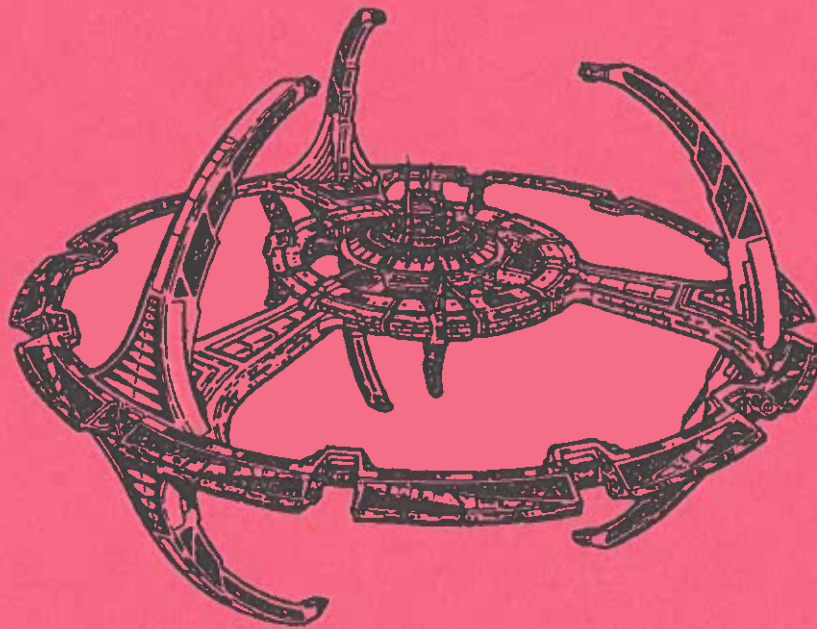


#420

STAR TREK

DEEP SPACE NINE



**"In the Hands of the
Prophets"**

FINAL DRAFT

APRIL 2, 1993

420

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

REVISED

04/05/93 be

04/05/93 pk

*04/06/93 yw

"In the Hands of the Prophets"

#40511-420

Written by

Robert Hewitt Wolfe

Directed by

David Livingston

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FINAL DRAFT

April 2, 1993

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

REVISED

04/05/93 be
04/05/93 pk
04/06/93 yw
04/08/93 gn
04/12/93 gd
04/12/93 sn
*04/12/93 bf

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FINAL DRAFT

April 2, 1993

DEEP SPACE: "In the Hands..." - 04/02/93 - CAST

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"In the Hands of the Prophets"

CAST

SISKO	NEELA
O'BRIEN	WINN
KIRA	VENDOR
ODO	BAREIL
BASHIR	VOICES
DAX	TYAM
QUARK	
KEIKO	
JAKE	

COMPUTER VOICE

Non-Speaking

BAJORAN CREWMEMBERS	MONKS
VARIOUS STUDENTS	

DEEP SPACE: "In the Hands.." - 04/02/93 - PRONUNCIATION

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"In the Hands of the Prophets"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

ABBAS	uh-BAHS
AQUINO	uh-KEY-no
BAJOR	BAY-jor
BAJORAN	bah-JOR-an
BALETH	BAY-leth
BAREIL	buh-RILE
CABRODINE	CAH-broe-dine
FELORAN	fuh-LORE-an
ILVIA	ILL-vee-uh
INFERNITE	IN-fur-nite
JUMJA	JUM-juh
NEELA	NEE-luh
TRITANIUM	try-TAY-nee-uhm
TYAM	TIE-am
VEDEK	VEH-deck
WINN	WIN

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

"In the Hands of the Prophets"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. PROMENADE

1

at the Kiosk - close on a glop on a stick in a VENDOR's hand... 018

KEIKO (O.C.)
Too early for me...

Moving with the glop to reveal O'BRIEN who takes it...

O'BRIEN
You sure?

KEIKO
(makes a face)
It's so sweet.

O'BRIEN
It's a natural sweetness from the
sap of the jumja tree... filled
with vitamin C. Great way to
start the morning.

*
*

He takes a lick. They move away from the Kiosk.

KEIKO
Since when did you become such an
expert on jumja sticks?

O'BRIEN
Hmm? Oh, Neela told me.

The name Neela gets a subtle response from Keiko.

*

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

KEIKO
Did she...?
(beat)
So. Is she working out any better
than the last one?

*
*

Who, O'BRIEN
Neela? She's terrific. She's
even taught me a few things.

KEIKO
(very dry)
I'm glad to hear her expertise
doesn't end with jumja sticks...

*

O'BRIEN
(slow on the uptake)
Oh yeah, she's a good engin...
(now he realizes)
hold on...

*

KEIKO
What?

O'BRIEN
You're not thinking...

She keeps walking, poker faced...

*

O'BRIEN
Keiko...

*
*

She smiles, satisfied, secure in her marriage...

KEIKO
(teasing)
Just keeping you on your toes,
O'Brien.

O'BRIEN
Very funny, O'Brien.

KEIKO
(flirtatious)
Be careful who you share your
jumja with...

*

*

Smiles sexily and walks away... off O'Brien's
reaction...

m 16

2 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL)

2

The wormhole illuminates in the background as a ship goes through.

KEIKO (V.O.)
Now, as we discussed in
yesterday's lesson, the wormhole
was discovered by Commander Sisko
and Lieutenant Dax earlier this
year.

After a beat, PULL BACK TO REVEAL... that in fact,
we're in...

2A OMITTED

2A

3 INT. SCHOOLROOM - KEIKO (OPTICAL)

3

is standing in front of a large monitor/blackboard with
the wormhole displayed. As usual, most of Keiko's
students are Bajoran, with a handful of humans and
other aliens. JAKE is present, but Nog is not. As she
moves away from the monitor...

KEIKO
(continuing)
Does anyone know what makes this
wormhole so unusual?

Jake raises his hand...

KEIKO
Jake?

JAKE
It's stable...?

4 NEW ANGLE

4

As Keiko speaks, a Bajoran woman ENTERS the schoolroom.
The woman, VEDEK WINN, is dressed in religious garb
similar to, but easily distinguishable from, the
clothing worn by the monks on the station. In attitude
and bearing, Winn comes across like your favorite aunt,
helpful, sympathetic, and caring. The Vedek stands
quietly at the back of the class like a principal
observing...

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

KEIKO
(continuing)
It's stable, that's right, Jake...
it's the first stable wormhole
known to exist...

Keiko notices the Vedek... smiles an acknowledgement,
as she continues the lesson, curious about her... the
Vedek nods hello...

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

WINN
(smiles, I don't wish to
interrupt)
Please... continue...

KEIKO
(nods)
A stable wormhole is very
important because it allows us to
travel secure in the knowledge
that neither end will shift
location. Who knows why the
wormhole is stable...?

*

The students seem disconcerted by the presence of a
stranger... no one raises their hand...

KEIKO
Because it was artificially
constructed. Commander Sisko
encountered the entities who
created the wormhole when he...

WINN
Excuse me, by the 'entities', do
you not mean 'the prophets'...?

KEIKO
(beat, senses the issue)
Yes... on Bajor... the entities
are worshipped as prophets.
(beat, moving quickly
on)
Our studies of the wormhole have
shown that it was formed by unique
particles we call verterons that
are apparently self-sustaining...
this begins to explain how a ship
at impulse can safely pass
through...

*

*

WINN
Ships are safely guided through
the passage by the hands of the
prophets.

KEIKO
(beat)
In a manner of speaking...

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (3)

4

WINN
(deceptively sweet)
Not apparently your manner of
speaking...

This has gone too far in front of the children...

KEIKO
Perhaps we should discuss this
after. *class* -

WINN
Do you believe the celestial
temple of the prophets exists
within the passage...?

KEIKO
I respect that the Bajoran people
believe it does.

*
*

WINN
But that's not what you teach.

*

Keiko understands now that there is to be no avoiding
this. Firm, confident, but not aggressively and
without hostility --

*

KEIKO
No, I don't teach Bajoran
spiritual beliefs. That's your
job. Mine is to open the
children's minds... to history...
to literature... to mathematics...
to science...

Winn sounds sad. Like she is deeply hurt by what she
is being forced to say.

WINN
(very apologetic)
You are opening the children's
minds... to blasphemy. And I
cannot permit it to continue.

Her strong eyes study...

5 KEIKO

5

We hold on Keiko's troubled expression for a moment,
then we...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes.)

*addi
credits
in*

6 INT. SECURITY OFFICE (VPB)

6 *

NEELA, O'Brien's Bajoran apprentice, works on something inside an open panel under the security monitors (which are blank). Neela is in her early twenties, bright, pretty, and eager to please. O'Brien ENTERS, carrying his tool case.

O'BRIEN

Sorry I couldn't get here sooner.
Another fusion reactor went down.
How's it going?

*

Neela keeps working, she tweaks a few things, and then...

NEELA

Done.

O'BRIEN

(pleasantly surprised)

Done?

(off her nod)

Did you remember to re-initialize
the isolinear co-processor?

*

*

NEELA

(nods again)

I did it exactly like you showed
me. Should I test it?

O'BRIEN

Let me. You know us old folks.
We like to feel useful.

O'Brien keys in some commands on Odo's security desk
and the Wall Monitors come back to life.

O'BRIEN

Not bad, not bad at all.

(to Neela, kidding)

If you keep this up, I'm going to
be out of a job.

NEELA

(smiles)

I doubt that.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

O'BRIEN
Let's close ~~her~~ up.

*

6A NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

6A

O'Brien and Neela place the panel back in place. Neela takes a small high tech tool and plays it over the edge of the panel.

O'BRIEN
(re: the tool)
Not that one... this is a security
seal. You need an E-J-Seven
Interlock to ~~open~~ or close it.

NEELA
(confused)
E-J-Seven?

Neela looks at her tool kit.

O'BRIEN
(goes for his own tool
box)
Never mind... I've got one.

6B BACK TO SCENE

6B

O'Brien searches his tool box, but he can't find what he's looking for. He double-checks, but it's not there.

(CONTINUED)

6B CONTINUED:

6B

O'BRIEN
Bloody hell.

NEELA
What's wrong?

well, O'BRIEN
My E-J-Seven. *It's* missing.

NEELA
Maybe you left it in Ops.

O'BRIEN
(beat, shakes his head)
I don't misplace my tools.

On his concerned expression...

7 INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE

7

Keiko is talking to SISKO. He's grim, concerned.

SISKO
I'm not exactly surprised.

KEIKO
You knew this was going to happen?

SISKO
A confrontation like this was
inevitable.
(rises)
Sometimes, I wonder if we'll ever
find the common ground we need to
bring Bajor into the Federation.

Sisko opens the door to Ops... calls to Kira --

(CONTINUED)

door

7 CONTINUED:

7

SISKO
Major, would you join us?

*

Kira comes in...

*

SISKO
We've been talking about an
incident this morning at the
school...

KIRA
I heard... Vedek Winn has been
meeting with some of the Bajoran
civilians about it...

*

*

Sisko frowns...

SISKO
What do you know about her?

*

KIRA
She's from an orthodox order...
she has some support to become the
next Kai... but probably not
enough...

*

KEIKO
The question is how much support
does she have on this station?

KIRA
(casual)
She has mine.

Sisko reacts...

KEIKO
You can't possibly believe
teaching the facts about the
wormhole amounts to blasphemy...

KIRA
(not hostile)
I think some revisions in the
school curriculum might be
appropriate... you teach a lot of
Bajoran children...

*

*

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

KEIKO
(confrontational)
I'm not going to let a Bajoran
spiritual leader dictate what can
or can't be taught in my
classroom...

*

Kira reacts, obviously she's dealing with a closed mind
here... looks to Sisko...

KIRA
(to Sisko)
Then maybe we need two schools on
this station... one for Bajoran
children and another for the
Federation...

*

*

Sisko sighs, a beat...

SISKO
If we start separating Bajoran and
Federation interests...

*

KIRA
A lot of Bajoran and Federation
interests are separate,
Commander... I've been telling
you that all along.

SISKO *that*
Nobody's saying there can't be
spiritual teaching on this
station, Major... but why can't it
be in addition to what's taught in
Mrs. O'Brien's classroom...

*

*

KIRA
But if she's teaching a
fundamentally different
philosophy...

*

*

*

KEIKO
I'm not teaching any philosophy...
I'm trying to teach pure
science...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

KIRA
Some might say pure science,
taught without a spiritual
context, is a philosophy, Mrs.
O'Brien...

Keiko is very frustrated...

SISK0
My philosophy is that there is
room for all philosophies on this
station.
(beat, to Kira)
How do you suggest we deal with
this?

*
*
*
*

KIRA
I'm not sure you can.

The 'you' is deliberate. There is no we yet.

7A
thru
7B

OMITTED

7A
thru
7B

*

8 INT. PROMENADE

8

Activity as usual... finding Sisko entering the Bajoran
Shrine. A Bajoran monk, dressed in vestments similar
to Winn's, steps aside to let Sisko in.

*
*

9 INT. BAJORAN SHRINE

9

An ornate candlelit interior. A string instrument
(audio only) making soft, pulsating sounds adds to the
mystical feeling. Vedek Winn is bowing her head before
a shrine, cupping her ear in a ritual gesture with her
eyes closed... as Sisko moves inside, reluctant to
disturb her. Without opening her eyes to see him, she
speaks...

*

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

WINN

I can't tell you how much I've
looked forward to this moment.

Now, she opens her eyes and turns to him...

WINN

I'm honored to meet the Emissary
to the prophets.

SISKO

If you'd let me know you were
coming, Vedek Winn, I would have
greeted you sooner.

*
*

WINN

~~Pardon me, Emissary...~~ I did not
wish to bother you with my
insignificant visit...

*

SISKO

I'd hardly call it insignificant.

WINN

(deliberately mistaken
as a compliment)
Thank-you, Emissary.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

SISKO

I wish you wouldn't call me
that... I'm Commander Sisko... or
Benjamin, if you'd like...

*

WINN

But you are the Emissary. Don't
you know the cherished place
you've earned in the Bajoran
spiritual life...?

*

SISKO

I'm not sure I'm comfortable in
that role.

WINN

The course the prophets choose for
us may not always be comfortable.
But we must follow it.

*

Her hand reaches toward his ear... pauses...

WINN

May I?

Sisko doesn't stop her... she presses the ear as the
Kai did in the pilot... they study each other for a
long beat... nods...

WINN

Still the disbeliever.

(beat)

I once asked Kai Opaka why a
disbeliever was destined to seek
the prophets. She told me one
should never look into the eyes of
one's own gods.

(shakes her head)

I disagreed. I told her I would
do anything to look into their
eyes. She suggested that I sit in
darkness for a day and quite
properly so. She cannot be
replaced. *and* I miss her deeply.

*

*

SISKO

(beat)

It's important to me that we
resolve your problems with the
school.

*

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

9

WINN

The prophets have spoken to me
through the orbs, Emissary. I
understand my duty to defend the
Bajoran faith. The teacher has
dishonored the celestial temple.
If she does not recant, I cannot
be responsible for the
consequences.

*

*

Hold on Sisko's reaction for a moment, then...

10
thru
13

OMITTED

10
thru
13

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

14 INT. OPS (VPB)

14 *

O'Brien and Neela are at work at the Engineering station. We join them in mid-conversation.

NEELA

This still seems like an awful lot of trouble to go through to find one tool.

*

O'BRIEN

With that Interlock, someone could access every critical system on the station.

*

As she acknowledges... DAX comes over...

DAX

Chief, have you seen Ensign Aquino recently?

O'BRIEN

(looks around Ops)

No... now that you mention it.

DAX

He didn't report for duty this morning. The computer says he's not on the station, but he didn't log out.

O'BRIEN

(worried)

Have you talked to Odo?

DAX

I guess I'd better.

She EXITS to the Turbolift...

NEELA

Scanners are ready.

*

O'BRIEN

Computer, show location of any independent tritanium sources...

15 ANGLE - MONITOR (VPB) 15

Looking at the monitor...

NEELA
Level three, section five...

O'BRIEN
That's the tool locker... I've
been through everything in there
three times...

O'Brien presses another panel... the image on the
monitor changes... O'Brien reacts as he looks at the
monitor...

O'BRIEN
Now what's that?

NEELA
Looks like something in a power
conduit on level twelve, section
eight.

O'BRIEN
What would tritanium be doing in
there?
(thoughtful beat)
Computer, shut down that
conduit... re-route the power
flow.

COMPUTER
Conduit deactivated.

O'BRIEN
(to Neela)
Come on...

They EXIT...

16
thru 17 OMITTED 16
thru 17

18 INT. POWER CONDUIT 18

O'Brien uses a tricorder to scan the Jefferies Tube
like power conduit. Behind him, Neela scans the other
side.

NEELA
Over here, Chief.

O'Brien joins Neela and examines a pile of slag on the
floor of the conduit. He scans it with his tricorder.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

O'BRIEN

It's a tritanium composite, all right. Looks like our missing Interlock.

NEELA

It must have been melted by the conduit's plasma flow.

*

O'BRIEN

(while continuing his scan)

That still doesn't explain how it got here in the first place.

(notices something on his tricorder)

Huh...

Neela looks over his shoulder at the display.

O'BRIEN

(continuing)

I'm picking up traces of organic material.

Neela runs her own tricorder over the material.

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED: (2) 18

O'Brien looks unhappy with the results of his scan. He resets the tricorder and tries again, but still looks unsatisfied.

O'BRIEN
Whatever it was, it's been pretty
well cooked by this conduit.

O'Brien puts away the tricorder and takes out a new tool.

O'BRIEN
Let's take a sample to Doctor
Bashir, see what he makes of it.

19 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL) 19
Re-establishing.

20 INT. PROMENADE 20

The next morning. O'Brien and Keiko walk together. We pick them up in mid-conversation moving to the Kiosk...

O'BRIEN
(troubled, unsatisfied)
Ensign Aquino made a log entry the
night he disappeared about some
sort of plasma flow irregularity
in the conduit... he indicated he
was going to fix it...

KEIKO
Then, it was an accident...

O'BRIEN
I guess. Bashir confirmed the
remains were human... I'm sure the
DNA trace will show it's Aquino...

As they reach the Kiosk...

O'BRIEN
(to the vendor)
I'll take one.
(looks at Keiko)
Unless you're feeling adventurous
today.

VENDOR
Sorry, we're all out.

O'Brien sees a half dozen Jumja sticks on the back shelf.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

O'BRIEN

What are you talking about... I
can see them with my own eyes.

The Vendor doesn't even look... stares at Keiko with
hostility...

VENDOR

These aren't for sale...

*

O'Brien looks at him looking at Keiko who turns away,
hurt... O'Brien loses it...

O'BRIEN

Not for sale, huh...

He reaches across and grabs the guy's collar and pulls
him halfway out of the Kiosk... passersby react, ODO is
nearby, sees and starts moving over...

O'BRIEN

How would you like a jumja
stick...

*

KEIKO

Miles...

ODO

Is there a problem?

O'BRIEN

~~You're~~ damned right... *there is*

*

VENDOR

I don't have to sell anything to
them if I don't want to.

ODO

(honestly confused)

Why wouldn't you want to sell to
them?

*

KEIKO

(hurt and uncomfortable)

Miles, can we go... *Lots go*

O'Brien doesn't want to leave it, but sees the pain his
wife is in... drops it...

O'BRIEN

~~Forget~~ it...

They walk away... Odo exchanges a glance with the
Vendor... who spits the words out at Keiko's back --

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: (2) 20

VENDOR
Seek the prophets.

Odo reacts and exchanges a look with the Vendor, walks away, murmuring out of earshot...

ODO
Seek them yourself.

21 ANGLE - ON O'BRIEN AND KEIKO 21

O'BRIEN
(looking back at the Kiosk)
Maybe you were right... we've got no business here... I'll just put in for a transfer and that'll be...

KEIKO
No... I can't run away from this now...
(beat, looking ahead)
What's this...

22 NEW ANGLE - A GROUP OF BAJORANS 22

waiting outside the entrance to the classroom. The group is composed of ten Bajoran parents and the children (including Jake) plus Vedek Winn, a monk from her order, and eight or so Bajoran civilians.

*
*
*

WINN
(to the parents)
If we abandon the Prophets, then everything we have will be...

As parents look over her shoulder and react to Keiko's arrival, she stops in mid-sentence, turns, smiles...

WINN
Here's Mrs. O'Brien now.

KEIKO
(without a smile)
Good morning.

WINN
Are you Mister O'Brien?

O'BRIEN
That's right.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

WINN

A pleasure to meet you. I've been listening to many wonderful things about your wife from the parents of these children. She's apparently an excellent teacher.

O'BRIEN

She doesn't deserve what you're doing to her.

WINN

(taken in stride)

I feel your anger toward me... I accept it and forgive you for it.

(to Keiko)

Mrs. O'Brien, if I've misjudged you, I am terribly sorry. Have I? Is there a place in your school for the prophets?

*

A long beat as they lock eyes. A cutaway of Jake studying this interchange with concern. The parents want desperately for her to say yes.

*

*

KEIKO

(softly but firm)

No.

The on-lookers murmur with hostility... but Winn never joins that sentiment...

WINN

I admire you for standing by your convictions. Even though I disagree with them. Please believe me, I want to find a way to allow these children to stay in your school...

KEIKO

I'm sure the children and their parents are happy to hear you say that.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

WINN

Let me be the one to make the first concession. I will no longer request that you teach anything about the celestial temple.

A beat. More murmurs of surprise... Keiko glances at O'Brien.

WINN

Just don't teach anything about the wormhole at all.

KEIKO

(reacts)

Ignore it...?

WINN

Find other things to teach the children.

KEIKO

And when we get to theories of evolution or ~~the~~ creation of the universe, what then.?

*

WINN

We'll face those issues when we come to them.

KEIKO

I'm a teacher. My responsibility is to expose my students to knowledge. Not hide it from them. The answer is no.

*

*

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (3)

22

Winn looks at the parents, shakes her head, sadly.

WINN

(beat)

I've tried to be reasonable.

She puts her arm around a Bajoran child and ushers her away... the others and the parents all follow... we take a moment to see Jake, who's standing there with a handful of other students (three humans and an alien), now looking terribly concerned about all this... and finally, Keiko watches them go in pain... as O'Brien puts his arm around her and comforts her...

*
*
*
*

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

*Just low talking over
what's going to happen
m 040*

ACT THREE

Murphy
FADE IN:

23 INT. OPS

23

Sisko, Kira, O'Brien, Odo, and Dax in conference around the Ops table. *

SISKO *

If Aquino turned off the conduit to fix the relay... why did it reactivate. *

O'BRIEN *

The Cardassians only equipped those power conduits with one flow regulator per level. The computer could've realigned it. When the power flow was rerouted back, it could've caught him inside. *

DAX *

You don't sound entirely convinced. *

O'BRIEN *

No, it all adds up only... I don't know... *

SISKO *

Spit it out, Chief. *

O'BRIEN *

(laughs sadly, it seems ridiculous in context)
He borrowed one of my tools without asking. *

KIRA *

It was four in the morning. Maybe he didn't want to ~~bether~~ bother you.

disturb
(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED:

23

O'BRIEN
The repairs could've waited til
the next day.
(beat)
He was a Starfleet engineer... you
don't take the Chief's tools
without asking... it's unheard
of...

ODO
Are you suggesting it might not
have been an accident?

O'BRIEN
I don't know what I'm suggesting.
I only know what I know. He
should've asked.

Odo's mind begins to work... in the background, Jake
arrives on the Turbolift...

SISKO
Constable, maybe you ought to take
a closer look into this...

Odo acknowledges and EXITS... Sisko looks over to see
Jake moving to him... surprised to see him here...

SISKO
Dismissed.
(rising, to Jake)
Hi.

JAKE
Can I talk to you for a minute.?

SISKO
Sure.

Moving into the Commander's office.

SISKO
(continuing)
I heard what happened at school.

24 INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

24

SISKO
(continuing)
Did Mrs. O'Brien call off classes?

(CONTINUED)

sound of turbolift

24 CONTINUED:

24

JAKE

No. There was only me and four other kids left, but she still kept the school open.

They sit away from the desk.

JAKE

(continuing)

She changed the lesson to teach us about Gallileo. Did you know he was tried by the Inquisition for teaching that the earth moved around the sun?

SISKO

Tried and convicted. His books were burned.

JAKE

How could anyone be so stupid?

SISKO

It's easy to look back seven centuries and judge what was right and wrong.

JAKE

But the same thing is happening now! All this stuff about ~~a~~ *the* celestial temple in the wormhole is dumb.

Sisko studies him for a beat...

SISKO

realize
No, it's not. You've got to ~~understand~~ something, Jake. For over fifty years, the one thing that allowed Bajorans to survive the Cardassian occupation was their faith. The prophets were their only source of hope and courage.

JAKE

But they weren't prophets. They were just some aliens that you found in the wormhole.

*

SISKO

To those aliens, the future is no more difficult to see than the past. ~~So~~ why shouldn't they be considered prophets?

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (2)

24

JAKE
Are you serious?

SISKO
My point is it's a matter of interpretation. It may not be what you believe, but that doesn't make it wrong. If you start to think that way, you'll be acting just like Vedek Winn. Only from the other side.

(beat)
We can't afford to think that way, Jake. We'd lose everything we've worked for here...

Jake begins to understand...

JAKE
(beat, studying his dad)
You're worried, aren't you...

Sisko nods silently.

JAKE
What're you gonna do?

SISKO
I'm not sure. But I think I've got to find some help.

25 EXT. BAJORAN CAPITAL - DAY (MATTE) (STOCK)
Establishing shot of the Bajoran Capital.

26 EXT. MONASTERY OF THE KAI - WOODED GARDEN - DAY

Sisko wanders through a quiet garden inside the walls of the Kai Temple complex. VEDEK BAREIL, a short Bajoran man about fifty-five in religious garb, ENTERS the garden and approaches Sisko. Bareil is a soft-spoken and gentle man, somewhat reminiscent of Ghandi or the Dalai Lama.

BAREIL
I'm sorry for keeping you waiting,
Commander Sisko.

(CONTINUED)

mlb
25
sound of
water
splash
26

26 CONTINUED:

26

SISKO
Vedek Bareil...?

The open face of the spiritual man acknowledges, looks into the eyes of Sisko who smiles... Sisko bows his head and turns it to the side so the Vedek can reach his ear...

BAREIL
Please. ~~There is~~ no need to pay
tribute to me, Commander...

SISKO
(awkward)
Pay tribute...? ~~No~~, I was just...
(beat)
Usually, when I meet one of
Bajor's spiritual leaders, the
first thing they do is grab my...

BAREIL
...Ear?

Sisko acknowledges... Bareil laughs warmly...

OTO
BAREIL
Unpleasant, isn't it.

SISKO
I've been far too polite to admit
it.

BAREIL
I was five the first time one of
the monks grabbed my ear... he was
a stern old crow who could
virtually squeeze the pagh-right
out of you with his thumb and
forefinger... and as a chronic
misbehavior, I was his favorite
victim. I swore ~~that~~ one of my
life's goals would be to do away
with that archaic ritual.

SISKO
(feeling comfortable
with this man, smiles,
not too serious)
You can count on the Federation's
support.

*

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: (2)

26

BAREIL
(leading the way) *de*
I hope you don't mind if I get a
little planting ~~done~~ while we
talk... All the ~~hours~~ *hours* listening
to a hundred and twelve Vedeks
talking at once makes me yearn
again for the sanctity of my
arboretum...

They walk...

SISK0
Is this yours?

begin
BAREIL
(acknowledges)
I ~~started~~ my service at the
monastery as the gardener,
Commander. I had no ambitions
other than to grow the most lovely
Feloran bromiliads on the planet.
But the prophets did not allow me
that peaceful life.

*

27 NEW ANGLE

27 *

as they change paths...

BAREIL
(continuing)
I understand my friend Vedek Winn
has brought her blessings to your
station.

*

SISKO
I was hoping you might be able to
arrange an audience with the
assembly so I could discuss our
school.

*

BAREIL
Why me?

SISKO
You are the leading candidate to
be the next Kai. And, if I've
been correctly informed, your
ideology is quite different than
Vedek Winn's.

*

BAREIL
You have been correctly informed.

*

He pauses.

BAREIL
I'm sorry. But the Vedek Assembly
will not see you, Commander.

SISKO
Why not?

BAREIL
Some fear you as the symbol of a
Federation they view as godless.
Some fear you as the Emissary who
has walked with the prophets.
Some fear you because Vedek Winn
told them to.

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

BAREIL (Cont'd)

We're all very good conjuring up enough fear to justify whatever we want to do. Today, I am only a Vedek. If the prophets will it, someday, I may be Kai. And I can be a better friend to you then.

*

SISKO

In other words, being my friend now might hurt your chances.

BAREIL

The prophets teach us patience.

SISKO

It appears they also teach you politics.

That's almost an accusation... but Bareil dismisses it...

BAREIL

I'm sorry you've made the long trip for nothing. Please stay and enjoy the gardens as long as you like.

He moves away. On Sisko's expression.

m/b

28 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL)

28

Re-establishing.

29 INT. OPS

29

Sisko ENTERS from the Turbolift. Kira, Dax, and O'Brien are at their stations. Neela is helping O'Brien, but there are no other Bajorans in Ops. Sisko notices.

SISKO

Is it my imagination or are we a little short handed today?

*

KIRA

Three Bajoran crewmen didn't report for duty.

*

(beat, obviously untrue)

They... said they weren't feeling well.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

Sisko understands that this is not a coincidence.

SISKO

Do you think it's contagious,
Major?

KIRA

It's too early to tell.

*

Sisko is feeling this whole relationship between the Federation and Bajor slipping away... and the frustration is getting to him. He is quiet but sharp with Kira here... but not loud enough to draw O'Brien and Neela's attention away from what they're doing...

SISKO

Are your people willing to throw
away everything we've accomplished
during the past seven months?

*

KIRA

(would never go that
far)

Everyone knows that if the
Federation leaves the Cardassians
will be back...

SISKO

With all due respect, Major,
protecting your borders is not the
primary reason the Federation is
here and it's not why I'm here.
I'm here to build a trusting
relationship with your people...
and I'd like to start feeling that
somebody...

(unstated: like you)

...somebody on your side is giving
something back to this effort.

KIRA

I think I've given you all the
support I can, short of...

*

*

And this is too loud, for the first time getting
O'Brien and Neela's attention --

SISKO

(interrupting)

It's not enough.

A beat.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2)

29

KIRA
(hurt, quiet)
I thought there was room on this
station for all philosophies.

Sisko's gone too far and he knows it but is unable to
admit that here... he's just too angry... quietly --

SISKO
You tell our sick Bajoran crewmen
that they better get well
immediately or they'll recover on
the way to their next assignment.

KIRA
Yes. Sir.

During the above, Odo and BASHIR arrive on the
Turbolift... she EXITS as they move to Sisko...

ODO
Commander, Doctor Bashir has found
some new evidence about Ensign
Aquino you should see...

And Sisko reacts, this is by comparison a nuisance,
drawing his attention away from where it ought to be...
Bashir hands Sisko a PADD... O'Brien moves over to
check this out... Sisko examines the PADD with no
understanding...

BASHIR
I've finally managed to
reconstruct the victim's DNA.
It's definitely Aquino. But the
power flow in the conduit didn't
kill him.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

*sound of
turbo, bg **

29 CONTINUED: (3)

29

BASHIR (Cont'd)
(re: the PADD)
You see, the plasma disruption in
his cellular membranes indicates
he was exposed to a directed
energy discharge before he was
placed in the conduit.

O'BRIEN
A directed energy discharge. From
a phaser?

ODO
(acknowledges)
Set to kill.

Off reactions...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

*
* *bl*
music

ACT FOUR

music
FADE IN:

30 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL) 30

31 INT. COMMANDER'S OFFICE 31

Sisko, Kira, Dax, Bashir, Odo and O'Brien are in conference in Sisko's office. If we see into Ops, we will notice that the Bajoran Crewmembers are back at work.

SISKO

Could this murder be related in any way to the tensions over the school issue?

KIRA

(defensive)

with If you're suggesting he was killed by a Bajoran just because he was from the Federation...

BASHIR

(shortcutting)

The analysis proves he was killed the night before Vedek Winn arrived. There wasn't any school issue yet.

*

Kira looks satisfied.

SISKO

Any ideas about a motive?

Silence.

SISKO

All right, then, let's start from the beginning. Ensign Aquino goes to make a repair to a power conduit...

ODO

One moment Commander, I'm not convinced of that...

KIRA

But the log...

could ODO

It might have been altered by our killer to cover his tracks.

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

ODO (Cont'd)
I checked the Turbolift records
the night of the murder. Aquino
did take a Turbolift to level
three but not to the power conduit
where he was found...

DAX
Where did he go?

ODO
Runabout pad 'C'...

O'BRIEN
A Runabout...? What was he doing
at a Runabout at four in the
morning? *

ODO
Apparently, he was getting
murdered.

Off reactions...

32 INT. RUNABOUT AIRLOCK

32

Neela works inside an open access panel on the side of
the airlock corridor. O'Brien emerges from the
Runabout.

O'BRIEN
Everything in the Runabout seems
perfectly normal.

NEELA
—It doesn't look like the airlock
systems have been tampered with. *

O'BRIEN
(beat)
Let's run a level one diagnostic
of the Runabout's computer
interface, then we'll call it a
day. *

NEELA
I already have. Everything's
normal.

They sit on the floor by the open panel... letting go
for a moment...

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

O'BRIEN

Hell, I don't even know what we're looking for. If anything happened here, it's been pretty well covered up.

Neela nods, frustrated, a quick brief shudder passes across her shoulders... softly vulnerable, and sad --

NEELA

Did you know him well?

O'BRIEN

Aquino? Barely ~~knew him~~ at all. Just the welcome aboard, if you need anything speech. You?

NEELA

Not really. Bajoran and Starfleet officers don't socialize too much...

*

O'BRIEN

How come?

NEELA

I don't know. I guess we just keep to ourselves.

O'BRIEN

You're not like that with me.

NEELA

(smiles)

You're not like the others.

(off O'Brien's curious reaction)

You know. You don't put on any airs... You're just... nicer.

She smiles warmly at him. A beat. And suddenly it's just a little too intimate for O'Brien's comfort... he gets up.

O'BRIEN

~~Well~~, uh, look, I'll close up here... why don't you take off...

NEELA

You sure?

O'BRIEN

(double meaning)

Yeah. I'm sure.

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: (2)

32

NEELA
(smiles)
Good night.

*

She picks up her tool kit and EXITS, O'Brien watches her go a beat, starts to finish up his work...

O'BRIEN
(murmuring to himself)
On your toes, O'Brien.

A beat. His mind comes back to the investigation, taps his finger on the console... a new thought --

O'BRIEN
Computer, expand diagnostic to
include link-ups to Runabout pads
A and B.

COMPUTER VOICE
Diagnostic initiated. Function
will require three minutes forty
seconds.

*

*

O'Brien goes back to finishing up the work...

*

33 INT. PROMENADE

33

Odo is observing the arrival through the airlock of many Bajorans... most of them dressed in traditional (Storyteller) garb... QUARK moves up beside him...

QUARK
You were looking for me?

Odo grunts an acknowledgement, but is watching the faces of the arriving Bajorans... like a camera clicking them off for later reference... Quark follows his attention...

QUARK
Don't tell me... there's a Bajoran convention on the station that I didn't know about... thanks, Odo, I need to call in more Dabo girls...

(CONTINUED)

doors
low tall
bg

33 CONTINUED:

33

ODO

It's not a convention. They're from an orthodox spiritual order coming to support Vedek Winn's efforts to keep the Bajoran children out of school...

QUARK

Orthodox. In that case, I'll need twice as many Dabo girls. These spiritual types love those Dabo girls.

*
*

Odo moves away from the airlock... they move slowly down the Promenade together...

ODO

This is not what I wanted to talk to you about. What do you know about the murder of Ensign Aquino?

QUARK

(reacts)

You wound me. All the years together. I thought you knew me. Odo, I am not a killer.

*

ODO

No. But most of your friends are.

QUARK

True. And I would gladly sell one of them to you if I could. But unfortunately, none of them have taken credit for the death of the Starfleet officer. Sorry.

In the background, O'Brien arrives, moving with a purpose, sees Odo, moves toward him...

O'BRIEN

Odo...

Odo sees him coming, stops, getting rid of Quark --

ODO

Keep your ears open.

QUARK

Are you kidding? That's the seventh rule of acquisition.

*

(CONTINUED)

footsteps

33 CONTINUED: (3)

33

Quark acknowledges O'Brien, leaves... O'Brien hands Odo a small electronic component...

O'BRIEN

It's a security bypass module.

ODO

You found this at Runabout pad 'C'?

O'BRIEN

No, that's just it... it wasn't at pad 'C'... that was clean as a whistle... just to be safe, I ran a diagnostic across the board and this showed up at pad 'A'...

ODO

Pad 'A'...?

O'BRIEN

Aquino never went near Runabout 'A'... Doesn't make sense.

ODO

On the contrary, it makes perfect sense. Ensign Aquino goes to Runabout 'C' because some sensor shows an anomaly in the security net there... he interrupts whoever is tampering with it and is killed. The killer puts the body in the conduit and instead of going back to pad 'C', which might be traced with Aquino's Turbolift log, he changes his plan and moves to pad 'A'.

*

O'BRIEN

But what was the plan? Everything else seems normal.

ODO

I'd guess somebody wanted to steal a Runabout.

O'BRIEN

We're not missing any.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (4)

33

Oh - It's
ODO
Curious. They went to a lot of
trouble to defeat the security net
and then didn't go through...

Odo is interrupted by the SOUND of a HUGE EXPLOSION.
People all over the Promenade are staggered by the
blast. O'Brien immediately realizes...

O'BRIEN
The school.

He bolts in that direction... Odo right behind him...

34 INT. PROMENADE - OUTSIDE KEIKO'S SCHOOL

34

Odo and O'Brien round a curve in the Promenade to find
Keiko's school fully engulfed in flames. O'Brien tries
to rush inside the school, but Odo grabs him.

Keiko!
Keiko... O'BRIEN

Fire BLASTS out of the schoolroom as it is rocked by a
secondary explosion.

35 ANGLE ON O'BRIEN

35

As the light from the flames flickers on his face. A
beat later, Keiko runs around the bend and he sees her,
and his eyes fill with tears of relief... as she reacts
with shock... he moves to her, holds onto her for dear
life... and as their embrace is framed by the fire...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

music
_FADE IN:

36 INT. PROMENADE - OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLROOM 36

A crowd has gathered to see the smoldering wreckage. Kira and Neela are examining the rubble. They are joined by Sisko and Odo. In the background, Odo's two deputies control the crowd. O'Brien and Keiko are no longer there. *

have
SISKO
What've you got?

KIRA
(consulting tricorder)
I'm reading traces of cabrodine
and infernite, common explosives,
both easily obtained. *

ODO
Then we're looking at a simple,
home-made bomb. *

Sisko nods his agreement, but is distracted by the wallah of the crowd. Looks to see --

37 ANGLE - VEDEK WINN 37

Approaching through the crowd... accompanied by her monk assistant... moves to Sisko, she looks very upset... *

WINN
Where is Mrs. O'Brien?

SISKO
Her husband took her home.

WINN
Was she hurt? Was anyone hurt?

SISKO
No.

WINN
(relieved)
The prophets have been kind today.

SISKO
(containing his anger)
The prophets... had nothing to do
with what happened here today.
(MORE)

*talking over **
(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

SISKO (Cont'd)
This was the work of a disturbed
and violent mind... who listened
to your voice... not to the
prophets.

WINN
(with an edge)
Is the Emissary holding me
responsible for this act of
terrorism?

SISKO
The Commander of this station is.

WINN
May the prophets forgive you for
abandoning them.

She begins to move away... Sisko won't let her get away
so easily... louder, getting the attention of
others...

SISKO
You claim the prophets as your
personal constituency, Vedek Winn.
I'm not convinced that's
justified. Who do you speak for?
An order that is barely listened
to in your assembly... so you come
here looking for a more receptive
audience.

And now she turns, declaring war, cold as ice...

WINN
Is that what your friend, Vedek
Bareil told you? He's as
misguided as you are.
(beat)
No, that's not fair... you are not
simply misguided... as I once
thought. Now I see that you want
nothing less than to destroy us.

Sisko gives her more rope...

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

SISKO
Destroy you...

WINN
You live without a soul,
Commander. You and your
Federation exist in a universe of
darkness and you would drag us in
there with you. But we... will...
not... go.

*

Sisko studies her, and finally relaxes, grins.

SISKO
You've just made your first
mistake, Vedek.

WINN
Have I.

SISKO
The Bajoran people who have lived
with us on this station... who
have worked with us for months...
who helped us move this station to
protect the wormhole... who have
joined us to explore the Gamma
Quadrant... who have begun to
build the future of Bajor with
us... these people know that we
are neither your enemy nor... the
devil.

*

*

*

His eyes find --

38 ANGLE - INCLUDE KIRA

38

as his words reach her.

*

SISKO
(continuing)
We don't always agree. We have
some damn good fights in fact.
But we always come away from them
with a little more understanding
and appreciation for each other.

*

*

39 BACK TO WINN AND SISKO

39

SISKO
(continuing)
You won't succeed here. This
school will reopen. When your
rhetoric gets old, the Bajoran
parents will bring their children
back.

*
*

WINN
We'll see.

Sisko nods and EXITS through the crowd... stay a beat
on Winn as she considers this... several of the
orthodox move to the Vedek to express their support in
walla...

VOICES (Walla)
You're right, Vedek... they're
godless... we should drive them
out of there... this isn't your
fault... he had no right to say
that... he will pay in eternity
for his blasphemy...

She doesn't care about any of them, works her way
through the crowd until by chance she makes eye contact
with --

40 ANGLE ON NEELA

40

who looks at her.

41 WINN

41

nods with recognition.

42 NEELA

42

almost imperceptibly, acknowledges the nod.

43 INT. OPS

43

Sisko ENTERS on the Turbolift... Dax and O'Brien are at
their stations... he's burying his fury in his work,
working on his sensors...

SISKO
How is she, Chief?

(CONTINUED)

*low music in
sound of
turbolift*

43 CONTINUED:

43

She's O'BRIEN *she*
Pretty shaken up, but she's
planning to hold classes tomorrow
in one of the small cargo bays if
that's okay.

*

SISKO
(smiles)
You tell her Jake'll be there on
time.

O'BRIEN
That'll make her feel a lot
better, sir.

In the background, Kira, Neela and a Federation crewman
arrive...

SISKO
Anything new on Aquino?

It O'BRIEN
Yessir. I found a security bypass
module at Runabout pad 'A'...
looks like someone might have
wanted to steal a Runabout.
That's probably why Aquino went
there in the first place...

44 ANGLE - NEELA

44

who has arrived at the engineering station reacts as
she hears this...

O'BRIEN
I've put security seals in place
at all three pads... and I'm
checking for any other anomalies
down there...

Sisko acknowledges...

beep

DAX
Benjamin, incoming transmission
from Vedek Bareil aboard a Bajoran
transport...

SISKO
On screen...

45 ANGLE (OPTICAL)

45

include the screen, showing Bariel, on board a Bajoran ship, accompanied by his Attache' (a monk of the same order).

*
*
*

BAREIL *filtered*
Commander, I've decided to accept your gracious invitation.

SISK0
Invitation?

BAREIL
(poker-faced)
You did invite me to tour your facility...?

SISK0
Yes, yes, of course, Vedek. We'd be honored. Unfortunately, we have some damage on our Promenade we won't have time to clean up before you arrive.

*
*

BAREIL
Yes. I heard about it.
(pointed)
Perhaps I can help you clean it up.

SISK0
That would be very much appreciated.

BAREIL
It's the least a friend can do.
I look forward to seeing you again.

The transmission ends. On Sisko's delighted reaction...

* *m/b*

46 INT. BAJORAN SHRINE

46

Neela ENTERS the Bajoran Shrine, where Vedek Winn is talking quietly to her monk. Winn notices Neela... sends the other monk away.

*
*

WINN
(gently)
My dear, you should not be here.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

NEELA
(worried)
Vedek, they found out about the
Runabout.

WINN
I see.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED: (2)

46

NEELA

I have no way to escape.

WINN

Then, we must accept that as the will of the prophets.

NEELA

But if I go through with it now, I'll be caught and executed.

*

Winn takes her hands and looks deeply into her eyes...

WINN

Sometimes the sacrifices the prophets call on us to make are great, my child. But the rewards they give will last through eternity.

*
*

Neela nods her understanding.

47 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL)

47

A Bajoran Transport approaches the station.

48 INT. DOCKING BAY AIRLOCK

48

Vedek Bareil and a monk exit the airlock and find Sisko and Kira.

*

BAREIL

Commander...

SISKO

(deeply sincere)
Thank-you for coming, Vedek.

BAREIL

(acknowledges)
I'm just another voice. But perhaps some of the Bajorans on your station will listen to what I have to say...

*

KIRA

Everyone's heard you were on the way... There's quite a crowd on our Promenade to greet you, Vedek.

*

(CONTINUED)

48 CONTINUED:

48

SISKO
(introducing)
My first officer Major Kira Nerys.

Bareil takes one hand in both of his... studies her
deeply... almost with love... mystical.

BAREIL
Nerys. I know more about you than
you realize. I am very pleased to
begin our friendship.

*
*

KIRA
(taken aback)
Thank you.

BAREIL
(intimate)
I realize you may disagree with me
today... if your heart is with
Vedek Winn, embrace her...

*
*

KIRA
(disconcerted)
After what's happened... I'm...
not sure where my heart is,
Bareil.

BAREIL
May the prophets allow me to be
the one to help you find it again.

*
*

Another long beat as he looks at her, smiles... takes
her arm... Kira glances uneasily at Sisko as Sisko
motions the way...

*
*

49 INT. OPS (OPTICAL)

49

O'Brien works on the console at his station... reacts as he finds something... repeats the function... Dax at hers...

O'BRIEN
(to himself)
What the hell...?
(beat)
Computer, identify subprogram
labelled 'A-N-A'...

COMPUTER VOICE
That file is protected by a
personal security access code.

O'BRIEN
On whose authority?

COMPUTER VOICE
Chief of Operations Miles O'Brien.

O'BRIEN
Me? I never saw this file before.
Override command.

COMPUTER VOICE
Unable to comply. State security
code to release protection.

He reacts, moves to the pit...

O'BRIEN
(to Dax)
Lieutenant, I've got to do a
manual isolation of an anomalous
file... it's in the security
field subsystem... labelled 'A-N-A'...

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED:

49

DAX
(off monitor)
That file is going to be protected
by a series of encryption
sequences. I'll run an adaptive
program.

O'BRIEN
We're lucky for once we're dealing
with a Cardassian computer... it
shouldn't have any more than seven
sequences.

DAX
Beginning decryption.

As a monitor in the pit lights up... the screen is
filled with lists of rapidly changing numbers...

O'BRIEN
On line... patched to subroutine
'A-N-A'...

Dax's monitor has them too... she presses a few
panels... the first digit a '4' sticks and the computer
continues to figure out the rest...

50 INT. PROMENADE

50

Bareil, Sisko, Kira exit the airlock. The Promenade is
crowded with people. Every Bajoran on the station is
packed into either the upper or lower level. Odo and
a handful of Deputies do what they can to control the
crowd. Bashir comes out of the Infirmary to see.
Bareil pauses to mix with the people, smiling,
chatting, being spiritual... the people push forward to
be close to the future Kai... arms reaching out,
touching him... much Walla and excitement... moving to
find at the back of the crowd... Neela... holding her
tool box...

51 INT. OPS - CLOSE ON MONITOR (OPTICAL)

51

which has now figured out six of the seven digits...
and as the seventh one clicks into place... making
'4100RLX'... move back to find O'Brien...

(CONTINUED)

beeps
milk
talking
over
to p
m
be
m
beep

51 CONTINUED:

51

O'BRIEN
That's it... computer access
subprogram 'A-N-A'... code four-
one-zero-zero-R-L-X.

*

He moves out of the pit... moving quickly back to his
station, Dax comes over to look over his shoulder...

COMPUTER VOICE
Accessing.

O'BRIEN
Identify commands within the file.

*

COMPUTER VOICE
Commands are sequential overrides
of security fields approaching
Runabout pad 'A'...

*

O'BRIEN
The forcefields? Display sequence
on screen.

52 ON MONITOR (OPTICAL)

52 *

A station display appears... and starting from the
Runabout... it highlights the forcefield overrides
going backwards... until it reaches the Promenade...

DAX
(curious)
Right to the Promenade.

O'BRIEN
Computer, run a level three sensor
sweep through the Promenade...
report any anomalous reading...

COMPUTER VOICE
Working.

*

O'BRIEN
(beat, thoughtful)
An escape route...

DAX
An escape from what?

O'BRIEN
Got me.

COMPUTER VOICE
One anomalous reading detected.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

O'BRIEN
Identify.

COMPUTER VOICE
A short range subspace relay was
activated in the Security Office
nine minutes, seven seconds ago.

O'BRIEN
Activated to do what?

COMPUTER VOICE
Unknown. Insufficient data.

They frown. On the move --

O'BRIEN
I'm going down there.

DAX
I'll run a diagnostic on the other
security systems and call you as
soon as I have anything.

O'Brien reaches the Turbolift...

53 INT. PROMENADE

53

Bareil, Sisko, Kira and Bareil's attache' have made
progress getting through the crowd with Odo's help...
moving to find Neela, being pushed in the crowd... a
solemn, even expression on her face.

*s/c
talk over*

54 ANGLE

54

as Bareil sees Winn and her monk near the temple...
Bareil smiles and moves to her... she smiles, they
embrace, pleasing the crowd...

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

WINN

I expected you sooner, Bareil.

BAREIL

It seems our paths have grown apart. Perhaps we can bring them together again.

WINN

Nothing would please me more.

BAREIL

Come with me to the school... let's both show a commitment to the peaceful conclusion of this series of events...

*

Just a touch of hesitation...

WINN

Of course.

They move forward... making better progress this time... finding Neela again in the crowd...

55 NEW ANGLE

55

to find O'Brien arriving, on the Turbolift... moving to security...

56 INT. SECURITY OFFICE

56

O'Brien ENTERS, uses his tricorder to trace the subspace device... it leads him right back to the place where Neela had been working in Act One. O'Brien does a take... thinks about Neela... can't believe it...

O'BRIEN

(off tricorder)

Computer, is the subspace device integrated into the isolinear co-processor?

COMPUTER VOICE

Confirmed.

O'BRIEN

O'Brien to Dax.

(CONTINUED)

56 CONTINUED:

56

DAX'S COM VOICE

Go ahead.

O'BRIEN

It's in the isolinear co-processor.

DAX'S COM VOICE

Didn't you just repair that unit two days ago?

O'BRIEN

Yeah, I did... with Neela.

57 INT. PROMENADE - ON NEELA

57

slowly moving between people, getting closer to the front of the crowd... they've reached the school now. the parents, Jake and Keiko are there... Bareil never lets go of Winn's hand...

BAREIL

(to the crowd)

Looking around at your faces... I believe you feel the shame that I feel at this sight...

58 INT. SECURITY OFFICE (VPB)

58

O'Brien shaking his head, angry at himself for being a fool, for liking her, still not entirely believing it, not wanting to believe it, there's gotta be a better explanation... he's working a computer console...

O'BRIEN

It's gotta be the weapon detectors on the Promenade... that's the only thing those co-processors could possibly affect...

DAX'S COM VOICE

All weapon detectors appear to be functional, Chief...

O'BRIEN

(half to himself,
convincing himself)

No, that's gotta be it... she's real good... she could make it look like they're normal... it's gotta be the scanners...

He sighs, it's the only answer.

(CONTINUED)

58 CONTINUED:

58

O'BRIEN
O'Brien to Sisko...

INTERCUTTING:

59 INT. PROMENADE

59

Bareil is holding up one hand to quiet the crowd... he looks deeply saddened by what he sees, never let's go of Winn's hand...

BAREIL
Once our world was a center of
learning...

*
*

Sisko responding to O'Brien's call, has taken a moment to move away from center stage to keep his conversation from disrupting Bareil...

SISKO
What's up, Chief?

O'BRIEN'S COM VOICE
~~Sir~~, I'm not entirely sure... but
I think the weapon detectors on
the Promenade have been disabled.

SISKO
(instantly alert to the
crowd)
What do you mean you're not sure?

O'BRIEN'S COM VOICE
I mean, I think Neela disabled
them.

SISKO
Your assistant...?

O'BRIEN'S COM VOICE
Yessir.

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

BAREIL
(over the above)
...It attracted travellers from
many other worlds... now, to see
a schoolhouse destroyed, to see
the pursuit of education halted...
it is indeed a sad day for Bajor.
The years of oppression have
changed us. They have left us
violent. They have left us
afraid. They have left us
distrustful.

Sisko's eyes scan the crowd... sees Neela moving closer
to Bareil, reaching into her tool box...

BAREIL
It is time to forge a new
beginning... to accept new ideas,
not to be afraid of them... to
reject violence as a solution, to
join hands with all peoples and
begin to trust again...

Begin slow motion...

60 WINN'S HAND

60

disconnects with Bareil's...

61 KIRA

61

just happens to be looking that way and notices...

62 BAREIL

62

glances at Winn (and she is calm and placid as ever,
only the hand gives her away)...

63 NEELA'S HAND

63

pulls out a phaser...

*clapping**

m o a

64 SISKO 64
charges into the crowd at her...

SISKO
No!

65 ODO 65
turns to the sound of the voice... sees --

66 SISKO 66
pushing people out the way to get to her...

67 KIRA 67
reacts, barely starts to move toward Bareil to protect
him but she's not sure from what...

68 NEELA 68
raises the weapon... no one seems to notice, they're
all looking at Sisko...

69 ODO 69
tries to get to...

70 BAREIL 70
who looks perplexed by the commotion...

71 SISKO (OPTICAL) 71
Slow motion ends as he gets to Neela and throws his
body in the air... Neela sees him out of the corner of
her eye, moves to get a better shot, he hits her arm as
the gun discharges twice, hitting the ceiling... and
now people are screaming, and scattering and all hell
is breaking loose... *

72 O'BRIEN 72
comes out of security to see what the hell has
happened... Keiko finds him, they lock arms...

*Learning
Sound
yellow
over*

73 ODO 73

ushers Bareil, who is clearly shaken and pale, away to safety...

74 SISK0 74

pulls Neela to her feet, having wrestled the gun away from her...

NEELA
(without apology)
The prophets spoke. I answered
their call. The prophets spoke.
I answered their call.

75 ANGLE - WINN 75

saying a silent prayer and as she looks up, she finds Kira staring at her... off Winn's curious reaction --

KIRA
(almost doesn't believe
it herself)
It was all to get him here, wasn't
it. The school, the protests...
the bombing. You knew that would
bring him out of the monestary.
You did it all to kill him, to
stop him from becoming Kai.

*
*
*
*

Winn studies her evenly for a long moment, chooses not to grace the accusation with a reply... moves quickly away... a beat on Kira's reaction...

m 16
turbo

76 SISK0 76

Sisko leads Neela toward security and they pass O'Brien and as he makes eye contact with Neela -- she says it again, but this time trying to personally explain it to him because she really does like him.

NEELA
The prophets spoke. I answered
their call.

And she disappears with Sisko inside. We stay on O'Brien's reaction a beat and then ...

77 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL) 77

Re-establishing.

78 INT. OPS

78

It's late at night now... a skeleton crew is in charge... in fact all we see is one Bajoran supernumerary in the background and she quickly moves out of sight... Sisko arrives, exhausted, on the Turbolift reacts as he sees Kira sitting alone at her station at the table... staring ahead in thought... trying to make some sense out of all this... He moves beside her, lays a hand on her shoulder which breaks her trance. She looks up at him and he sits beside her. It's a gentle, subdued moment between them.

SISKO

Neela insists she acted alone.
Unless you want to consider the
prophets co-conspirators.

KIRA

She'll never tell us the truth.
We'll never be able to prove Winn
was involved.

SISKO

(beat, studying her)
You okay?

KIRA

(sighs)
Okay...? I've forgotten 'okay'.
Haven't seen 'okay' in what seems
like years.
(beat)
I've been sitting here thinking.
Last year at this time, I was
fighting the Cardassians in some
nameless swamp. If you'd've
stopped by and told me in just one
year, they'd be gone, and I'd be
wearing a uniform, up here in
charge of protecting some
wormhole...

SISKO

...protecting your celestial
temple...

KIRA

(beat)
I envied Vedek Winn because she
was a true believer... I wanted my
faith to be as strong as hers.

(CONTINUED)

78 CONTINUED:

78

SISKO
Maybe it is.

*

Kira thinks that over. Sisko rises.

I've got
SISKO
I have a report to put together
for Starfleet... you ought to get
some rest...

*

KIRA
I'd rather help you...

He nods, okay, come on... she rises...

KIRA
Commander...
(beat)
I heard what you said to Vedek
Winn at the school. I just wanted
you to know... you were right
about the Bajorans here, about me
at least... I don't think
you're...
(beat, using his words)
... 'the devil'.

*
*
*

He smiles warmly.

SISKO
Then I guess we've made some
progress after all.

She smiles back. He puts his arm around her shoulder
and as they move into his office...

79
thru
80
OMITTED

79
thru
80

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END