing a person or a character as a bad person, and for that person to treat you kindly.
00:35:06	Ben	Host	<u>Yeah.</u>
00:35:07	Adam	Host	That they are doing here. Because this is <u>nice</u> Sloan. This is Sloan out of the leather and into a, uh—a natural garment.
00:35:14	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:35:15	Adam	Host	This is Sloan with a wife, and a child. A Sloan being praised by his friends and family, and then eulogizing <u>himself</u> in such a way that is almost <u>more</u> ominous and threatening—
00:35:28	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:35:29	Adam	Host	—than a man in leather waking you up from a slumber.
00:35:31	Ben	Host	I mean, it's—I would feel very upset if, as Sloan does to Bashir and O'Brien, somebody said that they'd like me to come to a party, and it turns out to be them hosting their own funeral? <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:35:43	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:35:44	Ben	Host	Very awkward! And weird that it's, like, him taking this opportunity to apologize to his loved ones and family for devoting himself to his work. He tells his wife, <i>[Al Pacino impression]</i> "I told you when we got together, babyyy!" <i>[Adam laughs quietly.]</i> "You were gonna share me with every unethical act to advance the cause of the Federation!"
00:36:06	Adam	Host	Sloan turns to Bashir and O'Brien, and he's like, <i>[Al Pacino impression]</i> "You can walk around in my mind!" <i>[Ben laughs.]</i>

"You can ride my turbolift! But you cannot... watch... my motherfucking television set!" [*Impression ends.*]

00:36:20 Ben Host [*Laughs.*]

"You can enjoy my postmodernistic bullshit space station!" [*Impression ends.*]

00:36:30 Clip Clip **Vincent Hanna (*Heat*):** Oh, yeah, I made Ralph fuck you! Because it makes me feel good.

00:36:33 Ben Host [*Chuckles.*]

We learn that his first name is Luther. I don't know—did we learn that [when he was pretending to be a cartographer?](#)

00:36:39 Adam Host I think so.

00:36:42 Ben Host Yeah.

00:36:43 Adam Host Ever since I watched the, uh—the hit BBC series *Luther* (*loo-ther*) starring Idris Elba, uh, I always pronounce that word "Luffa." (*Loo-fuh.*)

00:36:51 Ben Host [*Laughs.*] I never watched that, but that's very fun!

00:36:55 Adam Host Oh, he's great in that. Really great.

00:36:57 Ben Host Yeah. That's a scrubby, desiccated sea creature that's great at repairing guitars.

[*Adam laughs, Ben stifles laughter.*]

00:37:05 Adam Host Did you get the sense that, uh, Jessica—who is Jessica Sloan, I should say—

00:37:11 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:37:12 Adam Host Uh, Luffa's wife—was kind of turned on by Sloan's speech here! I thought. I think Sloan's self-eulogy really flooded her basement.

00:37:21 Ben Host [*Laughs.*] Yeah. She's like, "Finally, he's the emotionally available man that I had hoped I had married!"

00:37:28 Adam Host Yeah.

[*Ben laughs.*]

Yeah.

00:37:30 Ben Host "I knew this was in here somewhere!"

00:37:32 Adam Host Too late now. Jessica's like, uh, "I'm gonna go get the PADD with the ingredients to cure Odo, because you're having a problem with your words, hubby."

And once she makes with the PADD—

00:37:44 Clip Clip **Sloan:** Here you go, Doctor.

[*Phaser fire.*]

[*Someone screams.*]

00:37:47 Adam Host —Leather Sloan, from the hallway, shoots Husband Sloan before he can give the PADD to them.

00:37:54 Ben Host Yeah.

00:37:56 Adam Host Which is really cool, because the beam splits between O'Brien and Bashir. It's a great shot!

00:38:00 Ben Host Oh, I didn't notice that! That's awesome.

It's devastating. The party is gone. They're alone in the wardroom now. And, uh—I wanted the camera to, like, cut to the floor for that PADD.

00:38:13 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:38:14 Ben Host And have it just be—you know, just have the PADD be gone or something. But like, I was like, "The PADD didn't get shot. Sloan got shot, so..." *[Stifles laughter.]*

00:38:19 Adam Host Right.

00:38:21 Ben Host "So where's the PADD? The PADD's what we need!"

00:38:23 Adam Host And in dream logic, like, all the party guests have disappeared.

00:38:27 Ben Host Yeah.

00:38:28 Adam Host The banquet table with all that food's gone.

00:38:30 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:38:31 Adam Host Uh, the—the turned-on wife, also gone. The scene has changed.

00:38:35 Ben Host We cut back to reality, where, in a darkened room, Sloan and Bashir and O'Brien are lying on their slabs, and Sisko and Ezri are just kind of, like, walking among them, going like, "What are they doing in here?" *[Laughs.]* "I wish they'd left one person awake to explain what's going on!"

00:38:56 Clip Clip **Ezri Dax:** Then I guess this isn't some kind of obscure meditation therapy.

00:38:59 Adam Host Sisko, to his credit, is like, uh, "We better get a medical team in here to figure this out, because we don't quite know what we're looking at."

00:39:07 Ben Host "And also security to stand outside the science lab? Because, like, a highly wanted criminal actor and two of our most important officers are in here unattended, with the door unlocked? Unconscious?"

[Both chuckle quietly.]

00:39:24 Adam Host As soon as the security team is told that Sloan is immobilized in there, they're like, "Yeah, give me... uh, between five and seven minutes—"

[Ben laughs.]

"—and I'll be there. I just need to take care of something I've been meaning to do. Uh, and I haven't been able to do for, like, weeks."

00:39:37 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

"Trust me, it won't take long. I'm ready to go."

00:39:42 Adam Host "I need you to know that I'm gonna be better at my job—"

[Ben laughs.]

00:39:50 Ben Host "—if I can just take care of this thing. And then show up—probably closer to, like, three or four minutes."

Yeah. "This sounds like the kind of mission that will take focus, and no distractions."

[Adam laughs.]

00:40:04 Adam Host "And honestly, like, I could be 100% better on both of those things in three minutes if you just can give me that."

"Look, I've already started doing the thing that I've told you I need to do before showing up to work."

[Ben laughs.]

"So I think honestly we're talking about 90 seconds to two minutes, tops, and then I'll be over there. But again—and I can't emphasize this enough—this needs to happen for me to be effective at my job."

[Beat.]

00:40:21 Ben Host "Listen. Step one, replicate a tube sock. Step two, get out an iPad. Like, it's gonna go... lickety-split."

[Adam laughs.]

"You're not—you're—it would blow your hair back if you could be here in the room for it, but honestly that's kind of the problem that I'm trying to solve for, so you can't."

[Both chuckle.]

00:40:38 Adam Host Those poor security people have had an entire career of maybe a drinking glass being Odo in their room—

[Ben laughs.]

—and also the possibility of Sloan just appearing at any moment, at any given time.

[Ben laughs.]

00:40:53 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips from *DS9* and various other sources.

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

Norm (Cheers): Evening, everybody!

Kira: Morn!

MC Hammer: Stop! Hammer time.

[Music ends.]

00:41:00 Ben Host Bashir and O'Brien, in the dream, leave the wardroom and find themselves not on Deep Space 9 anymore, but in a Federation hallway of some kind. They're walking around. They get set upon by another Section 31 leather daddy, who phasers both of them.

00:41:19 Clip Clip **Bashir:** We need to speak to SI—!

[Bashir is cut off by a phaser blast. There's a second blast, and O'Brien cries out.]

00:41:23 Ben Host But the phaser wounds are painful, and they're, like, trying to wrap their minds around this. Like, "This is supposed to be a fucking dream." Like, "Who cares about a phaser?"

00:41:31 Adam Host At this point in time, I would have expected O'Brien to start to fall apart. Because he's a guy who's been to mind prison before.

00:41:41 Ben Host Yeah.

00:41:42 Adam Host Uh, he's been fucked with in this way, and it hasn't gone well. But what's happened here is they're both, uh, cranky, and hurt by this experience.

00:41:52 Ben Host Yeah.

00:41:53 Adam Host And Bashir is like, "You know what? Enough of this. I'm going to, uh, Sloan end program." But he can't make it work.

00:41:59 Ben Host They try to give up, and they fail!

00:42:02 Adam Host Yeah.

00:42:03 Ben Host They fail to fail!

00:42:04 Adam Host This is something I don't understand.

00:42:05 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** *[Strained]* Doesn't make sense.

00:42:06 Ben Host O'Brien should be mad! You're totally right! Like, I don't think that it was sold to him as, "There is a risk of us dying or being hurt going in here." It's just a—it's just a "put on the VR goggles and laugh at how cool VR is for three minutes until it makes you nauseous, and then you have to take off the VR goggles."

00:42:26 Adam Host He gives voice to a question I think we've had over the course of many years talking about *Star Trek*, which is: What is the mission that rises to the level of doing a bigger goodbye than usual before you go to work? You know?

00:42:39 Ben Host Right. Yeah.

00:42:40 Adam Host 'Cause he's regretting never seeing his wife and kid again, in a way that I don't feel like you and I were told we'd never see Keiko and Molly again.

00:42:46 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* The show sort of did that to us already! In a lot of ways.

00:42:51 Adam Host We know exactly how that feels! To have a—

00:42:52 Ben Host Yeah.

[Both laugh.]

00:42:54 Adam Host To possibly lose a couple of people that you care a lot about?

00:42:57 Ben Host Yeah! He wishes he'd written them a letter, and... that would have been an interesting scene. It would have been interesting, like—getting to this point in writing the script, it would have been interesting if they'd been like, "No, let's go back and write it that, like, they know that this is a huge risk, and have him say, like, 'Hey, I'm going spelunking in the mind of this terrible guy.'"

00:43:18 Clip Clip **Geordi La Forge:** I'm guilty of a terrible crime, Doctor!

00:43:22 Ben Host "And it's a big risk, but I gotta do it for Odo."

Like, that would've been an interesting scene! And you could've given Rosalind Chao a little on-screen time!

00:43:31 Adam Host Yeah. Keiko would obviously be sad, but I think a not insignificant part of her character would feel like this was a mercy death. Like, finally O'Brien is free.

00:43:41 Ben Host And finally Keiko is free, too.

00:43:44 Adam Host Right!

00:43:45 Ben Host Anyways. They're sitting there, kind of bemoaning what has happened to them, when the light at the end of the tunnel shows up down one of the hallways. And they sort of realize that this is death beckoning. And they walk out, and instead of dying, it's them waking up in the science lab with Worf and Sisko there to, uh—as the welcoming committee. And a nurse, who—and they're telling them, like, "Hey. Sloan is actually, like, right on the brink of death, and there's no way we're letting you, like, stay in there with him, because he could take you down with him."

00:44:24 Adam Host They wake up and Sloan's already in his torpedo tube.

00:44:27 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. They're like, "We're just doing this now as a policy. You know, anybody could be a Changeling, so we put them inside one of these so if they explode when they die, it can contain some of the blast."

00:44:40 Adam Host The scene before they pop out of Sloan's brain felt like they approached saying something really interesting, but didn't have the nerve as a show to actually say it. You know?

00:44:51 Ben Host You mean the thing about O'Brien and Bashir liking each other more than—

00:44:55 Adam Host Yeah!

00:44:56 Ben Host —O'Brien and Keiko?

00:44:57 Adam Host Yeah! You could sense that they're approaching saying something that could be... that could be off-putting to people.

00:45:04 Ben Host Yeah.

00:45:05 Adam Host Or significant in a different way, and it seems like the scene gets interrupted in such a way that they don't get that chance. And so you get kind of the bends. Like, because they approach this moment in their relationship, uh, and then they emerge from... Sloan's mind, and then they're right back into mission priorities.

00:45:26 Ben Host That's interesting. 'Cause like, I know lots of couples where, you know, like, the people in them will declare that their partner is also their best friend. And other couples where that never felt true, but that doesn't make me feel like they don't love each other and have a

really deep connection as a couple.

00:45:45	Adam	Host	Right.
00:45:46	Ben	Host	And a lot of the time, there is a value judgment placed on one or the other. Like, "Oh," like, "if you're saying your wife is your best friend, there's something wrong with you," or, "Oh, if your wife <u>isn't</u> your best friend, there's something wrong with you." And I think that there is interesting writing to be done on... "It works differently for different couples." [<i>Stifles laughter.</i>] And that would've been a nice thing to see here, but I agree, they kind of didn't sink their teeth into it as much as they did—they could have.
00:46:14	Adam	Host	Yeah. I agree. Bashir tries to get the nurses to save Sloan, but their efforts fail, and Sloan is dead.
00:46:22	Ben	Host	Yeah. I think it is the second of <u>three</u> times that Sloan dies in this episode. [<i>Laughs.</i>]
00:46:27	Adam	Host	What I love about <i>Star Trek</i> is that they play you the single brass instrument of a loss of hope in this scene, so <u>I'm</u> willing to <u>believe</u> that Sloan's actually dead.
00:46:37	Ben	Host	Yeah. [<i>Laughs.</i>]
00:46:39	Adam	Host	Like, the show knows the technologies it uses to suggest a thing has happened, including the single brass instrument.
00:46:45	Ben	Host	Yeah. And they can make it feel even more real by whipping out that flugelhorn.
00:46:50	Adam	Host	Right.
00:46:52	Ben	Host	Bashir heads back to his room and starts reading his book, which... starts <u>very</u> late in the book. It's, uh—the opening passage is on, like, page 296. And Bashir cites this as evidence that they are still in the simulation. It's a—it's the classic, "We're still inside the Matrix" plot device.
00:47:16	Music	Music	Music sting, bass drum or timpani and low brass customarily used to indicate a plot twist.
00:47:19	Ben	Host	So he and O'Brien keep poking around, and they find their way into evil, full-leather-daddy Sloan's office. This <u>is</u> Section 31. They've made it into the Holy of Holies, where all the secret info is kept.
00:47:38	Adam	Host	And this is a part of the brain that gets <u>bangers</u> dropped on it. And this is a technique that raises the tension here, too. Not only are we running out of time, but bangers are getting dropped. You got leather Sloan reclined in an office chair, kind of <u>goad</u> ing Bashir about all of this great intelligence all around him. Like, there's not an inch of his desk that isn't covered in something secret and interesting.
00:48:04	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:48:05	Adam	Host	And it puts Bashir in the—into the position of having to—like, this is kind of the fallacy of the episode, right? Because I think the episode is suggesting that Bashir has a choice. Either he Supermarket Sweeps—
00:48:18	Clip	Clip	Leslie Jones: SUPERMARKET SWEEEEEP!

[Crowd cheers.]

00:48:21 Adam Host —Sloan's desk into his cart.

00:48:22 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:48:24 Adam Host And like, runs out of his mind with all this stuff? As if he could possibly do that. Or he takes the necessary intelligence about the Odo cure and saves his own life. But I don't think—like, the show is telling us that he's at risk here...

00:48:38 Ben Host Yeah.

00:48:39 Adam Host ...but I never felt like this was effectively portrayed. Because if Bashir were to stay long enough to gather all of the information on all of the bookshelves of Sloan's mind, he'd die. And then he'd never be able to share that information with anyone anyway.

00:48:57 Ben Host You have to believe that the Sophie's Choice is between destroying 31 or saving Odo, and that Bashir opts for saving Odo. But in order to believe that, the, like, lethality of staying in the simulation any longer needs to—you really need to buy that. And I just don't. I feel like because they've used so much misdirection and—and tricks to keep us in the simulation as long as we've been in, it's hard to believe—since we've been stuck inside it, it's hard to also believe that it's gonna kill them if he dies while they're still in.

00:49:37 Adam Host I think part of it also is, like, a banger has such a different quality than a degrading holosuite program where you see the static and the shit happen in frame—

00:49:50 Ben Host Right.

00:49:51 Adam Host —where you really get a sense of how much time you have left in that circumstance, that a banger just doesn't give you enough information.

00:49:56 Ben Host Right. It's kind of the language of a ship being attacked to give us a sense of the degradation of his mind. But yeah, maybe they should've gone with another way of illustrating that.

00:50:11 Adam Host It's fucking nuts, because Bashir just leaves with the Odo PADD, even though, uh, he's got another hand.

[Both stifle laughter.]

00:50:18 Ben Host Yeah.

00:50:19 Adam Host So—O'Brien has two!

00:50:20 Ben Host Yeah.

00:50:22 Adam Host Like, grab a couple of randoms and get the fuck out!

00:50:24 Ben Host Get the thing about Jaresh-Inyo having a Section 31 person in his cabinet.

00:50:30 Adam Host Yeah.

00:50:31 Ben Host I wanna see Inyo go down! Even if he's out of office, I wanna see him impeached. You know?

00:50:36 Adam Host Yeah.

00:50:37 Ben Host Fuck that guy!

00:50:38 Adam Host It's worth it to send a message.

00:50:40 Ben Host Yeah.

00:50:41 Adam Host Grab that PADD that says, "How Tons of People Like to Jack It."

00:50:45 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* It's just a spreadsheet of different materials, and...
[Adam laughs.]

00:50:57 Adam Host "Oh, this guy uses a, uh—a hand towel. This guy over here uses a roll of paper towels."
I love that that PADD has, like, a labeler sticker on the top that says that. It's not—
[Both laugh.]

00:51:08 Ben Host No.
00:51:09 Adam Host It's actually labeled.
00:51:10 Ben Host So they, uh—they don't waste any time. They get a hypospray ready for Odo. Um, Odo alive looks a lot worse than Sloan did dead, at this point. And, uh—
[Adam chuckles.]

00:51:28 Clip Clip Bashir says, "This ain't gonna hurt a bit. It's gonna hurt a lot." And administers the injection.
Music: Eerie, slowly rising strings from out-of-tune to triumphant.
[Odo gasps.]
[Music continues.]

00:51:36 Adam Host I wish that, uh—that he closed the lid to the tube on him.
[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

00:51:44 Ben Host Just in case.
Uh, yeah. It's, uh—I—it's interesting. I don't know how much more painful this can be than how bad Odo already seems to be.
[Clip audio fades out.]

00:52:00 Adam Host I thought they did a really great job of making him look even worse at the end of the episode than he did at the beginning.
Because you really have to plan that out!

00:52:02 Ben Host Yeah.

00:52:03 Adam Host Like, the stages of this need to be visual. And you need all... 12 of them. Or however many there are. You know?

00:52:11 Ben Host Yeah, however many shots he needs to be in, and what time has transpired in between.

00:52:15 Adam Host When did *Star Trek* characters start screaming in pain?

[Beat.]

00:52:21	Ben	Host	Hm.
00:52:22	Adam	Host	That was a question I had when I watched this episode, you know, right off of the heels of the third season of <i>Star Trek: Discovery</i> , where it seems like <u>everyone</u> is screaming as <u>loud</u> as they can when they're in pain. This would be that moment, right?
00:52:32	Ben	Host	Once an episode. <i>[Laughs.]</i> They, uh—that have a little celebration, O'Brien and Bashir. They've once again broken into Quark's Bar. Quark is really gonna have to get Rom to replace that lock at this point. 'Cause they're also stealing expensive booze from behind the bar.
00:52:52	Adam	Host	You never keep your good stuff in the speed well, though; I thought that was weird! Like, it's just <u>right there</u> ?
00:52:58	Ben	Host	Very strange.
00:52:59	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:53:00	Ben	Host	Some of the fancier stuff in certain bars gets kept under <u>lock and key</u> . You know?
00:53:04	Adam	Host	Yeah. I think they need a—a bar advisor on this show.
00:53:07	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs quietly.]</i> Yeah.
00:53:09	Adam	Host	That would've helped.
00:53:10	Ben	Host	That would've been good. Is O'Brien drinking Bushmills?
00:53:13	Clip	Clip	Jimmy McNulty (<i>The Wire</i>, “Back Burners”) : That's Protestant whiskey. Bartender : Price is right, ain't it?
00:53:15	Adam	Host	<i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Kinda looked that way. Yeah. Thought the same thing. I love how they find the good stuff and then just take it to the dome!
00:53:21	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah, they are pouring themselves, like, <u>two-finger</u> glasses of that and just <u>knocking</u> them back. Holy shit.
00:53:29	Adam	Host	So for some reason, O'Brien in this scene remembers that dinner is waiting, and this is a scene of science fiction to me.
00:53:36	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:53:38	Adam	Host	Because if you know that you have a dinner plan, and you have made a choice to go to the bar, and haven't told anyone about that choice? <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> And <u>then</u> , in order to cover your ass, you bring a friend to dinner, so that you're putting off the big fight you're gonna have by showing up late, by bringing a buddy to it? Oh boy, O'Brien.
00:53:59	Ben	Host	All of this is terrible math. And—and listen. Like, think about the timing here. We're talking about them in Quark's, after hours, specifically.

00:54:09 Adam Host Yeah. When do the O'Briens eat?

[Ben laughs.]

00:54:15 Ben Host That math doesn't check out.

00:54:15 Ben Host Yeah. The button on the episode is them heading to dinner. And, uh, O'Brien heading for the wood chipper.

[Both laugh.]

00:54:25 Music Transition Did you like the episode, Adam?

00:54:25 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.]

00:54:29 Adam Host You know, there were four or five moments where this episode just didn't make any fucking sense. At all.

[Ben laughs quietly.]

00:54:42 Ben Host But it was paced in such a way that the moment I started to have doubts about the logic, uh, we were just on to the next.

00:54:42 Ben Host Yeah.

00:54:43 Adam Host And that felt... fairly intentional.

00:54:45 Ben Host Very Christopher Nolan-y in that way.

00:54:47 Adam Host Yeah. This is definitely a kind of *Star Trek* episode that we get from time to time.

00:54:51 Ben Host Yeah.

00:54:52 Adam Host The "stuck in a holodeck," the "what's it like in someone's mind" type episodes. And I feel like you can't compare those to any other kind of episode. You can only compare them to—to kinds of that type. And I thought, uh... of that genre of *Star Trek* episode, I thought this was a fun one.

00:55:11 Ben Host I did, too! I think—it's very interesting to me that they gave an entire episode just to O'Brien and Bashir here in the end run. Like, I haven't been thinking about episodes in terms of, like, "This is gonna be a Kira episode. This is a Sisko episode. This is an O'Brien episode" so much. But this one really felt like a little bottle where they were like, "Okay. We're just gonna tell a very, like, focused, tight little story that has big implications for the rest of the arc, but feels like a little break in the middle of that long story arc."

And I like it as that. I like the "catching our breath before the breathless conclusion," which I'm sure we're in for.

00:56:01 Adam Host Makes me wonder how intentional it may have been to just honor these two characters with an entire episode like this. Because it feels like the search for Odo's cure might have been a cozy A or B story in another episode's story. You know?

00:56:19 Ben Host Yeah. But I feel like Sloan getting a big finale was fun. Like I said, there is a really strong case to be made for having Odo be, uh, killed in this—

00:56:34 Adam Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

00:56:35 Ben Host—in this episode. And having the, like, weight of that carry storylines into the future. Like, what if Odo had died but they got the cure?

00:56:45 Adam Host Right.

00:56:46 Ben Host Then they have this weird quandary. Like, "Do we offer it to the Founders? Do we sue for peace by saying 'We can cure your disease'?"

00:56:52 Adam Host *[Emphatic]* Yes. Yeah.

00:56:54 Ben Host Like, there's so many interesting directions you could take that.

00:56:57 Adam Host I wonder if we're gonna get the moment where Odo goes back to work, and he's like—

[Odo voice] "Alright. Who wants to go over the reports?"

[Ben laughs.]

[Odo voice stops.]

And he looks around the security office and no one has showed up for work.

[Ben laughs.]

00:57:07 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Crickets.]*

00:57:09 Adam Host And then when they finally do, they are exhausted-looking.

[Crickets stop.]

00:57:13 Ben Host Well, uh, nothing—nothing exhausting to me about Priority One Messages, Adam. Do you wanna see if we have any of those in the old inbox?

00:57:21 Adam Host I mean, we only do two. Because, uh, that's about as many times as we can do Priority One in that amount of time.

00:57:28 Ben Host *[Chuckles.]* In a single day.

00:57:30 Adam Host Yeah.

[Ben laughs quietly.]

Feels like a couple of years ago, Ben, we used to be able—like, we probably could have done more Priority One Messages when we were younger.

00:57:37 Ben Host Yeah. In the early days, when we were younger?

00:57:40	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:57:41	Ben	Host	Yeah. I have less stamina now. Sad!
00:57:44	Clip	Transition	Computer: <i>[Beeps four times.]</i> Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secured channel. <i>[More beeping.]</i>
00:57:48	Music	Transition	"Push it to the Limit" by Paul Engemann, mixed with clips from various sources. Ernie McCracken (Kingpin): <i>We need a supplemental income.</i> Roy Munson (Kingpin): <i>Supplemental income?</i> Ernie: <i>Supplemental.</i> Roy: <i>Supplemental.</i> Ernie: <i>Yeah, it's extra.</i> Ralph Offenhouse (TNG): <i>Why, the interest alone could be enough to buy this ship!</i> <i>[Coins drop on a hard surface.]</i> <i>[Music ends.]</i>
00:57:58	Music	Music	Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."
00:57:59	Adam	Promo	Ben, our first Priority One Message is of <u>promotional</u> nature!
00:58:02	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[The coin drop effect plays over itself three times.]</i>
00:58:03	Adam	Promo	And it is about <i>Closing Crawl</i> , a podcast that you can find on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, or wherever you find your podcasts. "Closing Crawl is a new podcast about the <i>Star Wars: The Clone Wars</i> animated series—"
00:58:17	Ben	Promo	Oh!
00:58:18	Adam	Promo	"—and each week we seek to answer questions such as: If recap podcasts about decades-old TV shows were ships, and <i>The Greatest Generation</i> was the USS <i>Enterprise</i> , which podcast would be the USS <i>Hood</i> ?"
00:58:31	Ben	Promo	Wow. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:58:32	Adam	Promo	" <u>Or:</u> Gonk droids! Snog, marry, or avoid?" <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> "And: Who is more evil? The Republic, or the Separatists?"
00:58:41	Ben	Promo	Wow.
00:58:43	Adam	Promo	"Closing Crawl welcomes all the <i>Star Wars</i> -curious Friends of DeSoto to join us." So once again, you can find <i>Closing Crawl</i> on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, or wherever you find podcasts! Sounds like a fun—
00:58:56	Ben	Promo	Man!
00:58:57	Adam	Promo	—a fun riff on a very rich part of <i>Star Wars</i> , that <i>Clone Wars</i> animated series.
00:59:05	Ben	Promo	I saw the, uh, feature—there's a <i>Clone Wars</i> animated feature film

that I actually saw in theaters.

00:59:11	Adam	Promo	Hm!
00:59:12	Ben	Promo	And I remember enjoying it. I—and I also remember, like, <u>wishing</u> I'd seen more of the animated series, 'cause it seemed like they were kind of drawing on beloved characters and storylines that I had no context for.
00:59:25	Adam	Promo	Yeah.
00:59:26	Ben	Promo	'Cause I haven't watched any of that. And that sounds like a great podcast, too! <i>Closing Crawl</i> . If I do my animated <i>Star Wars</i> re-watch that I've been meaning to do for years, I'll be sure to check out <i>Closing Crawl</i> .
00:59:39	Adam	Promo	That sounds like a lot of fun.
00:59:40	Ben	Promo	Adam, our next message is from Josh, and it's to Kristin! It goes like this: "Happy anniversary to my imzadi! You introduced me to VOY. (That's short for <i>Voyager</i> .) And I introduced you to <i>Deep Space Nine</i> . Thirteen years later, the sky's the limit. Love you tons."
01:00:03	Adam	Promo	Boy, from what I've heard about <i>Voyager</i> and what I know about <i>Deep Space Nine</i> , it would seem as though, uh... one of the two really made out better on that deal. <i>[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]</i>
01:00:15	Ben	Promo	I would argue that, uh—that <u>Josh</u> made out better. How about <u>that</u> ?
01:00:21	Adam	Promo	Alright!
01:00:22	Ben	Promo	Uh, Josh and Kristin's anniversary was in, uh, early October, so, sorry that that's so late. Um... Just checking here. It looks like we are now seeing stuff booked into... I—I see things as late as September 2021 on our calendar.
01:00:39	Adam	Promo	That is <u>awesome</u> !
01:00:40	Ben	Promo	So if you want to get a Priority One Message up against a specific date, please think well in advance about that.
01:00:47	Adam	Promo	Love to see it!
01:00:48	Ben	Promo	Happy belated anniversary to Josh and Kristin, and thanks for the support, <i>Closing Crawl</i> ! And if you'd like to get a P1 on the show, head to MaximumFun.org/jumbotron , where it's a hundred bucks for a personal message and two hundred for a commercial message. <i>[Music ends.]</i>
01:01:07	Ben	Host	Hey, Adam!
01:01:08	Adam	Host	What's that, Ben?
01:01:09	Ben	Host	Did <u>you</u> ... find <u>yourself</u> ... a Drunk Shimoda ?
01:01:12	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.]

01:01:14 Adam Host Uh, I'm gonna take a little bit of an unusual path to my Drunk Shimoda, and I'm gonna say two people.

01:01:22 Ben Host Mm!

01:01:23 Adam Host And this is, like, in keeping with the original Drunk Shimoda ethos, right? Someone who is making a decision that doesn't make a lot of sense?

01:01:31 Ben Host Yeah.

01:01:32 Adam Host Someone acting in a way that could put other people in danger!

01:01:35 Ben Host Right.

01:01:36 Adam Host And for me, I just can't think of anyone else besides Gene Hackman and Hugh Grant.

[Ben bursts out laughing.]

01:01:41 Music Music Off-key horns and strings, chaotic and panic-inducing.

01:01:42 Adam Host For deciding—*[stifles laughter]*—for deciding to do *Extreme Measures!*

01:01:48 Ben Host Yeah.

01:01:49 Adam Host And you know, good for them, for—for their careers surviving that decision.

01:01:53 Ben Host Yeah.

01:01:54 Adam Host Uh, but at the time, I mean...

[Ben laughs quietly.]

Kind of a lot at stake there.

[Ben laughs, music stop.]

And just a bewildering, uh, career choice.

01:02:03 Ben Host Yeah.

01:02:04 Adam Host A strange movie.

01:02:05 Ben Host "What's the pitch of your movie? It's a movie about people being cruel to the unhoused?"

01:02:09 Adam Host Right.

01:02:10 Ben Host "That'll put butts in seats!" *[Laughs.]*

01:02:12 Adam Host Just two hours of that!

01:02:13 Ben Host Yeah.

01:02:14 Adam Host *[Stifling laughter]* What about you, Ben?

01:02:16 Ben Host My Drunk Shimoda is Bashir, for his, uh, inelegant attempt to dance around the fact that this injection is going to hurt like hell. And for how badly, uh, Odo just saw right through him.

[Adam chuckles.]

I love that. I love Odo just saying, like, *[stifles laughter]* "Don't bullshit

a bullshitter, Doc. Give it to me straight. This is gonna suck, right?"

I love medical interventions that work instantly, by the way. You know?

01:02:42 Adam Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, no shit!

01:02:44 Ben Host You ever gotten, like, a blood blister under a fingernail, and had a doctor, like, do the thing where they put a hole and release the pressure?

01:02:51 Adam Host I haven't.

01:02:52 Ben Host And like, the pain just, like, goes away. It's amazing.

01:02:54 Adam Host That sounds really nice. That sounds like sweet release.

01:02:57 Ben Host Yeah. Almost worth the, like, nights of agony while your fucking hand feels like it's gonna fall off before you get that.

01:03:05 Adam Host Yeah, almost.

01:03:06 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!

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.]

01:03:25 Adam Host Well, uh, is—are our final episodes of *Deep Space Nine* gonna be worth the agony that got us here?

[Ben laughs.]

It's a question that you'll answer when you tell us which episode's coming up next. And it's a question that the Game of Buttholes—

01:03:40 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

01:03:41 Adam Host —Will of the Prophets will answer once I head over there.

01:03:43 Ben Host Yeah! Head over to Gagh.biz/game while I tell you about season 7, episode 24, "The Dogs of War."

"With the Cardassian resistance crushed, the Federation war against

the Dominion reaches the prelude (*prel-yud*) to the—to one final showdown."

The prelude (*prel-yud*), Adam! It's the penultimate episode of *Deep Space Nine*! And it's a prelude (*prel-yud*).

01:04:08	Adam	Host	Why do you keep saying it that way?
01:04:11	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Preliad!
01:04:15	Adam	Host	Was your first car a Honda... Prel-yood?
01:04:19	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> No, I didn't have any—I didn't have any nice cars!
01:04:25	Adam	Host	Yeah, that was a nice car when I was in high school!
01:04:27	Clip	Clip	Falow (DS9, "Move Along Home"): You are required to learn as you play. Roll. <i>[The Wadi are tapping their klon peags (sticks) rhythmically, and continue during the segment. Clip audio and podcast audio are intertwined for the next several lines.]</i>
01:04:31	Adam	Host	Alright, Ben. Uh, I can't believe it, but we have—we've crawled back quite a ways in the Game of Buttholes: Will of the Prophets. We're three rows from the top. We're on square 75. And, uh, just ahead, we've got a Nth Degree episode. That's about the only thing that we're in danger of hitting. And really, if you're me, and you've done the statistical analysis—which I have <u>not</u> , but I've read about—a Twitter Friend of DeSoto named Jeremiah—he's @JParryHill—actually ran the numbers, and says that I'm haunted by the ones. In my 74 rolls, a one has come up <u>twenty</u> times, or <u>27%</u> of the time.
01:05:14	Ben	Host	That's <u>totally</u> — <i>[laughs]</i> —that's so wild! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:05:17	Adam	Host	Yeah. So it's not just in my head; it's actually happening!
01:05:20	Ben	Host	Wow. Alright. Well, uh, I'm getting ready for you to hit square 76, Adam, but, uh, let's let fate decide.
01:05:26	Clip	Clip	<i>[Quark breathes on the dice.]</i>
01:05:27	Ben	Host	Go ahead and roll that bone.
01:05:28	Clip	Clip	<i>[Dice roll. Tapping stops.]</i>
01:05:29	Adam	Host	Uh, I have rolled a <u>five</u> .
01:05:30	Clip	Clip	Falow: Chula! Crowd: <i>[Laughing]</i> Chula! Chula! Quark: Did I win?! Falow: Hardly! <i>[Clip audio ends.]</i>
01:05:33	Ben	Host	Whoa!
01:05:34	Adam	Host	Which has put us on square 80. It's a regular old episode. And you know what's fun about where we are, is that when it comes time to roll the die again for our last, last, last episode of <i>Deep Space Nine</i> , just ahead is the No Notes square.
01:05:51	Ben	Host	Wow.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

01:05:52 Adam Host Which would be a really fun twist to put on a two-hour episode.

[Both laugh.]

01:05:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** No kidding.

Adam: That's big fun.

01:06:01 Ben Host Wow. Alright, buddy. Well, uh, I am looking forward to next week's episode in a big way.

01:06:08 Music Music Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" begins fading in.

01:06:09 Ben Host I'm hoping folks who enjoy this program will tell a friend about it. Maybe leave us a nice review on Apple Podcasts. If you have a question for us that you'd like us to answer at the beginning of an upcoming episode, we might, uh—we might be able to find it on Apple Podcasts if you leave that question in your review.

You can also support us financially by going to MaximumFun.org/join, and set up a little monthly contribution! You'll get access to the bonus feed, and you'll have our eternal gratitude.

01:06:41 Adam Host Big thanks, as always, to our social media employee Bill Tilley. I—he's not just an employee, he's a friend! This is like that—

01:06:51 Ben Host He's a friend, he's a daddy... He's a zaddy!

01:06:53 Adam Host This is like that scene in *Clear and Present Danger* when the president's like, uh, getting advised on how to describe a person involved in a scandal.

01:07:02 Ben Host Mm-hm.

01:07:03 Adam Host Like, uh, you don't just say that he's the card daddy, you say he's the best card daddy.

[Ben laughs.]

You don't just say he's the best card daddy, you say he's a—he's one of the best card daddies that ever existed. It's Bill Tilley. Uh, he runs the ones and the twos on Twitter and Instagram. You can find both at @GreatestTrek.

01:07:23 Ben Host We gotta thank our buddy Adam Ragusea, who made the original theme music for this program, and Dark Materia who made the original "Picard Song" upon which all of that is based. The 'Gus (*goose*) hard at work on new theme music for the show, which will debut in a couple of weeks!

01:07:40 Adam Host I am psyched to hear that. The 'Gus is so talented when it comes to the music that, uh, it's almost a shame that he's making a wildly popular [YouTube channel](#) dedicated to cooking.

[Ben chuckles.]

Which is, uh, an even better use of his great talent.

01:07:57 Ben Host Indeed. I think that just about does it, Adam.

01:08:01 Adam Host Wow. Well, 'til next time, we'll be back at you with another great

episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and an episode of *The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine...* which may be better off just watching a mid-nineties movie starring Hugh Grant and Gene Hackman.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

01:08:22 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.]

01:08:37 Music Transition

A cheerful ukulele chord.

01:08:38 Speaker 1 Host

MaximumFun.org.

01:08:40 Speaker 2 Host

Comedy and culture.

01:08:41 Speaker 3 Host

Artist owned—

01:08:42 Speaker 4 Host

—audience supported.