

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>
00:00:15	Music	Music	Record scratch back into "The Picard Song," which plays quietly in the background.
00:00:16	Ben Harrison	Host	Welcome to <i>The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine!</i> It's a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed to have a <i>Star Trek</i> podcast. I'm Ben Harrison.
00:00:26	Adam Pranica	Host	I'm Adam Pranica. <i>[Music fades out.]</i>
00:00:28	Ben	Host	Adam, we are—we're here at the penultimate episode of <i>Deep Space Nine</i> . A series that was pretty much new to you, and a lot new to me as well.
00:00:41	Adam	Host	Oh, yeah.
00:00:42	Ben	Host	I mean, I've watched all of it, but I didn't, like—I didn't retain it the way I retained <i>TNG</i> . So...
00:00:47	Adam	Host	This wasn't your <i>SNL</i> .
00:00:49	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs quietly.]</i> Yeah. Chris Kattan was nowhere to be found here, and therefore... <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:00:55	Adam	Host	Can you imagine Dr. Bashir as played by Chris Kattan? <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> Would have been amazing!
00:01:01	Ben	Host	Yeah! He would have, uh, messily chewed up a lot more apples, I'll tell you that much!
00:01:07	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:01:08	Ben	Host	But I thought maybe a fun way to celebrate nearing the end here would be to—uh, for me to quiz you on some general <i>Deep Space Nine</i> knowledge. And I found a quiz on HowStuffWorks.com . I have no idea how long this quiz is, so maybe we'll—we may punch out before we've reached the end of it, depending on how much clock

we've eaten up.

00:01:32 Adam Host I can blame Chuck for, uh, me failing miserably at this.

00:01:35 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, I think, uh—I think that's only fair, Adam. I'm sure he had his hands all over the creation of this quiz.

00:01:42 Adam Host You know who I can rightly blame is you, for quizzing me on a show that we've been doing at the end of it. I didn't know that was the deal I'd signed up for.

00:01:52 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Well, we could do it together! I mean, I think that the way this website is set up, I don't see answers here. So I could, uh—we could, like, talk through these and answer 'em together. And I'm sure we'll get some of these things wrong.

00:02:07 Adam Host Oh, yeah. I—I'm looking forward to that.

00:02:10 Ben Host Okay.

00:02:11 Music Music Quiz music. Rapid, pulsing techno.

00:02:15 Ben Host Well, here's our first question, Adam:

"What year did the show debut? 1989, 1991, or 1993."

00:02:24 Adam Host Well, '89 was when *TNG* premiered, right? So it can't be that.

00:02:27 Ben Host Yeah. Cannot be that.

00:02:30 Adam Host I think I'd vote for the latest one. I think I'd vote for '93. Even that sounds early, though!

00:02:36 Ben Host Yeah! It's crazy to think that it's '93. But it is!

00:02:39 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Synth chimes.]*

00:02:40 Adam Host I still don't believe it. I think the quiz is wrong.

00:02:42 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Well, people I'm sure will tell us if something about this quiz is wrong. *[Laughs.]*

Alright, next question:

"*Deep Space Nine* aired during the same time period as what other space-themed show? *Star Trek: Voyager*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, or *Battlestar Galactica*."

00:03:03 Adam Host I mean... aren't all these answers correct?

00:03:07 Ben Host I think it definitely overlapped with *TNG* and *Voyager*. So...

00:03:11 Adam Host Yeah!

00:03:13 Ben Host This quiz is already seeming sus—a little bit sus to me. I think that reboot of *Battlestar Galactica* maybe came a little later.

00:03:20 Adam Host Mm. Well, uh, I've clicked on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, and that seems to be the only correct answer.

00:03:28 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Synth chimes.]*

00:03:30 Ben Host Wow. What the hell? *[Laughs.]*

00:03:33 Adam Host Oh, here's a question!

"Which character was originally slated to be Sisko's second in command?"

So this is—this is a little fantasy casting, fantasy writing here. Answers possible are Ezri Dax, Worf, and Ro Laren.

00:03:49	Music	Music	Short clip from "The Time Is Now" off the album <i>You Can't See Me</i> by John Cena. Triumphant, energized brass.
00:03:52	Ben	Host	Oh, I do remember that Ro Laren was maybe supposed to, and then—and then Michelle Forbes took a role on a different show.
00:04:00	Adam	Host	Right. I mean, how differently would this series have been? With a Ro Laren as Number One!
00:04:07	Ben	Host	Yeah. Hard to picture. I wonder if they would've kept her in the Starfleet uniform in that context, if it had been Lieutenant Ro as the second in command.
00:04:20	Adam	Host	Both of us are correct. The answer <u>is</u> Ro Laren. I do remember reading that bit of trivia early on in the series.
00:04:27	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[Synth chimes.]</i>
00:04:29	Adam	Host	Michelle Forbes went on to make a different career choice. She was in a... weird bayou vampire show for a number of years.
00:04:37	Ben	Host	Wow. Fun.
00:04:38	Adam	Host	And, uh, she was great on that! She's a great actor. I'm a big fan.
00:04:44	Ben	Host	How about this one, Adam? "Before <i>Deep Space Nine</i> , Avery Brooks played a character on which show? <i>Baywatch</i> , <i>Spenser: For Hire</i> , or <i>Magnum P.I.</i> ?"
00:04:55	Adam	Host	God. Many years ago, my wife and I took a trip, and I think for weather reasons we were just kind of trapped in our room.
00:05:03	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Uh-huh.
00:05:05	Adam	Host	And a reliably great source of entertainment is going to be whatever channel it is that plays <i>Baywatch</i> 24 hours. <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> And we watched <i>Baywatch</i> I swear for an entire day.
00:05:18	Ben	Host	Wow!
00:05:19	Adam	Host	Just nothing but <i>Baywatch</i> . And, uh—
00:05:20	Ben	Host	I don't believe I've seen a <u>single</u> episode of that program.
00:05:25	Adam	Host	It is <u>so</u> much fun. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:05:28	Ben	Host	Wow.
00:05:29	Adam	Host	If you're in the right frame of mind to just, uh— <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> —to just turn it off, completely. Turn off your brains.
00:05:34	Ben	Host	Yeah. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:05:35	Adam	Host	Uh, that's—and just plug in to the <i>Baywatch</i> ? It's fantastic. Uh, what I'm trying to say, Ben, is that when you watch <u>that</u> much

Baywatch in a single day, you will have noticed an Avery Brooks, were there to be one on the show.

[Ben laughs.]

And I'm telling you, I did not see an Avery Brooks during that full-day re-watch. So I'm gonna eliminate *Baywatch* from contention, and say instead... *[hesitantly]* *Magnum P.I.*?

00:06:05 Ben Host The correct answer was *[pronouncing the colon]* *Spenser: For Hire*.

00:06:07 Adam Host Hm.

00:06:08 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Buzzer.]*

00:06:10 Adam Host I never—I've never seen a second of that show.

00:06:12 Ben Host This may be the first I'm even hearing of that show.

00:06:14 Adam Host Yeah.

00:06:15 Ben Host I mean, I knew that Avery Brooks had, like, other big credits before *DS9*. Here's actually a kind of related question, though:

"Which actor was originally tabbed as playing Commander Sisko? Was it Alexander Siddig, Wesley Snipes, or Avery Brooks?"

[Stifles laughter.] The fact that Avery Brooks is in there as one of the options is a little bit weird. *[Laughs.]*

00:06:38 Adam Host God. A—a Wesley Snipes as Captain Sisko brings a totally different energy to the thing.

00:06:43 Clip Clip **John Cutter (*Passenger 57*):** Ever played roulette?

00:06:45 Adam Host I wonder what that would have been like! Uh, I'm gonna make that my answer! Was it ever Wesley Snipes?

[Beat.]

00:06:52 Ben Host It is... not correct.

00:06:55 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Buzzer.]*

00:06:56 Ben Host It was in fact Alexander Siddig! He was originally slated to be Commander Sisko.

00:07:01 Adam Host I wonder what that's like. To be up for the main character, to not get the main character, and remain on the project for seven years.

00:07:14 Ben Host Yeah.

00:07:15 Adam Host Every day, you show up—

[Ben laughs.]

—wondering.

00:07:19 Ben Host Yeah.

00:07:20 Adam Host What could have been. Like, our understanding is that, uh—is that the cast got along fine. Uh, there was no drama around that bit of business. But, like, these are also human beings!

00:07:32 Ben Host Right.

00:07:34 Adam Host It would've been quite natural for Alexander Siddig to—to daydream

about that some days, right?

00:07:41 Ben Host Totally! I mean, acting is such a... such a strange job, when it comes to issues of ego. Because it can inflate your ego more than almost any other job, and also crush your ego more than almost any other job. And like, when you're an actor, getting a series regular role? Especially on *Star Trek*, which kind of becomes almost an annuity, because you can rely on making a living going to conventions and stuff after you've been in *Star Trek*...

Like, the answer to "Do you want to take a role on *Star Trek*?" is yes.

[Both stifle laughter.]

You know?

00:08:19 Adam Host It's a good business move. Yeah.

00:08:21 Ben Host Yeah. But, uh—but boy. It also must be a little bit crushing. I mean, who knows, man?

00:08:28 Adam Host Why does a person choose to become an actor? I've got to believe that some portion of them must want to be a star.

00:08:38 Ben Host Yeah.

00:08:39 Adam Host You know? Like, there's craft reasons, of course. There's a number of other reasons. But you can't tell me that an actor doesn't have that—that place inside them that doesn't ache for above-the-titleness. You know?

00:08:52 Ben Host Yeah. There is a conceit that motivates every creative pursuit. You have to believe that you have something to contribute, and that people will like the thing that you do, in order to, like, get off the couch and do it.

Uh, except for in our case. Which is making a *Star Trek* podcast which we never wanted anyone to listen to. *[Laughs.]*

00:09:16 Adam Host We never wanted anyone to listen to it, we never wanted to do it...

00:09:20 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Here we are, episode 350, Adam. *[Laughs.]*

00:09:25 Adam Host Is it really? *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:09:26 Ben Host Here is, uh—here's one that I had never heard. Uh, I had never heard anything different than "space station" before. But:

"What was the original setting for the show? A desert, a mountainside, or a remote farming community."

00:09:42 Adam Host Oh, god! All of these ideas are terrible!

00:09:45 Ben Host *[Laughing]* I know!

00:09:48 Adam Host Yeah. I—really looking forward to this—*[stifles laughter]*—this Friday's episode of *Star Trek: Farm*.

00:09:54 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

Man. If it had been a mountainside, and they'd just had the fucking foam rocks the whole time—like, everything was *Star Trek Caves* 100% of the time?

00:10:05 Adam Host I mean, I could sort of see the idea of it being, like, monastic Bajoran

temple built into a rock face as its primary setting. Like, I—I could get that as related to what we actually did get. But... boy.

00:10:22 Ben Host Yeah.

00:10:23 Adam Host None of those three ideas have any curb appeal at all to—

[Ben stifles laughter.]

—as a pitch would go! You know?

00:10:30 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah. *Star Trek V's* desert setting is, like, the one thing I could think of in-universe that would be kind of interesting.

00:10:36 Adam Host You're right. Yeah.

00:10:38 Ben Host But like, even that—like, when they had the budget and resources of a feature film to throw at a desert setting, they did kind of a crappy job with it. *[Laughs.]*

00:10:49 Adam Host You read about how much of a struggle it was for the cast and crew to do the remotes that they did for *DS9*!

00:10:56 Ben Host Yeah.

00:10:57 Adam Host And frequently, the stories they told where they were the most miserable were in those desert environments.

00:11:02 Ben Host Yeah. Shooting in a desert is really hard. I had a DP I used to work with that was a—uh, he would go to Burning Man and shoot video there. And when he'd come back, like, his equipment was... destroyed. Like, the desert destroys film equipment.

00:11:18 Adam Host I have never shot in the desert, but I've shot many times in subfreezing temperatures, and while miserable, I would take that ten out of ten times over desert.

00:11:31 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Well, what's your guess? Desert, mountain, or farm?

00:11:36 Adam Host I think we've made a strong case for desert! So I'm gonna go with desert here.

00:11:39 Ben Host Okay.

[Beat.]

Correct!

00:11:42 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Synth chimes.]*

00:11:43 Ben Host "They decided that it was cheaper to film in a space station instead" is the—*[stifles laughter]*—is the little thing you get when you see that it was a correct answer.

00:11:50 Adam Host They're not wrong about that.

Ben, what is the photon torpedo capacity of Deep Space 9?

00:11:58 Ben Host Ooh!

00:11:59 Adam Host If you were to guess. Is it 500, 5,000, or 10,000? In asking this question, I want you to consider the—the total population of DS9. Because I think these numbers are related.

00:12:14 Ben Host Yeah!

00:12:15 Adam Host You need a torpedo for every body, right?

00:12:16 Ben Host Yeah! So I'm—I think I'm gonna guess 5,000. 'Cause I think that the population of the station is around that, right?

00:12:23 Adam Host Ben, you are correct.

00:12:24 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Synth chimes.]*

00:12:25 Adam Host It is 5,000. And yet the 5,000 number as the population for the station doesn't seem right! But there is a question and a set of answers that gets to the heart of that matter, Ben:

"How many people inhabit the station?"

Your possible answers are 300, 700, or 1200.

00:12:47 Ben Host Oh, wow! I think this number changes a lot over the course of the series. Because at the beginning, it's a bit of a ghost town—

00:12:53 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:12:54 Ben Host —and then it's, like, more and more populated. I'm gonna say 1200 is what they are going to have as the answer here.

00:13:02 Adam Host Three hundred.

00:13:04 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Buzzer.]*

00:13:05 Ben Host What?!

00:13:06 Adam Host Is in fact Deep Space 9's population.

00:13:07 Ben Host Man!

00:13:09 Adam Host That—

00:13:10 Ben Host That's smaller than the population of Schitt's Creek! *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:13:13 Adam Host That seems... less plausible than the "number of torpedoes" question and answer.

[Ben laughs.]

You know?

00:13:21 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah.

00:13:23 Adam Host Where do they get this information?

00:13:24 Ben Host I don't know.

00:13:26 Adam Host If I were to grade our score here, Ben, I think—I think we got a solid C on our exam.

00:13:31 Ben Host Mm-hm.

00:13:32 Adam Host I think what's gonna happen at the end of our *Greatest Generation* series on *Deep Space Nine* is we're gonna be given a passing grade. Definitely not honors. Uh, and then we will be able to graduate to *Star Trek: Voyager*.

00:13:46 Ben Host Yeah.

00:13:47 Adam Host I mean, no one's gonna be proud of how we've conducted ourselves.

00:13:50 Ben Host Right.

00:13:52 Adam Host The teachers are gonna be relieved that we're moving on.

00:13:54 Ben Host We might get into, like, one of our back-up *Star Trek* colleges.

00:13:58	Adam	Host	Right.
00:14:00	Ben	Host	But, uh, we'll probably have to transfer in as a—as a sophomore. If we wanna go to our first choice.
00:14:07	Adam	Host	For financial reasons alone, I think we're gonna be happy that we ended up in a smaller, uh, community college environment.
00:14:14	Ben	Host	Alright, Adam. Now that we're saving all this money, do you wanna get into the episode? <i>[Laughs.]</i> That we came here to talk about today?
00:14:22	Adam	Host	Now I'm ready to spend all this capital— <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> —on, uh—on what you've called the, uh—the penultimate episode of <i>Deep Space 9</i> . And <u>our</u> 350th episode of <i>The Greatest Generation</i> ! Congratulations.
00:14:36	Ben	Host	Yeah! Congrats, dude! Uh, we made it! We here!
00:14:40	Adam	Host	It's <i>Star Trek: Deep Space Nine</i> , season 7, episode 24... "Dogs of War: Part 8."
00:14:47	Music	Transition	A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from <i>DS9</i> . Sisko: <i>Ow!</i> <i>Do you realize how incredible this is?</i> <i>Ow!</i> <i>Ha ha!</i> <i>Ow!</i> <i>Ha ha ha!</i> <i>Hoo!</i> <i>No... Of course you don't!</i> <i>[Music stops.]</i>
00:14:57	Adam	Host	And I don't know where we are when this episode begins. I've never seen this place before, or at least I can't remember seeing it in the last several months. <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> I've—
00:15:05	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:15:06	Adam	Host	I'm being told that it's Ops.
00:15:09	Ben	Host	Ops. It's like the bridge, but for <u>not</u> a spaceship.
00:15:12	Adam	Host	They, uh—they left one of the plastic covers on—on one of the chairs. <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> It's been in storage so long.
00:15:20	Ben	Host	Yeah. Yeah. The producers found the set in dumpsters outside the studio and were like, "Hey!"
00:15:26	Adam	Host	Yeah.

00:15:27 Ben Host "You know what this is? This is a set from *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*! One of the earlier seasons!"

00:15:31 Adam Host Kramer got it and, uh, set it up in his apartment, and now he's—he's shooting fanfiction there.

00:15:37 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* That's why Ezri and Dr. Bashir are smoking cigars when, uh, we catch up with them. They are both super awkward with each other still, trying to make smalltalk about Odo, who is getting discharged from the infirmary soon.

Um, "discharge" is a bit of an inelegant term when talking about Odo, a man who—*[laughs]*—could literally flow through a—the end of a syringe, or whatever.

00:16:06 Adam Host When you're a doctor—

00:16:07 Music Music Mysterious descending woodwinds.

00:16:08 Adam Host —uh, making a prescription or a diagnosis, you definitely wanna choose your words carefully around him.

00:16:13 Ben Host Yeah. But, uh—but doing much better. Great news.

00:16:17 Clip Clip **O'Brien:** He's interested. She's interested. What's the problem?

00:16:20 Adam Host O'Brien and Worf are kinda doing a Statler and Waldorf of their awkward encounter on Ops.

[Ben laughs.]

Which is a lot of fun.

00:16:29 Ben Host Yeah. I like this establishing shot! There's, like, a lot of camera movement.

00:16:34 Adam Host Mm-hm!

00:16:35 Ben Host Like, a guy beams into frame in the middle of this one. And—you know. The camera's not locked off. It was—I don't think that you get to see that very often in *Star Trek*. That's kind of a hard effect to achieve in this era of television.

00:16:50 Adam Host It's a really dynamic bit of business here. This is an Avery Brooks episode.

00:16:55 Ben Host Yeah!

00:16:56 Adam Host So he's moving the camera around.

00:16:58 Ben Host Big delivery shows up at DS9 here. They take delivery of the USS *Sao Paulo*!

00:17:07 Clip Clip **Admiral Ross:** USS *São Paulo*.

00:17:08 Ben Host Which is a *Defiant*-class starship to replace the *Little D*!

00:17:14 Adam Host Yeah. It's almost exactly the same. You know, if the lights were out, I doubt you could tell the difference.

00:17:20 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* And so much so that they, like, even wanna change the name just so they don't slip up when the lights are out, right?

00:17:28 Adam Host Yeah, that would be embarrassing.

00:17:30 Ben Host You don't wanna scream out the name *Defiant* when you're at the helm of the *Sao Paulo*, 'cause the *Sao Paulo* will not put up with that

type of shit.

00:17:38 Adam Host There are very subtle differences between the two ships. Like, the configuration of the bridge seems a little different.

00:17:44 Ben Host Yeah.

00:17:45 Adam Host The carpet is different.

00:17:46 Clip Clip **Dr. Bashir:** I hate the carpet.

00:17:47 Adam Host Bashir just hates the carpet because there is carpet, I bet.

00:17:49 Ben Host Mm-hm. *[Laughs.]* All that fresh Scotchgard, it's not gonna be very absorbent!

00:17:55 Adam Host Yeah. I wonder if a new ship has a new ship smell. You know? The way anything that's just been off a production line does.

00:18:06 Ben Host Oh, yeah!

00:18:07 Adam Host That has to be one of the qualities, right? Whenever a bunch of people inhabit a space, I mean, they give it—they give it a smell.

00:18:14 Ben Host They imbue it.

00:18:15 Adam Host Yeah.

00:18:16 Ben Host The carpet has gotta be off-gassing, still.

00:18:19 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:18:20 Ben Host It's gotta have that, like, formaldehyde factory smell. The bronze plaque with the name of the ship in the corner probably smells like a metallurgical factory.

00:18:30 Adam Host You know, *Lower Decks* was so interested in questions like these when it was new ship time. I'm thinking of, uh—

00:18:37 Ben Host Yeah.

00:18:38 Adam Host —of that scene where they're pulling off the plastic film, where no one's allowed to wear shoes on the bridge of the new ship.

00:18:42 Ben Host Yeah, yeah.

00:18:44 Adam Host Like, that's all great stuff.

00:18:46 Ben Host I wish there was more of that at *Deep Space Nine*.

00:18:48 Adam Host Captain Sisko's not interested in keeping it brand new. He seems like the type of guy who takes his action figures outta the box, you know?

00:18:55 Ben Host Yeah. He, uh—he writes his name in the inside cover immediately.

00:18:59 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:19:00 Ben Host Immediately upon receiving it from Admiral Belt Buckle. And yeah! We get some business about how the ship is set up. It's hardened against that Breen weapon that fucked 'em up last time. So that's a huge relief.

00:19:16 Adam Host I really like how we cut back and forth in these initial scenes, between the feeling of accepting a new ship and its command, and the situation on the tick, where our resistance fighters are.

00:19:29 Ben Host Right.

00:19:30 Adam Host They've approached Cardassia, and they're thinking they're there to meet up with a half a million troops who are down for the cause. And they're so confident about what's waiting for them that they leave

poor Seskal in command—

[Ben laughs.]

—and, uh—and beam on down!

00:19:51 Ben Host The resistance is about to get a big boost. And, uh, when they materialize in the *Star Trek* caves that they're going to be meeting their guls and legates in, they realize that this is—this has all been a trap. It's been a set-up. And they got fucked.

Boy, the, uh—the name Seskal for that guy they left up in orbit really confused me. Because Kira keeps radioing up to him, but like, in a whisper?

00:20:17 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:20:18 Clip Clip

Kira: *[Breathless]* Kira to Seskal. Get us out of here.

00:20:21 Ben Host

"Seskal," when you're whispering it, sounds a lot like "Sisko," which is somebody she also radios a lot. And—

00:20:27 Adam Host

Yeah.

00:20:28 Ben Host

I was like, "Why does she keep saying 'Sisko,' and who is this man that is answering, that has girders falling down all around him?"

00:20:34 Clip Clip

George Costanza (Seinfeld): I wanted seltzer, not salsa!

00:20:36 Adam Host

We know that Garak is with Kira and Damar down in the caves, but when they cut back up to the tick, Seskal—when the girders are raining down, and the sparks are flying, and he's screaming—Seskal looks so much like Garak to me in those scenes! That this was confusing.

00:20:55 Ben Host

Yeah. It was confusing—*[stifles laughter]* it was confusing in two different ways.

00:20:57 Adam Host

Right.

00:20:59 Ben Host

I had the same thought. It's a character that could have used, like, an establishment in a previous episode, so that this wouldn't be—

00:21:06 Adam Host

Right.

00:21:07 Ben Host

—this wouldn't bump us.

00:21:08 Adam Host

That quality to a horror movie where you've gone and hid in a closet, and you're looking through the slats, and you're watching the monster, you know, lay waste to your friends... Like, that's what's happening here on the cliffside above. The resistance is watching mop-up duty happen to the people that they were there to meet. And the Jem'Hadar have just laid waste to their allies down there!

And they're talking amongst each other about, uh, how successful they've been pretty much across the board.

00:21:39 Ben Host

Yeah.

00:21:41 Adam Host

Like, this isn't the only instance of this mopping happening. There's been a lot of putting the mop into the squeegee and bucket—

[Ben laughs.]

—and then, uh—and then dragging it through some other resistance

fighters.

00:21:55 Ben Host Right.

00:21:56 Adam Host And then, uh—you know, you wanna fill up that bucket with some warm, soapy water for the amount of work that they're doing here.

00:22:04 Ben Host Sooner or later the water starts to show the evidence of how much... muck you're getting off the floor.

00:22:09 Adam Host Right.

00:22:11 Ben Host And you're like, "This can't be helping at this point."

[Adam laughs.]

But, uh—but they keep going.

00:22:13 Adam Host The Jem'Hadar are just spreading it around at the moment.

00:22:17 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

This is a pretty scary situation. They're basically stranded on the surface of Cardassia Prime with nothing in orbit to rescue them.

00:22:29 Adam Host Yeah. [RSVP](#) Seskal.

00:22:31 Ben Host *[Chuckles.]* Yeah, and RSVP the resistance.

00:22:33 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.]

00:22:39 Adam Host In the caves, they've gotta act quickly, because it's a real *Aliens* moment of watching so many asses get kicked, and having to figure out very quickly, "What do we do now?"

00:22:50 Clip Clip **Private Hudson (*Aliens*):** We're in some real pretty shit now, man!

00:22:53 Adam Host And Garak quickly thinks of Mila, his old housekeeper and secret-keeper, thinking that they should probably head for the capital and to her, in order to get some cover.

00:23:08 Ben Host The housekeeper Mila has, uh—has not been keeping much house, at least here in the basement that she's gonna hide them in. This is a very, uh—a very dank—

00:23:19 Music Music Instrumental hair metal. Drums, electric guitar.

00:23:20 Ben Host —smoked-out space with lots of, like—like, they do that, like, super, like, nineties action movie thing of having really hard light going through the fog—

00:23:29 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:23:30 Ben Host —that they have to put fan blades in front of so that it's, like, constantly flickering. *[Chuckles.]*

[Music stops.]

00:23:35 Adam Host Right. I mean, when you see the square footage to the basement, my imagination really took off about—the aboveground portion of this home must be palatial, right?

00:23:46 Ben Host Yeah! Gotta be real nice digs. Is this the same house that we visited when Garak had his big confrontation with Enabran Tain, the head of the Obsidian Order?

00:23:57 Adam Host Oh, yeah! That would make sense.

00:24:00 Ben Host Is this... Casa de Tain? *[Laughs quietly.]*

00:24:03 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Ding!]*

00:24:03 Adam Host It's—it's neither the basement, nor the attic?

00:24:06 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, it's the cellar. It's the—it's a slang term for the cellar.

00:24:11 Adam Host Right.

00:24:13 Ben Host Yeah. So they're gonna hunker down here, see if they can get in touch with people. Like, they need comms, they need food. Mila quickly kind of downplays how the good the food she'll be able to get them is.

00:24:25 Clip Clip **Mila:** I was never much of a cook, but I knew how to keep a secret.

00:24:28 Adam Host Yeah, she better be careful on those stairs.

00:24:31 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:32 Adam Host I worry about her!

00:24:33 Ben Host Those, uh—those chain guardrails—

[Adam laughs quietly.]

—seem, like, not great for an older lady.

00:24:39 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, you can get a finger stuck in one of those, and then you're in trouble!

00:24:43 Ben Host Pinches so bad!

00:24:45 Adam Host So it seems as though this will be their safe house as long as they agree to clean it up.

00:24:51 Ben Host Yeah.

00:24:52 Adam Host And this launches a really fun kind of, uh, summer movie montage where—

[Ben laughs.]

00:24:57 Music Music 80s-esque electronic drums and synth piano.

00:24:58 Adam Host —you know, they break out the buckets and the scrubby clothes to wear during the cleanup process.

00:25:02 Ben Host Yeah.

00:25:04 Adam Host And there's that scene where, like, Kira's painting a wall, and then she—she, like, brushes Garak's nose with the paintbrush.

00:25:13 Ben Host Right, right.

00:25:14 Adam Host It's a lot of fun.

00:25:16 Ben Host Yeah. It seems like a real drag until they see the pool, and then the whole thing turns around.

[Both chuckle.]

00:25:21 Adam Host Yeah! Yeah, and by the end of it, everyone feels a lot better about a job well done.

00:25:25 Ben Host Yeah.

00:25:27 Adam Host And, uh, they've forgotten for just a little while, uh, the... their impending deaths.

[Ben laughs.]

[Music stops.]

00:25:35 Ben Host Back on the station, Bashir has his sort of end-of-hospitalization debrief with Odo, who he's given a clean bill of health and put back on the active duty roster. He has some pretty heavy news to lay on Odo. And I kind of thought that the heavy news was going to be, "We've lost touch with Kira. Her life is in danger."

00:26:00 Adam Host Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:26:02 Ben Host "She is presumed dead or missing on Cardassia Prime." Bashir does not tell Odo about that in this scene. *[Laughs.]*

00:26:09 Adam Host No!

00:26:10 Ben Host Instead he tells him about how Section 31 attempted to commit xenocide by infecting Odo, and—and thence the Founders with this Founder disease. And I was really—I thought Odo knew that already!

00:26:27 Adam Host Yeah. This comes as a surprise to him. And he is pissed. At being used!

00:26:34 Ben Host I kept wondering why he wasn't more pissed, and this explains it. He didn't know! He didn't have this piece of information.

00:26:41 Adam Host He's pissed for a couple reasons. One, at being used by the Federation. And B, that Bashir, as a matter of policy, has made Odo sit in a wheelchair to be discharged from the infirmary.

[Ben laughs.]

00:26:55 Ben Host Making—
He's like—

[Odo voice; gravelly] "I can walk out myself! This is totally unnecessary!"

00:26:59 Adam Host "It's a liability reason!" *[Laughs.]*

00:27:00 Ben Host *[Odo voice]* "Why are you wasting this orderly's time pushing me around?! It's so silly! I could be a wheelchair if I need to!"

[Odo voice stops.]

00:27:07 Adam Host Yeah. Kind of an ugly scene between the two of 'em. After—after all Bashir did for Odo.

00:27:14 Ben Host Yeah. Ungrateful.

00:27:16 Adam Host Yeah.

00:27:17 Ben Host He's an ungrateful Changeling.

00:27:18 Music Music Brief clip of the *X-Men: The Animated Series* opening theme, by Ron Wasserman. Action-packed.

00:27:19 Adam Host It's true.

There's an elegant cut between this argument between Odo and Bashir, and Odo and Sisko. Because Sisko tells Odo that they can't share the cure with the Founders, no matter how much Odo wants them to do that.

00:27:36 Ben Host Yeah.

00:27:37 Adam Host As long as they're still at war.

00:27:38 Ben Host I wanted a little bit more about this Federation Council decision. Because it seems like this has been decided at the highest level of government, and that Sisko considers it a great injustice. But it seemed to me that this cure is leverage!

00:27:56 Adam Host Right.

00:27:57 Ben Host You know? Whether or not it's good that Section 31 did it, which I think everybody... that we like on the show agrees it's not, they do actually have something they can offer the Founders to back off and go back to the G-Quad and stop bothering everyone.

00:28:14 Adam Host The thing on my mind in this scene is exactly what Captain Sisko interrogates. Which is, "We don't need you going off on your own and giving them the cure to this, or involving yourself in this matter in any way." No one can afford for him to go... Rogue-Odo.

[Ben laughs.]

And he agrees not to, but, like...

00:28:43 Ben Host Like, I reserve the right to be surprised if Odo doesn't go rogue, but like, you can't—you can't be like—

[Odo voice] "Captain, I—I'm leaving, and the cure is inside me."

[Odo voice stops.]

You know?

00:28:55 Adam Host I mean, I'm imagining him belly-flopping into the Golden Lake with the cure and curing everyone, and that being what happens in the next—

00:29:03 Ben Host Yeah.

00:29:04 Adam Host In the final episode of *Deep Space Nine*.

00:29:06 Ben Host You think it's belly flop? I would probably do, like, can opener. Personally.

00:29:10 Adam Host Yeah. Well, I mean, what's sad about can opener is that—is that the spray-back that hits the rocks on shore? Like, that's—that part's not gonna be cured.

00:29:21 Ben Host Right. That's sad.

00:29:22 Adam Host That part dies.

00:29:24 Ben Host "That was like 50 people, Odo, come on!"

00:29:25 Adam Host *[Odo voice]* "You had your chance."

00:29:27 Ben Host *[Laughs.]*

[Odo voice] "I went for the bit, not for the smallest sploosh."

[Odo voices stop.]

00:29:34 Adam Host Odo is fine agreeing to Sisko's terms, but he definitely has the last word on his way out the door. And this, uh—this is, I think, the last we see of Odo in this episode. Is it?

00:29:48 Ben Host Yeah. I was trying to just organize my thoughts about this episode. Like, what's the A story, what's the B story? And it—like, there are so many little threads in this episode that it's really hard to even think about it in those terms. And this is one example of that, where it's just kind of like a, "Hey, here's this story element that will be important later, but, uh, we are not going to even attempt to drive this plot any further than we already have."

00:30:15 Adam Host Right. We've got to make room for the Quark storyline.

00:30:20 Ben Host Right. And this is, like, a Quark storyline in the grand tradition of very silly Quark storylines. *[Stifles laughter.]*

00:30:29 Adam Host I had wondered if this kind of thing was behind us! You know? Like—

00:30:34 Ben Host Right!

00:30:35 Adam Host Like, we're very... intentionally wrapping up our characters' stories as we go through this, uh, several-part ending to the series. Why wouldn't Quark get his ending? He's a main character on the show.

00:30:49 Ben Host Yeah.

00:30:50 Adam Host Why—why was I surprised? I'm an idiot!

00:30:53 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Well, he's also just kind of not been top of mind, because he's been missing from some of these episodes.

00:31:00 Adam Host Yeah.

00:31:02 Ben Host If not entirely then almost entirely. And when he gets a foreground storyline, they tend to be kinda goofy, so this one is—you know, it starts with him in the bar, and Rom is encouraging Leeta and another dabo girl to make the case to Quark that he shouldn't be garnishing his—their tips quite as badly as he is. And he can't answer to this very legitimate employee complaint because he gets called away by a FaceTime from the Grand Nagus.

Are there—are there sub-Naguses? Or, like—there somebody that's just, like, Regional Nagus?

00:31:47 Adam Host It would seem like, for all the time we've spent on Ferenginar, that we'd know a little bit more about how their government operates.

00:31:55 Ben Host That seems like a moving target, especially in this episode.

00:31:59 Adam Host Yeah! Grand Nagus Zek is—is jangly keys to us.

00:32:03 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. So this FaceTime is, uh—is one of those ones that I always get from my parents, where they keep, like, walking away

from their WiFi hotspot, or like, they can't figure out how to frame themselves up in the camera 'cause it's too small, and they just, like, don't pay attention to that part of the screen.

00:32:24	Clip	Clip	Grand Nagus Zek: <i>[Distorted and staticky]</i> Sorry about the static.
00:32:26	Adam	Host	If only this show knew what life was like for us right now.
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
			They could have really leaned into that terrible camera angle.
00:32:35	Ben	Host	When I was really sick a few weeks ago, I had, like, a telemedicine appointment with a doctor, who—I literally looked at, like, the top two inches of her forehead the entire time.
00:32:46	Adam	Host	Come on!
00:32:48	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> I was like, "I mean, I guess I don't <u>need</u> to see your face, 'cause I'm just telling you I'm, like, sick in bed, and like, telling you a couple of symptoms, and you can—you can tell me what to do."
00:32:58	Adam	Host	It doesn't inspire a lot of confidence.
00:33:02	Ben	Host	Exactly. There's a, uh—there's a <u>competence</u> issue here.
00:33:06	Adam	Host	Yeah.
			So the Nagus has got news, but the line has a bunch of static.
00:33:12	Ben	Host	Right. And this is explained—we get bits and pieces of this, but it seems that Ferenginar has some sort of acid rain problem. So presumably the Nagus is retiring in <u>disgrace</u> , because he has destroyed the ecology of his planet. And, uh, his, uh— <i>[laughs]</i> —his petty way of ruling and his, you know, nationalism over all other considerations just didn't work for the people of Ferenginar.
00:33:44	Adam	Host	Because Zek only knows a handful of people, uh, <u>anywhere</u> —
			<i>[Both laugh.]</i>
			—he chooses a successor that the viewer recognizes. And for the moment, that is Quark. And he is taking this like it's <u>good news</u> . I—I had expected there to be some equivocation about his feelings on the matter, but he is psyched.
00:34:08	Ben	Host	Something like a, "Oh no, Zek. Fool me once, shame on you."
00:34:12	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:34:14	Clip	Clip	George W. Bush: Fool me, can't get fooled again.
00:34:15	Ben	Host	Would have read a little bit more authentic here to me.
00:34:17	Adam	Host	Right.
00:34:19	Ben	Host	Because we've had this storyline before! Quark totally thought he was gonna become the Nagus. He thought he <u>was</u> the Nagus!
00:34:25	Adam	Host	Right.
00:34:26	Ben	Host	But no, he's just excited. And Zek is on his way to make the announcement. So he's <u>really</u> looking forward to that.
00:34:32	Adam	Host	For all we learn about Ferengi government throughout this episode, I'm shocked that a head of state just hand-selects their successor.

[Ben laughs.]

Like, that that's how it works. We understand that there's a Congress—

00:34:45 Ben Host Yeah.
00:34:46 Adam Host —and there are voters, and stuff. But yeah! Just imagine if the line of succession was—*[stifles laughter]*—was that intentional.
00:34:56 Ben Host Yeah.
00:34:57 Adam Host What a nightmare.
00:34:59 Ben Host It seems like maybe that makes sense for how it used to work, but not how... it would work now.
00:35:03 Adam Host Yeah. Right.
00:35:05 Music Transition A techno song mixed with clips and soundbites from *DS9* and other sources.

Odo: *To be quite honest about it, I was in a pail.*

Speaker: *A bucket?*

Odo: *A pail.*

Announcer (Mr. Bucket commercial): *Mr. Bucket!*

Odo: *I have to revert back to my liquid state!*

Nog: *Hoh!*

Jake: *Odo!*

Odo: *I don't use the bucket anymore!*

[Music ends.]

00:35:14 Ben Host We've gotta cut back to the replimat, where Bashir and Ezri literally bump into each other. He almost knocks her, uh, apple wedges and cottage cheese off of her tray. They're just so awkward about this; it's so cute.
00:35:33 Adam Host Do you care about this? Like, sincere question. Do you care about the Bashir and Ezri relationship?
00:35:40 Ben Host I—I kinda do, because... while Bashir was a real turnoff to me as a character early on in this show—
00:35:48 Clip Clip **Chris Hansen (To Catch a Predator):** *Pretty pervy.*
00:35:50 Ben Host —I think that they kind of revised enough that he became... a guy that I care about, and that—I feel like to leave Bashir as unlucky in love as La Forge was in *TNG* would've been a real, like, repeat offense—
00:36:10 Clip Clip **LeVar Burton:** *Total BULLSHIT!*
00:36:11 Ben Host —and disservice to the character.
00:36:14 Adam Host I wish that *Star Trek* was better at... you know, while they're putting so much effort in infinite diversity in infinite combinations, that, uh, it also made it a little more okay to be alone. You know? Like, I care about Bashir a great deal, and I like Ezri a lot!
00:36:36 Ben Host Yeah.
00:36:37 Adam Host But it feels like—it feels like we don't have enough time to care about them together, or care about why they should be together.

00:36:45 Ben Host Yeah.

00:36:46 Adam Host In a way that if you're given this much time to conclude their stories, might be better spent making the case for them being okay not together. Being just fine, even.

00:36:55 Ben Host Yeah. There is a fairly unconvincing head feint at that in this storyline in this episode—

00:37:03 Adam Host Mm-hm.

00:37:04 Ben Host —which is that they kind of start to express themselves, and the fact that they both, uh, sort of sweat the other. And then... do that thing where they sort of back off the precipice and saying, "Well, we don't wanna ruin—we don't wanna risk jeopardizing the friendship."

Uh, [*chuckles*] that's a real thing, you know? I had a crush on my wife the second I met her. But I was also, like, homies with her for a while before we were an item. And being homies with her was great. So I didn't—[*laughs*]—I didn't necessarily, uh—you know, I definitely questioned whether I could, like, potentially lose a friendship over making a move.

00:37:54 Adam Host I really like how this scene is blocked, because these are two characters who begin in close proximity, and then end the scene not only further apart, but with something between them. Like, they're in what looks to be a storefront of some kind.

00:38:12 Ben Host It's the Claire's of Deep Space 9?

00:38:14 Adam Host Right. There's an alien preteen in there getting one of their fourteen ears pierced.

[*Ben laughs.*]

It's a real thing. It takes a lot of time.

00:38:23 Ben Host Yeah. Yeah, you're right! The blocking is really nice. And the performances are nice, too! Like, I—they, like, end it with a handshake, and, like, they are gassing themselves up for, "This is great." Like, "We're gonna save the friendship by not trying to date each other." And both putting a brave face on that. But, uh... but we see through it.

00:38:51 Adam Host Like, being a director isn't just about, you know, motivating your actors and getting them to say their lines right. Like, a big part of it is, like, walking them through the scene, physically! Like, from one to two.

00:39:06 Ben Host Yeah.

00:39:07 Adam Host And—and making all of this work. It's not just a name and a big title. Like, there's—like, this is the work you do. And I think Avery Brooks does a good job here, in some of these subtleties.

00:39:19 Ben Host Yeah, totally agree.

Speaking of, uh, walking one to two... Brunt hits his one at the entrance to Quark's Bar, and his two, licking the bottom of Quark's shoe.

00:39:35 Adam Host Right.

00:39:36 Ben Host In the next scene. It's a room full of people drooling over how rich

and powerful Quark is about to become. Really counting those chickens before they hatch.

00:39:45 Adam Host There's some real "my friend won the lottery" vibes to this scene. Right?

00:39:49 Ben Host Yeah. Which, uh—*[chuckling]*—really makes people miserable, from what I understand!

00:39:56 Adam Host Yeah! Uh, the misery has not yet begun for Quark. He's imagining the composition of the pipes his shit is going to flow through in the not-too-distant future.

00:40:06 Ben Host *[Laughing]* Right.

00:40:06 Adam Host It's big, big fun seeing Jeffrey Combs go double-duty here with Brunt and Weyoun in an episode like this. Like...

00:40:16 Ben Host Yeah!

00:40:17 Clip Clip **Quark:** For once, the rumors... are right.

00:40:20 Adam Host And there's a physicality to Brunt that I really appreciated in this episode maybe more than any other. Like, he seems to be a character that is aware of the frame that he is inside on TV, even. You know?

[Ben laughs.]

Like, there are moments in this episode where he—he enters the frame, almost knowing that, like, from several different directions.

00:40:42 Ben Host Yeah.

00:40:43 Adam Host It's big fun.

00:40:44 Ben Host He is here to curry favor with the man who would be king. You sort of believe it, right? Like, Brunt has always been... much more about power than, like, following the rules, or any of the other things that he sort of drapes himself in. So if he can, like, get his way back into Quark's graces, then he has ensured his proximity to that power.

00:41:11 Adam Host You gotta believe that the powerful boots are the tastiest, right?

[Ben laughs.]

They're gonna be the least covered in shit.

00:41:18 Ben Host Yeah. But Quark's been walking around behind, like, an active service bar, you know? Like, lots of stuff is spilling on the floor back there. He's—his boots aren't powerful yet!

00:41:27 Adam Host Right.

00:41:28 Ben Host It's gotta be nasty!

00:41:29 Adam Host On Cardassia, we finally get a shot that I think we've been missing for quite a while! The video billboard!

00:41:34 Ben Host Yeah! *[Laughs.]*

00:41:36 Adam Host Outside their government building, where, uh, Weyoun has become a special correspondent for Cardassia news. Uh, where those watching have entered a "No Spin Zone" about the events of the day before.

[Ben laughs.]

This is a really fun video package here! Like, a pre-produced video package. Nice use of B-roll.

00:41:55	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:41:56	Adam	Host	Nicely done!
00:41:58	Ben	Host	Like, two Jeffrey Combs scenes directly abutting each other. Two really different characters.
00:42:02	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:42:03	Ben	Host	And a really scary announcement. Like, this is... This is Weyoun getting on, like, a simulcast across all the networks to announce that the Cardassian rebellion has been totally crushed.
00:42:18	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:42:19	Ben	Host	All 18 bases, <u>gone</u> . Damar's men are no more, and he also claims that <u>Damar</u> is no more.
00:42:27	Adam	Host	Sometimes this effect is intentional, in a—in a <i>Klumps</i> kind of way. Like, "Look at all the things that Eddie Murphy can do, you know, sitting at the same table as himself."
00:42:38	Ben	Host	Yeah.
00:42:39	Adam	Host	And other times, I feel like a show or a movie would <u>obscure</u> the idea of an actor playing a couple of parts, and would be very reluctant to butt scenes of the same actor playing different characters together. But I think this is an example of, like, just the great amount of confidence the show has in a Jeffrey Combs. And really, like, the greatness of him as an actor is being able to pull this off <u>and know, for certain</u> , that you can get away with it, and it's not going to be a distraction. He is playing two <u>very</u> different characters, and you wouldn't really even know. If you weren't looking at the credits.
00:43:18	Ben	Host	I wonder if they, like, just ran an experiment by, like, cutting a couple of scenes with him as these two characters together in an edit bay, and just, like, watching them back to back to see how it felt?
00:43:30	Adam	Host	Well, I think it's—it's very intentional that they didn't cut from ECU to ECU.
00:43:35	Ben	Host	Right.
00:43:36	Adam	Host	They cut from Brunt to, uh—to Weyoun in a box in the corner of the screen, and then they sort of move the camera toward it.
00:43:43	Ben	Host	Right.
00:43:44	Adam	Host	In a way that I think is for that reason.
00:43:45	Ben	Host	Yeah.
			I like how all Cardassian TVs look exactly the same, from the viewscreen in Ops, to the one on the side of the building, to the little one in the cellar that Kira and Damar and Garak are watching.
00:43:57	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:43:58	Ben	Host	They're all identical, just different scales. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:44:01	Adam	Host	Yeah. Uh, someone—someone won the TV wars on Cardassia.

[Ben laughs.]

And now RCA is all you can get.

[Ben laughs.]

00:44:11 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.]

00:44:27 Ben Host The rebellion: crushed like a grape! The three people in the cellar are, like, totally demoralized around this. This sucks.

00:44:35 Adam Host I love the conflict set up immediately, which is, like, Damar's incredulity vs. Kira's focus on what's next. You know?

00:44:45 Ben Host Right.

00:44:47 Adam Host Kira's all about, "We gotta get outta here." She attempts to rally the troops behind her, but it seems like Garak and Damar are pretty deflated by this.

00:44:56 Ben Host Like, I'm sure a lot of people with roommates realized at the beginning of the lockdown, like, "Oh my god. I'm stuck with these idiots?"

00:45:04 Adam Host Yeah.

00:45:05 Ben Host "Indoors? For an undetermined amount of time?" Like, that's what—that, I think—I feel like that's what's motivating Kira here, is like, "I can't believe I'm gonna fucking be stuck 'til the end of this war with Damar and Garak, of all people."

00:45:20 Adam Host If Kira wants the dishes done, she's gonna have to do them herself.

Unfortunately.

00:45:25 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. Everything in the fridge that she bought, she has to tape shut and write her name all over.

00:45:32 Adam Host None of this is Mila's problem. Though Mila does have a interesting bit of trivia here, which is that the prevailing public opinion aboveground is that Damar is still alive.

00:45:42 Ben Host Nobody buys this, uh—this filthy propaganda being spread by Weyoun. Which you gotta wonder about, right? Like, living in a super repressive society, how much, like, everything is called into question? When reality is that distorted?

00:45:58 Adam Host When you can't agree on what the truth is? Yeah.

00:46:01 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:02 Adam Host Wonder what that's like.

00:46:03 Ben Host Mm. Hard to imagine.

00:46:05 Adam Host Hard to know who's got it worse, uh, those in the basement, or—or Brunt, giving Quark a pedicure.

[Ben laughs.]

And then, uh—and then giving him a tax form for his records. This is emblematic of just how much things have changed on Ferenginar.

00:46:22 Ben Host Yeah.

00:46:23 Adam Host And it, uh—it is an affront.

00:46:26 Ben Host The episode's directed by Avery Brooks, but this one scene directed by Quentin Tarantino—

00:46:31 Adam Host Oh, yeah.

00:46:33 Ben Host —puts the feet in the foreground.

00:46:34 Clip Clip **Quentin Tarantino (*Saturday Night Live*):** And directors, by and large, are the most butt-ugly motley group of geeks found this side of a *Star Trek* convention.

[Audience laughs.]

00:46:40 Ben Host It seems like Quark has been kind of focused on other aspects of the news—namely, the war that is happening directly outside of his bar—much more so than the, like, economic and political reforms that the Nagus has been promulgating on Ferenginar.

00:46:56 Adam Host Right.

00:46:58 Ben Host Because, uh, he's been doing a lot of reforms! Like you said, there's now, like, a legislative body that—to serve as a check on the executive branch. And I'm not talking about the kind of check you get paid with, Adam.

00:47:11 Adam Host No, we wouldn't know anything about that.

[Ben laughs.]

There's a series of bullet points that... that just offends Quark's very nature as a Ferengi.

00:47:22 Ben Host Yeah.

00:47:24 Adam Host It's, like, giving him a physical reaction.

00:47:26 Ben Host Yeah, and it's kind of a re-tread of previous Quark conflicts where, you know, his mom has gotten the Nagus to consider allowing women to earn profit, and Quark is so conservative-minded that he can't get with that initially and has to be talked off a ledge.

I wished that this Quark storyline had been a more original one. It just kind of felt like a rinse-repeat of two previous Quark-centric episodes. And it also didn't—it didn't ring true. Like, in this scene I'm sitting here going like, "I don't remember what happens at the end of this episode. I don't—but like, I don't think Quark becomes the Grand Nagus of Ferenginar by the end of *Deep Space Nine*."

But it strains credulity that the Nagus, having gone out of his way to, like, completely reform Ferengi society, would then appoint as his heir the most hardline Ferengi on the show that isn't Brunt.

00:48:33 Adam Host Yeah.

00:48:34 Ben Host You know? It'd be like if the cool Pope retired and left Benedict in charge again.

00:48:39 Adam Host Hm.

00:48:40 Ben Host You know? [*Stifles laughter.*] Like, what are you talking about?!

00:48:42 Adam Host This is an episode that made me think a lot about how you possibly tie up a character like Quark's. Do you—is your goal redemption for his character? Is it too late for that? Do you—

00:48:55 Ben Host Yeah...

00:48:57 Adam Host Do you want to see him reduced by the end? It's a hard question to answer.

00:49:03 Ben Host Right, because the utility of Quark as a character has been, like, "deal weapons of mass destruction to terrible people" guy, and also, like, "Oh," like, "he came through in a pinch and got us outta jail" or something. [*Chuckles.*]

00:49:15 Adam Host Right.

00:49:16 Ben Host So... I think that they kinda had an impossible problem here. There's not really a way to—and maybe it's sort of the same issue with Bashir's romance with Ezri. Like, Bashir kind of changed—they changed what Bashir was so many times that it's, like, hard to wrap it up in a way that feels really authentic.

00:49:37 Adam Host Right.

One character we've never questioned the authenticity of is the Change Leader. Uh, she's stayed true to form—

00:49:46 Ben Host [*Stifling laughter*] Uh-huh. Yeah.

00:49:47 Adam Host —the entire time, in a manner of speaking. Uh, Weyoun is in her office to introduce Legate Broca, who's gonna be the new head of the Cardassian part of the Dominion.

00:50:00 Ben Host Yeah. This guy is a real boot-clicker. Uh, comes in and... salutes. He seems very happy to be in the part of the pecking order that he is, under the Breen and under the Vorta. [*Chuckles.*] And his boot-

			clicking, like, impresses Change Leader not at all.
00:50:21	Clip	Clip	Change Leader: Your service is noted.
00:50:23	Clip	Clip	Larry David (<i>Curb Your Enthusiasm</i>, “Thank You For Your Service”): What—what’s—
			Susie Greene: You didn't thank him for his service, asshole!
00:50:26	Adam	Host	Very interesting bit of business here is that Change Leader is changing strategy.
00:50:32	Ben	Host	Yeah!
00:50:34	Adam	Host	As Change Leaders often do.
00:50:35	Ben	Host	Mm-hm.
00:50:37	Adam	Host	She wants to—she wants the Dominion to fall back to Cardassian space.
00:50:41	Clip	Clip	Breen: <i>[Electronically distorted speech.]</i>
00:50:42	Adam	Host	Because of the solution that their opponents have found to the Breen energy weapon technology. The thinking is that they're gonna use this time, after falling back, to make more Jem'Hadar troops.
00:50:55	Ben	Host	I was amazed that this was a totally unprecedented thing in the military—the 10,000-year history of the Dominion. They have <u>never</u> retreated before this.
00:51:05	Clip	Clip	Mathesar (<i>Galaxy Quest</i>): Never give up, never surrender!
00:51:07	Adam	Host	It really—like, mathematically, it makes <u>that</u> a little more clear than it's ever been. The success of the Federation-Klingon-Romulan alliance, to the extent that—that they're—that they need more bodies. They're chewing up so many bodies that they can't make them fast enough over there on the Dominion side.
00:51:25	Ben	Host	Yeah. It's pretty wild. <i>[Stifles laughter.]</i>
00:51:29	Adam	Host	Who's making 'em faster, Ben? The Dominion, or the Klingons, Federation, and Romulans? Everyone's reproducing.
00:51:37	Ben	Host	War makes everyone horny. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:38	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:51:40	Ben	Host	You know? Including the factories where they make the Jem'Hadar. <i>[Laughs.]</i> That's one horny factory, Adam.
00:51:48	Adam	Host	It's true.
00:51:50	Ben	Host	Oh, I had a question about this scene! They introduce one of the Breens as Thot <u>Pran</u> (<i>prawn</i>). In a previous episode, we met Thot <u>Pran</u> (<i>pran</i>).
00:52:00	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:52:01	Ben	Host	Is that two different Thots?
00:52:02	Adam	Host	Two different Thots at the same time?
00:52:05	Ben	Host	Yeah. Hard to hold two different Thots (<i>thoughts</i>) at the same time! That's, uh—that's how you get cognitive dissonance!
00:52:11	Adam	Host	That's what makes Change Leader the leader.
00:52:13	Ben	Host	Yeah.

00:52:14 Adam Host She can do that.
00:52:15 Ben Host It's a sign of intelligence.
00:52:16 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.]

00:52:24 Adam Host If Quark is going to be the new Nagus, the business about the bar is gonna have to be concluded. Does he get to be the bar owner anymore? I don't know. But Rom sees this as an opportunity.

00:52:38 Ben Host Yeah.

00:52:39 Adam Host And I love this from Rom. Rom, the village idiot for so long—

[Ben laughs quietly.]

—actually doing a shrewd bit of business here in taking advantage of Quark's distraction.

[Ben laughs.]

Getting him to sell the bar to him for a very good price. And—

00:52:56 Ben Host Yeah! No haggling, even!

00:52:58 Adam Host It's a moment that is an example of the infection that Quark has described occurring all over Ferenginar. He thinks he's got it, this illness.

00:53:08 Ben Host Just as bad as the, uh—as the flakiness that's affecting all the Founders, right?

00:53:13 Adam Host Right.

00:53:14 Ben Host It's everywhere, and who knows where the cure even comes from? Is Section 31 behind it? Did Section 31 clandestinely sneak into Ferengi society and suggest a bunch of liberalizing policy initiatives? Who knows! Only Sloan, and he took those secrets to his grave!
[Chuckles quietly.]

00:53:32 Adam Host Empathy. Such a virus.

00:53:34 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Empathy: Pass it on.

00:53:37 Adam Host Yeah.

00:53:38 Music Music "The More You Know" musical piano sting. Four. Single, pleasant rising notes.

00:53:39 Adam Host Quark has decided he's gonna turn down the job unless there are rollbacks to all of these progressive policies.

00:53:45 Ben Host Yeah.

00:53:47 Adam Host If elected, he will not serve!

00:53:48 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* I didn't really know why Rom wanted the bar, though?

00:53:51 Adam Host Yeah.

00:53:52 Ben Host Like, it's never felt to me like—or I mean, it has in the past felt to me, like, plausible that Rom wanted it, but I feel like Rom has really, like, moved on and put some respect on his name by becoming a talented and, you know, like, good-shift-having engineer?

00:54:10 Adam Host Yeah, doesn't he have a job? I—you know what, I bet he wants to get outta that business, with all the shit that's rolled downhill off of O'Brien onto him. You know?

00:54:19 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Oh, yeah! This is another example of why we needed a couple of cutaways to Rom just, like, in—

00:54:26 Adam Host Yeah.

00:54:27 Ben Host —in a total panic over his workload, because O'Brien has spent the last several episodes just hanging around the infirmary.

00:54:34 Adam Host I think this is asked and answered now.

00:54:37 Ben Host Yeah.

00:54:38 Adam Host Like, we—we know why Rom is doing this.

00:54:39 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. We did the math.

00:54:43 Adam Host I love that we get to see the streets of Cardassia this episode.

00:54:46 Ben Host Yeah. Didn't this set look so much like the Romulus set from "Reunification," though?

00:54:51 Adam Host Really did. Yeah.

00:54:53 Ben Host Like—

00:54:54 Adam Host I expected some, uh, bistro tables and some soup!

00:54:57 Ben Host The—*[stifles laughter]*—the lack of soup shocked me, frankly. *[Laughs.]*

00:55:01 Adam Host That's not the only thing that's familiar, Ben. We got, uh—we got a depiction of someone being hassled for their papers.

00:55:08 Ben Host Mm-hm. Uh, this is Garak. And there's some tension in this scene. Because what Garak has gone and done is plant a bomb somewhere, and he's standing really close to the blast radius of this bomb when these Jem'Hadar stop him and ask him for his work order. And, uh, he's kind of trying to talk his way through it while Damar and Kira watch from the shadows in horror. And they're worried that this bomb is gonna go off and take Garak with them. So they have to act fast.

00:55:46 Adam Host This is an instance of someone wearing a—a Little Red Riding Hood cloak and hood probably attracting more information—probably attracting more attention than they're...

[Ben laughs.]

...than they're interested in, right?

00:56:01 Ben Host Yeah.

00:56:02 Adam Host Because how can Kira walk the streets at all on Cardassia?

00:56:05 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. People see that cloak casting her face in shadow and say, "Hey! Let me see your spoon!"

00:56:13 Adam Host You wanna see under that cloak when you see a cloak! Right?

00:56:16 Ben Host I mean, like, when I saw the Jawas as a kid, all I wanted was for them to pull that hood back!

00:56:22 Adam Host Right. Right!

00:56:23 Ben Host What do they look like under there? What—how are their eyes so lit up?!

00:56:26 Adam Host They've gotta do something, Ben, and Damar decides that if it is to be, it's up to him. He confronts one of these Jem'Hadar guards, and... then the shit goes down.

00:56:39 Ben Host These Jem'Hadars recognize him, unlike the ones on that... thicc daddy space station they visited a couple episodes ago.

00:56:47 Clip Clip **Norm (*Cheers*):** Afternoon, everybody.

Ben and Adam as Multiple People: Damar!

Music: "Wacky" musical sting, a la a sitcom cutting to commercial.

00:56:50 Ben Host It looks like a firefights about to break out. And it does. 'Cause Kira starts licking shots at the Jem'Hadar, and then the explosion goes off, people are falling over in the street, rubble is flying everywhere, and when the smoke clears the Jem'Hadar are all dead, *[laughing]* and none of the Cardassians are.

00:57:10 Adam Host Yeah!

00:57:12 Ben Host Very lucky! Because, uh—because Damar is able to kind of turn this moment to his advantage, and he goes, like, full William Wallace on these people.

[Adam stifles laughter.]

He, like, stands up on some rubble and starts—starts a chant of "Freedom" among the assembled masses. Uh, people on Cardassia are not used to people speaking openly against authority like this, but it's very exciting to them, so they all get involved with the chant.

00:57:38 Clip Clip **A Large Crowd:** You dont know what you're doing! You don't know what you're doing!

00:57:42 Adam Host You can't miss the kid with stars in their eyes—

00:57:46 Ben Host Yeah.

00:57:47 Adam Host —looking at Damar in this scene, getting totally swept up in the moment.

[Ben chuckles, Adam stifles laughter.]

I looked up who this was—this character's name is Lonar (*loner*).

[Ben laughs.]

Lonar is this character's name!

00:57:58	Ben	Host	Wow.
00:57:59	Adam	Host	And this is—this is the beginning of Lonar's indoctrination.
00:58:04	Ben	Host	Yeah. You wonder—you wonder how a Lonar (<i>loner</i>) falls in with a crowd like the resistance.
00:58:10	Adam	Host	Yeah. Yeah, he's psyched, and so is everyone else. And Damar knows good showmanship. He knows to leave on top! Everyone's cheering for freedom, and he bails out the back door.
00:58:20	Ben	Host	Yeah. Yeah. Unlike, uh, when <i>The Greatest Generation</i> goes on tour, and we walk off stage in disgrace at the end of every show.
00:58:27	Adam	Host	Right. Well, we walk off stage and directly into some bathrooms is what <u>we</u> do.
00:58:33	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Lonar is an example of a thing that I noticed in this episode, that there just didn't seem to be any shortage of extras that got a line?
00:58:43	Adam	Host	Mm-hm.
00:58:44	Ben	Host	Like, Lonar gets one. Like—I think the next scene is the one where, like, a lady gets off the elevator and unlike almost every moment like this in television, does <u>not</u> remain silent but in fact says, like, a—like, "Oh, excuse me" or something as she walks past?
00:59:00	Adam	Host	Yeah.
00:59:02	Ben	Host	And, uh, I wondered, like—they must've just been like, "Okay, we've got, uh, you know, three hours of television left to shoot. It's this and the double episode for the finale. We have <u>this</u> much money. Like, let's pay some character actors to get a line on this show." <i>[Chuckles quietly.]</i>
00:59:23	Adam	Host	"What are they gonna do, fire us?"
00:59:25	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughing]</i> Yeah. This—the lady in question gets off the elevator, and has to awkwardly walk between Bashir and Ezri, who are, uh, going over what a <u>great</u> decision they think they've made to remain friends and <u>not</u> date. But they get on the elevator, and by the time they've made it to Ops, they are... playing full tonsil hockey.
00:59:50	Adam	Host	When they get to Ops, Worf sends the car back down.
00:59:54	Ben	Host	<i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Yeah.
00:59:55	Adam	Host	Which made me wonder: What if you could control an elevator car from the <u>outside</u> ? And how shitty that would be in any hotel or office building?
01:00:04	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> I didn't know what he was doing when he, uh—when he bent over to that basket of softballs and then wound up, but then he nails that target and they go back down in the dunk tank. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
01:00:14	Adam	Host	Uh-huh. Yeah.

01:00:16 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Sploosh!]*

01:00:18 Ben Host You know, throw some water on those kids. Tell 'em to get a room.
[Laughs quietly.]

01:00:21 Adam Host He, uh—he removes all the oxygen from the car, and then—

[Ben laughs.]

—sends it out into space, and shoots it with the station's 5,000 torpedoes?

01:00:31 Ben Host *[Starts in a solemn Worf voice, but breaks into laughter]* "Kahless would frown on public displays of affection!"

[Both laugh.]

01:00:37 Adam Host At Quark's, preparations are underway for the staff-passing event that everyone is psyched about.

01:00:43 Ben Host Yeah.

01:00:44 Adam Host And, uh, Grand Nagus Zek, and Moogie, and Maihar'du are there. Uh, Quark is so ready for this.

01:00:53 Ben Host He is thirsty for that staff, and, uh—and yet, he's kind of done that thing that, uh, I think and I may be more guilty of that thing than almost anybody we know, which is having the conversation in your head with the person you need to confront a million times before actually confronting them.

So he steps to the Nagus and is like, "Hey, listen, man! I wanna be Nagus more than anything. But I can't do it if I'm not gonna be able to roll back all of your reforms."

[Stifles laughter.]

And the Nagus is like, "What the fuck are you talking about?"
[Laughs.]

01:01:31 Adam Host It's a big misunderstanding!

01:01:33 Ben Host Yeah! It was that choppy signal on the FaceTime!

01:01:36 Adam Host Right. Right. The staff isn't for Quark, it's for Rom!

01:01:40 Ben Host Yeah.

01:01:41 Clip Clip **Zek:** A kinder, gentler Nagus!

01:01:44 Ben Host Fool me twice, shame on Quark! The, uh—the dignity of Brunt is, uh—is the only thing upended even worse than Quark, because now Brunt has to, like, stop kissing the bottom of Quark's shoe and start kissing the bottom of Rom's. *[Chuckles.]*

01:02:02 Adam Host I really like the performance of Max Grodénchik here. Who is still very much the Rom that we've always known.

01:02:10 Ben Host Yeah.

01:02:11 Adam Host But as soon as he's given the staff, his voice changes a little bit, and he's got some gravitas to him! And so when he, like—when he gives back the bar to Quark, like, even his posture feels like it's changed a little bit.

01:02:24 Clip Clip **Rom:** You knowww, I could use a financial advisor...

01:02:27 Adam Host It—it's believable!

01:02:28 Ben Host There's a weight off his shoulder.

01:02:31 Adam Host Mm-hm.

01:02:32 Ben Host He is better suited to this power, because he didn't want it and didn't seek it, you know?

01:02:36 Adam Host Yeah. I love how this scene ends, where he's just left alone. Like, everyone's excited for him! All of his closest pals have, you know, slapped him on the back and given him their well-wishes, but in the end, like, he is, uh—he experiences the solitude of leadership. He's just left standing alone with that cane.

01:02:55 Ben Host I like this as a wrap-up for Rom, and I like it as a wrap-up for Quark, and it makes me wish that they hadn't done the "Quark is gonna be Nagus" storyline before. 'Cause I feel like, as we were discussing before, wrapping up Quark is really tricky. It is a hard thing to do, given how inconsistently the character was written over the course of the series. And this feels like they nailed it. But it's unfortunate that they nailed it by recycling an idea.

01:03:25 Adam Host It's the last appearance of Rom on the show, is this moment.

01:03:29 Ben Host Wow!

01:03:31 Adam Host Which, if you know this, I think gives it even more poignancy.

01:03:37 Ben Host Yeah. What a great character.

01:03:39 Adam Host Yeah.

So we need to make some decisions about the war, given the Dominion withdrawal. And in the wardroom it's Belt Buckle, Sisko, Martok, and that random Romulan.

[Ben laughs quietly.]

Uh, making the decisions together.

01:03:56 Ben Host Yeah. Random Rom', I feel like, has been a different Rom' almost every single time.

01:04:00 Adam Host Yeah.

01:04:01 Ben Host It's been a lady a couple of times. Like, sometimes it's a senator. This guy seems to be military, or Tal Shiar, maybe. But yeah. They, uh—they're just talking over the kind of logistical hurdle that they may have to overcome if—you know, if they do press their attack now that the Dominion has withdrawn to Cardassian space. They're straining their own supply lines. They—this may be a hard thing to do.

But, you know, resting and, like, chilling in the cut and letting the Dominion refresh their supply of Jem'Hadar and their supply of ships is exactly what the Dominion wants. So the room kind of puts it to a vote, and they decide now is the time to attack.

01:04:53 Adam Host It would've been fun if they end two to two.

[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]

On the vote.

01:05:00 Ben Host And then Belt Buckle had turned to Sisko and was like, "You're not really—you don't really have a vote here, actually." *[Laughs.]*

01:05:05 Adam Host Yeah.

01:05:06 Ben Host Like, "It's really—it's really me and these two other guys, not—not really up to you."

01:05:10 Adam Host This is a familiar problem that they've faced before, though! Is like, the risks of pressing an attack!

01:05:15 Ben Host Yeah.

01:05:16 Adam Host Uh, involve so many of their own dying that they really—

01:05:23 Ben Host Yeah! They're talking about thousand ships that could be destroyed by this.

01:05:27 Adam Host Right. Right. It's a sort of horrible math they've got to confront here. But the decision they come to is to do exactly that. They're gonna attack.

01:05:37 Ben Host Button on the episode is a scene back in the Sisko quarters where Sisko is doing that "absent-minded spouse home from work," not paying much attention to what his spouse is telling him. Uh, which is bad, because he is sort of not fully present in the moment when Kasidy lays a big one on him.

01:06:01 Clip Clip **Kasidy:** I'm pregnant.

01:06:03 Adam Host There's only one thing—well, I can think of a lot of things that you can't say at a moment like this.

[Ben laughs.]

But I feel like the one version of that that we see the most often in movies and television—

01:06:14 Ben Host Yeah.

01:06:15 Adam Host —is, "Are you sure?"

[Ben laughs.]

As a response to this. And a hundred times out of a hundred, that is the... wrong thing to say.

01:06:25 Clip Clip **Kasidy:** Of course I'm sure.

01:06:26 Ben Host Yeah. That does, uh—goes over like a lead balloon. Every single time.

01:06:31 Adam Host Right.

01:06:33 Ben Host Uh, he is able to roll it back. But it's that thing of, like, he is processing it after he's already voiced his reaction. And, uh, so it's not a great look for him. Also not a great look for him is that he failed to get his, uh, male contraceptive injection last month, so this is his fault. *[Laughs quietly.]*

01:06:54 Adam Host You know you have to take the hypospray to the balls on that, right?

[Ben laughs.]

01:06:59	Clip	Clip	<i>[Same clip used in the interstitials.]</i>
			Sisko: Ow!
01:07:01	Adam	Host	There is no universe I can conceive of where that's just a hypospray to the neck.
01:07:05	Ben	Host	One in ball A—
01:07:06	Adam	Host	Yeah.
01:07:07	Ben	Host	—one in ball B.
01:07:08	Adam	Host	Yeah. It's like HeadOn!
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
			You put HeadOn on your head for a reason! Just like you put the male contraceptive hypospray to the balls.
01:07:17	Ben	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i>
			Uh, a—a beautiful utopian future that imagines a male contraceptive, but also a sort of realistic utopia in which men are dipshits and forget to take it all the time because the consequences disproportionately don't fall on them.
01:07:36	Adam	Host	Amazing that, uh, a torpedo has slipped past the shield perimeter—
			<i>[Ben laughs.]</i>
			—and, uh, this appears to have been an unplanned pregnancy.
01:07:45	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:07:46	Adam	Host	That, uh, that they're facing.
01:07:47	Ben	Host	Can you believe it?
01:07:49	Adam	Host	Kasidy has some feelings about this!
01:07:51	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:07:52	Adam	Host	Uh, and they are not all positive. She's filled with some <u>fear</u> , really. And it's not, like—it's not the quite natural feelings of fear that a couple experiences... involving a pregnancy. It has to do with the Prophets, and the fear that she has about what the Prophets said about them and their relationship. She thinks the baby's in trouble for this reason.
01:08:18	Ben	Host	That's a heavy trip to live under. And I didn't quite know where Sisko's confidence came from in saying nothing bad will happen to this baby.
01:08:29	Adam	Host	Yeah. I mean, it could just be the false bravery that you put up in a time like this, where you're—you're just trying to comfort your special person, and you'll say whatever it is in order to do that.
01:08:43	Ben	Host	Yeah.
01:08:44	Adam	Host	Do—I mean, do you think he believes what he's saying in this scene? Or that it's just, uh, emotional triage?
01:08:50	Ben	Host	I think he believes what he's saying. But I don't know why he believes it. Other than just... faith. This scene also really makes me wonder, is the next episode going to cover, like, a <u>long-ass</u> span of

01:09:08 Adam Host time so we can test his hypothesis out? Like—
When the baby comes out looking like Vic Fontaine—
[Ben cracks up.]
—there is going to be hell to pay at the holosuites.

01:09:17 Ben Host Yeah. Shooby-dooby-don't!

01:09:21 Adam Host I think, uh—I think Captain Sisko would be willing to let Deep Space 9 fall if it meant—
[Ben laughs, Adam stifles laughter.]
—if it meant the destruction of Vic Fontaine and that program.

01:09:31 Ben Host *[Cracks up.]*

01:09:37 Music Transition Yeah. Uh, did you like the episode, Adam?
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.]

01:09:41 Adam Host I think the sequence of things... is a reason that this episode feels so strange to me. Like, this is really the second-to-the-last episode, and this is—

01:09:51 Ben Host Yeah.

01:09:52 Adam Host And I wonder if there was—I'm thinking back on it. Could this have gone anywhere else? I mean, the stuff that happened on Cardassia needs to happen in the linear fashion that we're experiencing it. But the—the Quark story—

01:10:07 Ben Host Yeah.

01:10:08 Adam Host —and I think to some degree the Sisko pregnancy story, I think could have happened anywhere during these final eight or nine episodes.

01:10:18 Ben Host Hm. Yeah.

01:10:19 Adam Host And I wonder how much flexibility they felt like there was. It's a strange feeling to be so close to the end, and have one last... quote-unquote "fun" Ferengi story taking charge. You know?

01:10:33 Ben Host One of my favorite parts of that *Deep Space Nine* documentary was the segment in which they got a bunch of people from the *DS9* writers' room together and wrote episode one of season eight.

01:10:47 Adam Host Yeah.

01:10:48 Ben Host Like, if they were gonna reboot the show, or bring back these

characters and do something in the modern era. What—like, how would you start? And they show them kind of breaking story. And I feel like there are things that you want that are notecards up on the whiteboard. And the—there are things that they want in this arc, like—like, finish up Brunt's story, finish up the Grand Nagus's story.

01:11:16 Adam Host Mm-hm.

01:11:17 Ben Host Like, give us a future for Sisko and Kasidy that we can, you know, imagine for ourselves, that—I—there—I wish that they had taken a look at a couple of those cards and been like, "You know what? We don't have the space in these ten episodes to worry about Brunt." You know?

01:11:38 Adam Host Yeah.

01:11:40 Ben Host I—like, I don't hate this episode! It—it was fun to watch. It's just that it's like—it, like, doesn't really feel like it tells an entire story. It just—it felt more like information dump than cohesive episode.

01:11:54 Adam Host Yeah. Yeah, I feel the same way. It—more than maybe any other episode in this last... combination of them, uh, feels like the outlier! I think whether or not I like it is gonna have a lot to do with whether or not I like the finale.

01:12:12 Ben Host Yeah. Well, uh, do you wanna see if there are any outliers in our Priority One Message inbox, Adam?

01:12:19 Adam Host I'm on my way there.

01:12:20 Clip Transition **Computer:** *[Beeps four times.]* Priority one message from Starfleet coming in on secured channel. *[More beeping.]*

01:12:25 Music Transition "Push it to the Limit" by Paul Engemann, mixed with clips from various sources.

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

[Coins drop on a hard surface.]

[Music ends.]

01:12:35 Music Music Music plays softly in the background of this segment, peppered by the ship's computer repeating, "Captain Picard, priority one message."

01:12:36 Ben Promo We've got a personal message here from A Happy Viewer, and it's to Ben and Adam! Oh, excuse me. It's to *[pronouncing the comma]* "Adam, Ben."

01:12:45 Adam Promo Well, we—we're finally hearing from a happy viewer, Ben.

01:12:48 Ben Promo *[Laughs.]* Uh, it goes like this:

"Every once in a while, you two will make a joke so sublime I can't stop thinking about it. I just had to put a spotlight on your reference to the 25-year-old SNL Old Glory Insurance fake commercial from

episode 328 at around 48 minutes and three seconds. Then before I got around to sending this in, episode 330 at 43 minutes and 30 seconds, and episode 331 at 33 minutes and 38 seconds happened. You make it look easy!"

[Laughs.]

01:13:20	Adam	Promo	This is a Q&A question that I think you and I imagined us getting at a GreatestGenKhan—
01:13:25	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[Air horns.]</i>
01:13:26	Ben	Promo	Yeah.
01:13:27	Adam	Promo	—that was an <u>actual</u> convention dedicated to all things <i>Greatest Gen?</i> This is, like—this is making me very appreciative of A Happy Viewer. While also knowing I don't have a grasp of our own material the way this person does. <i>[Stifles laughter.]</i> Like—
01:13:39	Ben	Promo	Yeah. Yeah.
01:13:40	Adam	Promo	I love old <i>SNL</i> , and Old Glory is one of my favorite bits.
01:13:44	Ben	Promo	One of the great gifts that editing this show has given me is that my YouTube algorithm is always throwing, like, a... 15-year-old <i>SNL</i> sketch—
01:13:55	Adam	Promo	Yeah.
01:13:56	Ben	Promo	—into my, like, "Up Next" queue. And, uh, it's always delightful! <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Even when the sketch isn't that good, it's, like, really fun to go visit, like—"Man! Remember when Molly Shannon was, like, one of the stars of this show?"
01:14:09	Adam	Promo	It's one of the reasons it takes so long to edit every episode. It's 'cause we go down YouTube holes watching old <i>SNL</i> sketches for an entire afternoon.
01:14:16	Ben	Promo	Yeah. So, uh, thank you, A Happy Viewer!
01:14:21	Adam	Promo	You really get us, A Happy Viewer.
01:14:23	Ben	Promo	<i>[Chuckling]</i> Mm-hm.
01:14:25	Adam	Promo	Our second Priority One Message is from The Director, and it is to The Deputy Secretary and The Commander.
01:14:32	Ben	Promo	Wow.
01:14:33	Adam	Promo	And the message goes like this: "Gentlemen, thank you for your friendship and mutual appreciation of <i>Star Trek</i> and all things geeky. I'm glad They Who Are Our Wives became such good friends, and look forward to resuming shenanigans as soon as possible. Also, thanks for continuing not to participate in the nubbin scheme to seize power we definitely do not have going." <i>[Ben laughs.]</i> "Yours, etc."
01:15:00	Ben	Promo	Wow. Yeah. The, uh—the nubbin scheme I would steer <u>everyone</u> away from, but most of all I think The Director, and the Deputy Secretary, and The Commander. Please! No nubbin schemes!

01:15:13 Adam Promo I think the nubbin scheme often backfires—

01:15:16 Ben Promo Yeah.

01:15:17 Adam Promo—in spectacular ways.

01:15:18 Ben Promo Just, uh, enjoy the fact that your wives became good friends, and, uh, don't press the issue any further! *[Chuckles quietly.]*

01:15:27 Adam Promo Well, if you have an issue you'd like to air publicly, using our show as its conduit—

[Ben laughs.]

—you can go to MaximumFun.org/jumbotron. Messages that we read support the production of the show! So they're very important to us.

[Music stops.]

01:15:42 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.]

01:16:00 Ben Host Hey, Adam!

01:16:01 Adam Host What's that, Ben?

01:16:03 Ben Host Did you find yourself a [Drunk Shimoda](#)?

01:16:04 Music Music Clips of *TNG* and Adam and Ben mixed with electric guitar.

Jim Shimoda (TNG): Incredible!

Adam & Ben: Druuunk Shimoda!

[Music ends abruptly.]

01:16:06 Adam Host It's hard for me not to pick Quark, who's just so wrong so often about so many things.

[Ben laughs.]

I mean, it's almost incalculable how off he is the entire episode. And, uh, yeah! I think that's—that's fairly simplistic, but I think that makes my choice easy. What about you?

01:16:26 Ben Host He's the wrongest, Adam. But my Drunk Shimoda is Seskal.

01:16:30 Adam Host Mm.

01:16:32 Ben Host Like, we barely knew him. But his performance of being the guy on the ship that has the girders falling around him, and is getting a'sploded in orbit was so great. Like, he really gave 110% to—like, it's essentially, like, "cut to the cockpit as Porkins' X-wing is destroyed" kind of moment.

01:16:55 Adam Host Wow.

01:16:57 Ben Host But he gets a lot more time than that. Like—

01:16:59 Adam Host Great call.

01:17:00 Ben Host Like, those X-wing pilots that you see go down, you get one second to see them buy the farm. And Seskal was given, like, 30 full seconds on screen. And gave every bit the amount of intensity that you would want in a moment like that, and I really thought that that added to the moment. I thought it was great.

01:17:21 Adam Host Porkins direction is the only direction you need for a moment like that.

01:17:26 Ben Host Right. Yeah. [Laughs.]

01:17:28 Adam Host I—you know, you and I have joked a lot about how much fun it would be to be an extra on the show, and then die on screen.

01:17:37 Ben Host Yeah.

01:17:38 Adam Host But I think Seskal—and the actor who plays him, Vaughn Armstrong—has really given us a great amount of inspiration for what that could be like. He lived the dream!

01:17:50 Ben Host Yeah.

01:17:51 Adam Host He died spectacularly on this show, and died at camera.

[Ben laughs quietly.]

In a way that, uh, I'll never forget.

01:17:57 Ben Host Another character that had, like, way more lines than you would see in a typical episode of *Deep Space Nine*. And, uh—

01:18:06 Adam Host Vaughn Armstrong played 12 separate characters in 28 episodes over four *Star Trek* series.

01:18:12 Ben Host No kidding. Wow.

01:18:13 Adam Host He is, uh—he's a legend.

01:18:15 Ben Host Damn. That's dope.

01:18:17 Adam Host Yeah.

01:18:18 Ben Host Good for him.

01:18:19 Adam Host Yeah! Well, good for us is the final episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. It's gonna be our next episode of *The Greatest Generation*:

Deep Space Nine.

01:18:27 Ben Host I can't believe we're already here!

01:18:29 Adam Host Yeah! So, Ben, what is the finale of *Deep Space Nine* going to be about?

01:18:36 Ben Host It's season 7, episode 25, "What You Leave Behind."

"The war against the Dominion reaches its final confrontation when Sisko leads the Federation Alliance in an attempt to invade the homeworld."

The homeworld of what? Who knows! *[Laughs.]*

01:18:55 Adam Host Yeah, we don't need to know that right now!

01:18:57 Ben Host Yeah.

01:18:58 Adam Host All we need to know is how we're going to review the episode, and for that we go to the Game of Buttholes—

01:19:02 Sound Effect Sound Effect *[Thunder crashes.]*

01:19:03 Adam Host —Will of the Prophets. I'm gonna head on over to Gagh.biz/game and see where we're at.

01:19:09 Ben Host Uh, well, currently we are on square 80. Looks like just ahead we've got a Caught In The Nebula episode. That's the—the "no notes." It would probably be the cruelest way for us to end the series, *[stifles laughter]* with a double episode that we can't refer to notes about.

01:19:27 Adam Host Mm.

01:19:29 Ben Host Um—

01:19:30 Adam Host I think I'm planning on doing this episode end-of-*TNG*—style. Just a—a bottle, and ice—

01:19:40 Ben Host Mm-hm.

01:19:41 Adam Host —and, uh—and you. I think.

01:19:42 Ben Host That sounds great.

01:19:43 Adam Host No matter what.

01:19:44 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.]

01:19:48 Ben Host Alright. I'm gonna go ahead and roll this bone. Let's see what we—

01:19:49 Clip Clip *[Quark breathes on the dice.]*

01:19:50 Ben Host Let's see what we hit, Adam.

01:19:53 Clip Clip *[Dice roll. Tapping stops.]*

Falow: Chula!

Crowd: *[Laughing]* Chula! Chula!

Quark: Did I win?!

Falow: Hardly!

[Clip audio ends.]

01:19:57	Ben	Host	Wow! I rolled a <u>one</u> . So... we <u>still</u> have that Caught In The Nebula out in front of us. We're on square 81. Did not make it to the end of the Game of Buttholes—
01:20:10	Sound Effect	Sound Effect	<i>[Thunder crashes.]</i>
01:20:11	Ben	Host	—the Will of the Prophets for <i>Star Trek: Deep Space Nine</i> 's final episode, but, uh, when—when we return to this game, I believe it will be reconfigured somewhat!
01:20:22	Adam	Host	Oh, that'll be fun!
01:20:23	Ben	Host	Yeah! And I guess we should—maybe we should decide right now, are we gonna start the game <u>over</u> when we do the reconfig? Or should we keep the runabout where it is?
01:20:35	Adam	Host	I like the idea of starting fresh.
01:20:36	Ben	Host	Okay!
01:20:37	Adam	Host	I could start back at one.
01:20:39	Ben	Host	Yeah. We're gonna add some fun new squares to the board. I know that Craig Anderson and Felipe Sobreiro are working hard on that. Uh—
01:20:48	Adam	Host	Are we still gonna be in a runabout?
01:20:51	Ben	Host	Oh, man! Maybe we'll be in the <i>Delta Flyer</i> ! Who knows?
01:20:54	Adam	Host	I've got a lot of questions about this new game.
01:20:56	Music	Music	Dark Materia's "The Picard Song" begins fading in.
01:20:57	Ben	Host	Yeah! I mean, part of the fun of the game is that it is <u>at us</u> .
01:21:00	Adam	Host	Mm.
01:21:01	Ben	Host	So... <i>[Chuckles.]</i> So we will find out when everybody else does, I think.
01:21:04	Adam	Host	Yeah.
01:21:05	Ben	Host	But really looking forward to that. In the meantime, we really appreciate the folks that support the show in, uh, the financial way by going to MaximumFun.org/join , or in the social way by recommending the show to a friend or giving us a nice review on Apple Podcasts or on social media. You know, recommending the show to others is <u>as</u> big a support as anything else.
01:21:30	Adam	Host	Yeah. Both of which, really appreciated in these uncertain times. Gotta thank all of our great Friends of DeSoto, for not only their support but for making the things that help the show be great. Like its music!
01:21:46	Ben	Host	Yeah! Adam Ragusea made that!
01:21:48	Adam	Host	Yeah, the, uh—the end credits music, made by Dark Materia, which also served as our original <i>Greatest Gen</i> theme music. But, uh, got a lot of other music on the show made by Adam Ragusea, and a <u>brand new</u> set of musical choices ahead for the <i>Star Trek: Voyager</i> version of <i>The Greatest Generation</i> to come.

01:22:09 Ben Host And, uh, we also gotta thank our buddy Bill Tilley, who, uh, is, uh, our card daddy. He makes hilarious trading cards about the show every week. But he also is now our social media director. And if you follow @GreatestTrek on [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#), he is always posting lots of fun stuff from the show. Photos of stuff we open up when we open up mail from listeners... just all kinds of great stuff. It's a really fun follow, and, uh, we recommend it, and thank Bill for his service!

01:22:45 Adam Host We're really fortunate we have people involved in the show who make it better!

Well, with that, we'll be back atcha next time with another great episode of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, and an episode of *The Greatest Generation: Deep Space Nine* which will be... my final sign-off! Of this show, before Ben takes over for the new series!

01:23:05 Ben Host Oh, wow!

01:23:06 Adam Host This is how we've done it, right?

01:23:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Ben:** *[Chuckling]* I guess so!

Adam: We've always alternated on series, so...

01:23:10 Ben Host Yeah!

01:23:11 Adam Host Now, uh, after the next episode, this job will be yours.

01:23:16 Ben Host Wow.

01:23:17 Adam Host I will—I will hand you my—my cane.

01:23:20 Ben Host *[Laughs.]* Looking forward to that. I'm, uh—I'm already spending the money in my mind. *[Chuckles.]*

01:23:27 Adam Host Yeah.

01:23:28 Ben Host Gonna upgrade the plumbing around here.

01:23:30 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.]

01:23:45 Music Transition A cheerful ukulele chord.

01:23:46 Speaker 1 Guest [MaximumFun.org](#).

01:23:48 Speaker 2 Guest Comedy and culture.

01:23:49 Speaker 3 Guest Artist owned—

01:23:50 Speaker 4 Guest —audience supported.