

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Encounter At Farpoint"

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STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Encounter At Farpoint"

Produced by

Gene Roddenberry

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Production Department

STAR TREK
THE NEXT GENERATION
"ENCOUNTER AT FARPOINT"
MAY 22, 1987

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MAY 22, 1987

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Encounter At Farpoint"

CAST

PICARD	"Q"
RIKER	ZORN
DATA	MANDARIN-BAILIFF
TASHA	ADMIRAL
TROI	TORRES
GEORDI	MEDIC
BEVERLY	MILITARY OFFICER
WESLEY	BATTLE BRIDGE CONN
WORF	YOUNG FEMALE ENSIGN
	MAIN BRIDGE CONN
	MAIN BRIDGE SECURITY
	BANDI SHOPKEEPER

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Encounter At Farpoint"

SETS

INTERIORS

ENTERPRISE

Corridor
Holodeck Hatchway
Transporter Room
Sickbay
Battle Bridge
Battle Bridge Ready Room
Main Lounge
Engine Room
Main Bridge
Main Bridge Ready Room

PARKLAND

FARPOINT SHOPPING MALL

OLD CITY COURTYARD

EXTERIORS

FARPOINT SHOPPING MALL

UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAY

MYSTERY SHIP TUNNEL

ZORN'S CORRIDOR

ZORN'S OFFICE

ZORN'S CELL

"Q's" COURTROOM

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Encounter At Farpoint"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - STARSHIP (OPTICAL)

1

The U.S.S. Enterprise NCC 1701-D traveling at warp speed through space.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, stardate 41153.7.
Our destination is planet Daneb
IV beyond which lies the great
unexplored mass of the galaxy.

2 OTHER INTRODUCTORY ANGLES (OPTICAL)

2

on the gigantic new Enterprise NCC 1701-D.

PICARD (V.O.)
(continuing)
My orders are to examine Farpoint,
a starbase built there by the
inhabitants of that world.
Meanwhile ...

2A INT. LOUNGE DECK

2A

With its huge windows revealing the immense span of the
Starship's outer surface.

PICARD (V.O.)
(continuing)
... I am becoming better
acquainted with my new command,
this Galaxy Class U.S.S.
Enterprise.

3 INT. ENGINE ROOM

3

Huge, with a giant wall diagram showing the details and
size of this enormous starship.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

I am still somewhat in awe of its size and complexity. As for my crew, we are short in several key positions, most notably ...

4
thru 5
OMITTED

4
thru 5

6 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE

6

PICARD and TROI are seated in the command area. LIEUTENANT TASHA YAR is with LIEUTENANT WORF, a young Klingon, at the Security Station; DATA, (PRONOUNCED: DAY-TAH) is at "Ops," a Latin, LT. TORRES, is at "Conn."

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

... a First Officer, but I am informed that a highly experienced man, one Commander William Riker, will be waiting to join the ship at our Deneb IV destination.

7 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD AND DATA

7

As Picard turns to Data:

PICARD

(continuing)

You will agree, Data, that Starfleet's orders are difficult?

DATA

Difficult? Simply solve the mystery of Farpoint Station.

PICARD

(amused)

As simple as that.

TROI

Farpoint Station. Even the name sounds mysterious.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

PICARD

It is hardly simple, Data, to negotiate a friendly agreement for Starfleet to use the base and at the same time snoop around finding how and why the life form there built it?

DATA

Inquiry ... the word snoop ...?

PICARD

How can you be programmed as a virtual encyclopedia of human information without knowing a simple word like snoop?

DATA

Possibility ... a kind of human behavior I was not designed to emulate?

It is all Troi can do to keep from smiling.

PICARD

It means 'to spy,' 'to sneak' ...

DATA

(interrupting;
delighted)

Ah! To seek covertly, to go stealthily, to slink, slither ...

PICARD

(wanting to cut it off)

Exactly, yes ...

DATA

... to glide, creep, skulk, pussyfoot, gumshoe ...

Data trails off his words, finally becoming aware of the annoyance registering on Picard's face. Troi cannot keep back the smile now ... then suddenly her face is contorted in pain.

TROI

Captain ... I'm sensing a ... a powerful mind ...

Interrupted by the SOUND of a BRIDGE ALARM.

8 WIDER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

8

*

All checking their consoles, puzzled at readings they're getting.

TORRES

Something strange on the detector circuits ...

OVERLAPPED, as an even more compelling SECOND BRIDGE ALARM (similar to the old naval HONKING SOUND) begins to sound. At the same time, the main viewer FLICKERS and an unusual SHINING, SPARKLING GRID SHAPE APPEARS, SEEMING TO stretch across the whole of the galaxy ahead of them.

9 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND GRID (OPTICAL)

9

Emphasizing the incredibly SHINING GRID which the Enterprise is approaching. Impossibly large, it is composed of interlocking geometrical shapes.

10 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - VARIOUS ANGLES (OPTICAL)

10

Data is looking up from his command position Console, showing as much alarm as we'll ever see on his face.

DATA

It registers as solid, Captain...

TROI

Or an incredibly powerful forcefield. But if we collide with either ...

PICARD

(to Torres)

Go to Yellow Alert. And shut off that damned noise.

Torres turns OFF honking sound. Picard is taking time to check all readings but we're now coming very close to the strange grid.

WORF

Shields and deflectors, up, sir.

Milking the drama of approaching collision. Then, conversationally:

PICARD

Reverse power, full stop.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

TORRES
Controls to full stop, sir.

The strange shimmering GRID on the viewer is now very close to us as Enterprise movement stops.

TORRES
(continuing)
Now reading full stop, sir.

Overlapped by something akin to a ROLLING THUNDER STORM accompanied by a BRILLIANT AND SUSTAINED FLASH OF LIGHT ON THE BRIDGE to the side of Picard. The light burst physically shakes all Bridge Crew for an instant, then RESOLVES ITSELF INTO A HUMAN SIZE FIGURE standing at that point on the bridge. As the Bridge Crew's eyes adjust, it does indeed appear to be a human ... but one dressed and posturing as an Elizabethan era sea captain. Now and later, we shall know this life form as "Q."

11 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

11

as "Q" (Elizabethan) makes a formal bow (of that same era) to Picard. At which the turbolift doors snap open and TWO SECURITY CREW members start to ENTER. However, "Q" merely gives a nod in that direction and a miniature of the space grid outside APPEARS AT THE TURBOLIFT ENTRANCE, barring the security team's entrance and CLOSES THE TURBOLIFT DOORS. Then "Q" turns toward Picard.

"Q" (ELIZABETHAN)
Thou art notified that thy kind hath infiltrated the galaxy too far already. Thou art directed to return to thine own solar system immediately.

*
*
*
*

12 ANGLE TO INCLUDE OPS AND TORRES

12

WE WILL SEE Torres stealthily, carefully reaching to the small phaser hidden under his console.

PICARD
That's quite a directive. Would you mind identifying what you are?

"Q" (ELIZABETHAN)
We call ourselves "the Q." Or thou mayest call me that; it's all much the same thing.

*

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

"Q" (Cont'd)
(indicating costume)
I present myself to thee as a
fellow ship captain that thou
wilt better understand me.
(indicates)
Go back whence thou camest.

*
*
*
*

13 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

13

Interrupted by Torres drawing his phaser. But "Q" barely
nods toward Torres at which a FLUTTERING ELECTRIC BLUE
WAVE envelopes that bridge crewman, and WE HEAR THE
BRIEF BEGINNINGS OF A SCREAM as Torres falls with the
SOUND of a frozen hard object striking the deck. Picard
comes to his feet, ignoring "Q" as:

"Q" (ELIZABETHAN)
Stay where thou art!

14 EMPHASIZING PICARD

14

Who is clearly very angry as he kneels at the prone form
of Torres who appears to have been instantly frozen
solid. Troi hurries INTO SHOT kneeling too. There is
even white evaporation vapor rising up from the body.

PICARD
Data, call medics!

TROI
He's frozen. Can you feel the
cold?

Picard grabs up Torres' phaser from the deck (reversing
it, wisely), stands and puts it under "Q's" nose.

PICARD
He would not have injured you!
(indicates phaser)
Do you understand this; the stun
setting?

"Q" (ELIZABETHAN)
Knowing humans as thou dost,
Captain, wouldst thou want to
be captured helpless by them?
(moves closer)
Now, go back or thou shalt most
certainly die!

*
*
*

FADE OUT.

PART ONE

FADE IN:

15 EXT. U.S.S. ENTERPRISE AND GRID (OPTICAL) 15

Appropriate THEME MUSIC with spaceship hanging motionless, still facing the mysterious SHIMMERING GRID that stretches in front of it from galaxy horizon to horizon.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, supplementary.
The frozen form of Lieutenant
Torres has been rushed to sick
bay. The question now is the
incredible power of the "Q" being.
Do we dare oppose it?

16 OMITTED 16

17 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING "Q" (OPTICAL) 17

Picard moves across bridge to where "Q" is unhappily inspecting his Elizabethan costume.

"Q"(ELIZABETHAN)

Thy little centuries go by so
rapidly, Captain. Perhaps
thou'lt understand this better.

The Visitor moves his hand slightly. WE HEAR the same ROLLING THUNDER SOUND. Another BLINDING LIGHT FLASH and his body remains the same humanoid face and figure as with the Elizabethan dress, but now the green officer's uniform of the U.S. Marine Corps. Over his jacket pocket three rows of medals and his narrow garrison cap show the bars of a Captain.

"Q"(MARINE CAPTAIN)

Actually, the issue at stake is
patriotism. You must return to
your world and put an end to the
commies. All it takes is a few
good men.

PICARD

What? That nonsense is centuries
behind us!

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

"Q" (MARINE CAPTAIN)

But you can't deny Captain, that
you're still a dangerous, savage
child-race.

PICARD

Most certainly I deny it. I agree
that we still were when ...

(indicating)

...humans wore costumes like that
four hundred years ago...

"Q" (MARINE CAPTAIN)

At which time you slaughtered
millions in silly arguments about
how to divide the resources of
your little world. And four
hundred years before that you were
murdering each other in quarrels
over tribal god-images. And
since then there have been no
indications that humans will ever
change...

PICARD

But even as far back as...

(indicates)

...that costume, we had begun to
make rapid progress.

"Q" (MARINE CAPTAIN)

Oh? Shall we review your 'rapid
progress?'

18 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

18

The "Q" visitor moves a hand again to create THE SAME
SOUNDS and the SAME BLINDING FLASH, producing the same
human image but this time unshaven and with an UGLY
AUTOMATON LOOK AND IN THE UNIFORM OF A MILITARY OFFICER
FROM THE MID-21st CENTURY WARS. "Q's" voice sounds a
bit drugged now as he eyes his new costume.

"Q" (21ST CENTURY)

(interrupting)

Rapid progress to where humans
learned to control their military
with drugs.

19 ANGLE INCLUDING OPS POSITION

19

As Worf gets a message and turns toward Picard.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

WORF

Sir, sickbay reports that
Lieutenant Torres's condition is
better.

All have turned toward Worf, showing relief.

"Q"(21ST CENTURY)

Concern for one's comrade. How
touching.

WORF

(indicates "Q")

And now, sir, a personal request.
Permission to clean up the bridge?

Picard shakes head, stares Worf down when he seems about
to protest. Meanwhile Tasha has come to her feet too:

TASHA

Lieutenant Worf is right, sir.
As Security Chief I can't just
stand here and

PICARD

Yes, you can, Lieutenant Yar.

During this, "Q" has withdrawn a slender tube attached
to his 21st Century uniform, places it into a nostril,
makes an adjustment which sprays something into his
nose with a HISS SOUND.

"Q"(21ST CENTURY)

Ah, yes... better!
(deep breath, feeling
it)

Then later, on finally reaching
deep space, humans of course found
enemies to fight out there too.
And to broaden those struggles....

(indicating Worf and
Troi)

...you again found allies for
still more murdering. The same
old story all over again.

PICARD

(interrupting; angry)

No! The 'same old story' is the
one we're hearing now! Self-
righteous life forms who are eager
not to learn but to prosecute,
to judge anything they don't
understand or can't tolerate.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

"Q" (21ST CENTURY)
What an interesting idea.
Prosecute and judge?

CAMERA CENTERS ON "Q" as he absorbs what Picard has said. He takes a step or two, turns.

"Q" (21ST CENTURY)
(continuing)
And suppose it turns out we understand you humans only too well?

PICARD
We've no fear of what the true facts about us will reveal.

"Q" (21ST CENTURY)
The facts about you? Splendid, splendid! You are a veritable fountain of good ideas.
(smiling; pleasant)
There are preparations to make, Captain, but when I return...

"Q" gives a 21st Century salute to Picard.

"Q" (21ST CENTURY)
(continuing)
...we will proceed exactly as you suggest!

A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT and the alien visitor is gone.

20 WIDE ANGLE ON MAIN BRIDGE

20

It takes a moment to accept the fact "Q" is really gone; then Worf turns to Picard.

WORF
Sir...respectfully submit our only choice is to fight. If we Klingons understand anything, it is the meaning of that kind of talk.

TASHA
My sentiments too, sir. Fight or try to escape.

Picard turns to Troi:

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

PICARD
Sense anything, Commander?

TROI
(shakes head)
Its mind is much too powerful,
sir. Concur we avoid further
contact if possible!

21 OMITTED

21

22 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD

22

Clearly he has to come up with something. He reflects
for a moment more, then makes up his mind, turns to
Troi.

PICARD
From this point, no station
aboard, repeat no station, for
any reason will make use of
transmitted signals, or intercom.

(crossing quickly to
Ops and Conn)
We'll try to take them by
surprise.

(to Worf)
Inform engineering by print-out
to make ready for maximum
acceleration. We'll find out what
this Galaxy Class can do.

WORF
Aye, sir.

As Worf stands and hurries off, Picard turns to Data.

PICARD
Records search, Data. Results
of detaching the saucer section
at high warp velocity.

Data quickly draws on his memory.

DATA
Inadvisable at any warp speed,
sir.

PICARD
Search theoretical.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

DATA
(thinking; then)
It is possible, sir. But
absolutely no margin for error.

*

Picard nods and stands, RAISES VOICE:

PICARD
Hear this!

*

23 VARIOUS ANGLES

23

Picard waits until all are turned toward him.

PICARD
(continuing)
Using print-out only, notify all
decks to prepare for maximum
acceleration. Maximum, you're
entitled to know, means we'll be
pushing our engines well past
safety limits. Our hope is to
surprise whatever that is out
there, try to outrun it.
(looks around, then)
Our only other option would be
to tuck tail between our legs and
return to Earth as they demand.

24 INT. ENGINE ROOM - TRAVELING WITH WORF

24

As he takes us into WIDE CAMERA ANGLE, aiming both for a
feeling of the starship's huge size and enormous power.

25 ANOTHER ANGLE

25

Worf nodding at a reading which an Engineer shows him,
then EXITING to return to the bridge. Meanwhile,
Engineering Personnel work at their controls and a LOW
PITCHED WHINE quickly works itself up into a DEAFENING
HIGH PITCHED SHRIEK while ENERGY DISPLAYS APPEAR AT MAIN
ENGINE CONNECTIONS.

26 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

26

Showing both the Enterprise and the mysterious grid.

27 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ANGLES INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER 27

Worf enters bridge from turbolift, crossing to his position.

WORF
Engine room ready, sir.

Picard stands behind Data who is at the Ops position.

TROI
The board shows 'green,' Captain.
All go!

Picard moving back to his command position as:

PICARD
Stand by...
(takes his seat, checks
bridge, then)
ENGAGE!

The entire bridge SHUDDERS under a SCREAM OF POWER.

28 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 28

Suddenly into maximum warp, the energy release momentarily DISTORTING BOTH THE ALIEN GRID AND THE STARS IN SIGHT AROUND IT. When the EFFECT is over, the starship has turned, seeming to almost brush against the mysterious grid, and is then racing away from it.

29 ANGLE EMPHASIZING GRID (OPTICAL) 29

With Enterprise in b.g. at warp speed, escaping. Then the "grid" suddenly shrinks in size, growing brighter as it coalesces together INTO A BRIGHTLY COLORED SPINNING SHAPE which now races after the Enterprise.

30 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - VARIOUS ANGLES 30

The expressions of the Bridge Crew reflect the fact that Enterprise is at very high warp speed and continuing to accelerate into even higher warp.

WORF
Velocity warp nine point two.

DATA
Heading, three-five-one...
Mark eleven, sir.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED:

30

PICARD

Steady on that.

TASHA

The hostile is now giving chase,
sir. Accelerating fast.

WORF

We're now at warp nine point
three, sir. Which takes us past
the red line, sir.

PICARD

Continue accelerating.

(to Troi)

Counselor, at this point I'm open
even to guesses about what we've
just met.

TROI

(considers, then)

It...it felt like something beyond
what we'd consider a 'life form.'

PICARD

'Beyond?'

TROI

Very, very advanced, sir. Or...

(considers)

... or certainly, very, very
different!

WORF

(with emphasis now)

Sir, we're at warp nine point
four.

TASHA

Hostile is now beginning to
overtake us, sir.

PICARD

Are you sure?

DATA

Hostile's velocity is already warp
nine point six, sir. Shall I
put them on main viewer?

PICARD

(nods)

Reverse angle on viewer.

31 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

31

VIEWER IMAGE SHIMMERS into reverse view, which is much the same as the forward view except for ONE BLINKING POINT OF LIGHT AT IMAGE CENTER.

DATA

Magnifying viewer image.

ANOTHER VIEWER SHIMMER with the CENTER POINT OF LIGHT BECOMING THE SPINNING COALESCENCE seen earlier. It's still far away, tiny in size, but will grow in size during later SCENES.

32 VARIOUS ANGLES

32

as needed.

TASHA

Hostile's velocity now at nine point seven, sir.

PICARD

Worf, inform Engineering we need more!

DATA

Engine room attempting to comply, sir. But they caution us...

PICARD

(interrupting; to Data)

Go to Yellow Alert!

Data hits a control and the Yellow Alert ALARM SOUNDS FIVE TIMES. Then Picard turns to Tasha.

PICARD

(to Tasha)

Arm aft photon torpedoes. Place them on ready status.

TASHA

Torpedoes to ready, sir.

Picard is aware of the concerned glances received from Troi and Data.

33 WIDE ANGLE

33

Tension mounting.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

TASHA

Hostile now at warp nine point eight, sir.

WORF

Our velocity is only nine point five, sir.

DATA

Projection, sir. We may be able to match the hostile's nine point eight, sir. But at extreme risk.

TASHA

Now reading the hostile at warp nine point nine, sir.

Picard stands, raising his voice to carry throughout the bridge.

PICARD

Now hear this. Print-out message, urgent, to all decks.

(selecting the right words)

All stations on all decks, prepare for emergency saucer-sep!

Some of the Bridge Crew are startled but all are soon putting their consoles in order for the move. Picard turns to Worf's position.

PICARD

(continuing)

You will command the Saucer Section, Lieutenant.

Worf comes to his feet in protest.

WORF

I am a Klingon, sir. For me to seek escape while my captain goes into battle....

PICARD

(interrupts hard)

You are a Starfleet officer, Lieutenant.

WORF

(hesitates, takes seat)

Aye, sir.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

PICARD

(to bridge again)

Note in ship's log that at this
startime, I am transferring
command to the battle bridge.

(to Data)

Make the signal, Data.

Data touches a control and WE HEAR (still preserved from
surface ship days) the BUGLE CALL "BEAT TO QUARTERS"
which continues REPEATING as all Bridge Crew members
(except Worf) begin leaving their posts. While
SUPERNUMERARIES arrive on the turbolifts, our bridge
crew begins EXITING the bridge.

FADE OUT.

PART TWO

FADE IN:

34 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 34

Still at high warp. We cannot see the image of the following "hostile" (which is not magnified in this ANGLE).

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, stardate 41153.7.
Preparing to detach Saucer
Section...

35 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE 35

As the turbolift doors snap open, Picard and the others ENTER the smaller, sparse and functional Battle Bridge.

PICARD (V.O.)
(continuing)
...so that families and majority
of the ship's company...

36 MONTAGE: INT. SAUCER SETS 36

Families, children, science technicians, etc., moving into safe areas.

PICARD (V.O.)
(continuing)
...can seek relative safety while
the vessel's stardrive, containing
the battle bridge...

37 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - VARIOUS ANGLES (OPTICAL) 37

Acquainting us with the smaller and more severe Battle Bridge, its configuration and positions. Picard is dictating his log from his command position.

PICARD
(continuing)
...and main armaments, will turn
back and confront the mystery that
is threatening us.
(turning to Tasha)
Lieutenant, your torpedoes must
detonate close enough to the
hostile to blind it at the moment
we separate.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

TASHA
Understood, sir.

PICARD
Worf, this is the Captain. As
separation begins, we will reverse
power...

38 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING LT. WORF

38

The young Klingon at the Captain's command station now.

PICARD'S INTERCOM VOICE
(continuing)
...for just enough to get your
saucer section out ahead and clear
of us.

WORF
Understood, Captain.

PICARD'S INTERCOM VOICE
Begin countdown....
(touches panel control)
Mark!

39 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

39

Traveling through space for a moment, then photon
torpedoes blasting out of the starship's aft tubes.
The torpedo pattern disappears into the distance behind
the vessel.

40 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE

40

All intent on what is happening as:

TROI
All decks acknowledging, sir.

DATA
Starship separation.... six, five,
four, three, two, one....

41 EXT. ENTERPRISE - FOLLOWING SHOT (OPTICAL)

41

FOLLOWING BEHIND AND CLOSING IN on the great ship.
Stars, attenuated by the high speed WARP EFFECT, flash
past quickly. (Note: Direction of travel for all shots
in this sequence is always left to right.)

41A CLOSE - SHOOTING DOWN (OPTICAL) 41A

ANGLED FORWARD FROM BEHIND THE REAR OF THE SAUCER. A crack appears as the separation process begins.

41B CLOSE SIDE VIEW (OPTICAL) 41B

As the gap starts to widen, WE HEAR the SOUND of retention assemblies unlocking. WE CAN SEE the massive mechanisms moving as they release their grip upon each other.

PICARD (V.O.)
Ship's log, exact moment of
separation, stardate 41153.75.

41C CLOSE - SHOOTING UP (OPTICAL) 41C

ANGLED BACK FROM BELOW THE SAUCER. The gap widens further. Jets of vapor are released as hydraulic connections are broken. We can now start to SEE the cobra-like shape of the battle cruiser superstructure as it emerges from its previously hidden position.

41D INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - FULL 41D

SHOOTING BACK past the two forward positions toward Picard and the others as they watch the O.S. view screen. Tasha is at her weapons station above and behind the Captain.

41E POV - ANGLE ON BATTLE BRIDGE VIEW SCREEN - 41E
(OPTICAL - TIEDOWN CAMERA FOR MATTE)

SHOOTING PAST THE TWO FORWARD POSITIONS. The rear of the saucer section fills the view screen as it slowly pulls away from us and starts to rise.

41F CLOSE SHOTS - PICARD, TROI, DATA, TASHA 41F

Watching intently. End on Picard.

41G POV - CLOSE ON BATTLE BRIDGE VIEW SCREEN - 41G
(OPTICAL - TIEDOWN CAMERA FOR MATTE)

The locking mechanisms complete their rotation and finish up flush with the cutout section in the rear of the saucer. The saucer continues to rise. It no longer fills our screen and we can now BEGIN TO SEE stars flashing past in the bottom portion.

41H INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - FULL SHOT 41H

DATA

Separation is successful, sir.

Picard nods. He doesn't relax. There's more to come.

41I EXT. BOTH SHIPS - SIDE VIEW (OPTICAL) 41I

A FULL SHOT showing both sections. The saucer rises as the battle cruiser section continues straight on.

41J EXT. BOTH SHIPS - FOLLOWING SHOT (OPTICAL) 41J

The saucer section floats UP AND OUT OF FRAME as we follow behind the battle cruiser section.

41K EXT. SAUCER SECTION (OPTICAL) 41K

As it HEADS AWAY FROM CAMERA.

41L INT. MAIN BRIDGE - SAUCER 41L

Worf relaxes a bit, but stays alert.

41M EXT. BATTLE CRUISER - SHOOTING BACK (OPTICAL) 41M

Still at WARP SPEED, beginning a sweeping turn, doubling back to face the "Q" menace. And now in the direction of that threat, we begin to see PHOTON EXPLOSIONS in the far, far distance. (Note: Make certain to end the shot so that we can resume a left to right screen direction.)

41N EXT. BATTLE CRUISER (OPTICAL) 41N

The ship HEADS TOWARD US and flashes CLOSE PAST CAMERA AT WARP SPEED as it heads back to face "Q."

41O INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - FULL SHOT 41O

Picard and Crew intent on the O.S. viewer.

0 POV - ANGLE ON BATTLE BRIDGE - (OPTICAL) 41P
(TIEDOWN CAMERA FOR MATTE)

WE SEE a tiny but SOMEWHAT LARGER IMAGE OF THE HOSTILE VESSEL in front of which the last few PHOTON DETONATIONS HAPPEN AND FADE AWAY. We're still moving at WARP SPEED.

42 BACK TO SCENE

42

TASHA
Torpedoes have detonated, sir.

PICARD
(to Data)
Reverse power.

DATA
(gives a surprised look)
Reverse power...decelerating.

PICARD
(beat; then)
Dead stop. We'll hold this
position and wait for them.

TROI
That will bring them here in just
minutes, sir.

TASHA
Will we make a fight of it,
Captain? If we can at least
damage their ship....

PICARD
(indicating viewer)
Lieutenant...are you recommending
we fight a life form that can do
all those things?
(as Tasha hesitates)
I'd like to hear your advice.

TASHA
I...spoke before I thought, sir.
We should look for some way to
distract them from going after
the saucer.

Picard nods approval of that.

DATA
All forward motion stopped, sir.

PICARD
(to Troi)
Commander, signal the following
in all languages and on all
frequencies: we surrender. State
that we are not asking for any
terms or conditions.

TROI
Aye, sir. All language forms and
frequencies.

43 ANGLE ON BATTLE BRIDGE VIEWER (OPTICAL) 43

Where the IMAGE OF THE HOSTILE is rapidly growing in size.

44 EXT. SPACE - BATTLE CRUISER (OPTICAL) 44

As the HOSTILE IMAGE rushes down on the starship, THE COALESCENT SHAPE OPENING UP INTO SOMETHING LIKE THE SHIMMERING GRID WE'VE SEEN, but now as if to enclose (and perhaps crush) the starship. A FURY OF SOUNDS like CLANKING-SCREAMS OF METAL BEING STRESSED BEYOND ITS LIMITS.

45 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - VARIOUS ANGLES 45

As the bridge and the entire Stardrive Section is SHAKEN ALMOST ANGRILY as the same CACOPHONY OF CLANKING-SCREAMS continues. All Bridge Crew cling to their seats until the SHAKING AND SOUNDS REACH A PEAK. As when "Q" first appeared, FLASHES OF LIGHT BLIND US and become:

46 INT. "Q" COURTROOM - EMPHASIZING PICARD, DATA, TROI, TASHA 46

They are in approximately in the starship positions where we left them, but now in an immense courtroom meant to reflect strength and power. (We'll discover that it dates back to the mid-21st Century post-atomic crisis era.)

Both decor and legal procedures reflect the time when a desperate humanity, still wounded and bleeding from nuclear war, sought answers to its pain and problems through the merciless strength of a new form of dictatorial government representing neither capitalism nor communism.

Suddenly, our Starfleet group is CAUGHT IN A HARSH GLARING SPOTLIGHT. Data is looking around with great curiosity.

MANDARIN-BAILLIFF

The prisoners will be seated.

Picard motions to his crew to comply. They seat themselves.

DATA

Historically intriguing, Captain.
Very, very accurate.

(CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

46

PICARD
(nods)
Mid-21st Century, the post-atomic
horror....

Interrupted by the SOUND OF A BELL.

47 ANGLE INCLUDING MANDARIN-BAILIFF

47

Important, the MANDARIN-BAILIFF is not a fun figure. Despite the Asian robe and accent, he is an important authority figure--and his expression and actions underscore this. He carries a slim, portable view screen, the face of which contains scrolled information he will occasionally refer to. He nods to a Court Functionary who uses an ancient, Oriental BELL, DOLEFULLY CLANGING to gain attention.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF
All present, make respectful
attention to honored Judge!

48 ANGLE EMPHASIZING SPECTATORS

48

Some still arriving, chattering in excitement, having to be intimidated into silence by 21st Century Soldier, heavily armed. Picard waves in a way indicating Data and Troi should not stand.

TROI
(quietly to Picard)
Careful, sir. This is not an
illusion or a dream.

PICARD
But these courts happened in our
past....

TROI
I don't understand either, but
this is real. I can feel that!

49 OTHER ANGLES AS NEEDED

49

A 21st Century MILITARY OFFICER moving to our Starfleet group, leveling his automatic weapon toward them.

MILITARY OFFICER
Get to your feet, criminals!

(CONTINUED)

49 CONTINUED:

49

Our people ignore him too. Mandarin-Bailiff is CLANGING THE BELL again. Data sees something, indicates:

DATA

At least we're acquainted with the judge, Captain.

50 ANGLE ON JUDGE

50

The "judge's bench" (an appropriate 21st Century design on Chapman camera-crane) comes floating into the courtroom. Seated in it is "Q" (JUDGE), an arrangement which gives "his Honor" physical access to every part and corner of this courtroom. As he floats serenely over spectators' heads, suddenly there's the RATATATTAT OF AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON.

51 ANGLE INCLUDING MILITARY OFFICER

51

Just completing FIRING a warning burst at the feet of Picard.

MILITARY OFFICER

(screaming angrily)

Attention! On your feet, attention!

But Tasha pivots in fast, taking the weapon and throwing the Officer crashing to the floor. Judge's "bench" (Camera Crane) brings "Q" INTO SCENE fast.

"Q" (JUDGE)

You are out of order!

But he's speaking to the downed Military Officer, not to Tasha. Which turns out to be a sentence of death -- carried out by a soldier who steps in, raising his automatic weapon, FIRING at the Officer lying on the floor.

Spectators break into APPLAUSE as the Officer slumps and lies unmoving.

"Q" (JUDGE)

(continuing)

The prisoners will not be harmed...

(a glance at Picard)

...until they are found guilty.

Still hovering over the fallen officer, "Q" indicates the body.

(CONTINUED)

51 CONTINUED:

51

"Q" (JUDGE).
(continuing)
Dispose of that.

Picard has taken the automatic weapon from Tasha.

PICARD
Can we assume you mean this will
be a fair trial?

"Q" (JUDGE)
Yes, absolutely equitable.

Picard hands the weapon to "Bailiff." "Q" (JUDGE)
swings his "bench" to CENTER FRONT of the courtroom.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(continuing; to
Mandarin-Bailiff)
Proceed.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF
(refers to his portable
viewscreen)
Before this gracious court now
appear these humans to answer for
the multiple and grievous
savageries of their species. How
plead you, criminal?

DATA
If I may, Captain....
(gets a nod)
Objection, your honor. In the
year 2036, the new United Nations
declared that no Earth citizen
could be made to answer for the
crimes of their race or forebears.

"Q" (JUDGE)
Objection denied!

Followed by CLANGING OF BAILIFF'S BELL and CHEERS FROM
THE SPECTATORS.

52 ANGLE EMPHASIZING "Q" AND PICARD

52

"Q" (JUDGE)
(continuing)
This is a court of the year 2079,
by which time more 'rapid
progress' had caused all 'United
Earth' nonsense to be abolished.

(CONTINUED)

52 CONTINUED:

52

At which point Tasha comes to her feet very angry.

PICARD

Tasha, no...

TASHA

I must...

(to "Q")

...because I grew up in a world
that allowed things like this
court. And it was people like
these that saved me from it. This
so-called court should get down
on its knees to what Starfleet
is, what it represents...

53 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

53

And "Q" (JUDGE) flies INTO SCENE, gesturing toward Tasha
as he did earlier to Conn on the bridge...resulting in
the same FLUTTERING ELECTRIC BLUE WAVE THAT ENVELOPES
HER. As Tasha goes rigid, frozen, Data supports her,
lowers her form gently to the floor as:

TROI

(shouting to "Q")

You barbarian! That woman...

Picard leaps in, stops Troi in mid-speech.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF

Criminals keep silence!

54 ANGLE ON PICARD

54

bending over Tasha, then to "Q":

PICARD

You've got a lot to learn about
humans if you think you can
torture us or frighten us into
silence.

(to Data)

Is she still alive?

DATA

Uncertain. Lieutenant Torres was
when our medics thawed him out.

"Q" (JUDGE) glides in closer on his "bench."

(CONTINUED)

54 CONTINUED:

54

Spectators have begun GRUMBLING over Picard's failure to answer "Q."

MANDARIN-BAILIFF
You are charged, criminals. How
plead you?

PICARD
Just a moment ago, you promised
'the prisoners will not be
harmd.' We plead nothing so long
as you break your own rules.

LOUDER GRUMBLING from the Spectators now.

"Q" (JUDGE)
I suggest you center your
attention on this trial, Captain.
It may be your only hope.

PICARD
And I suggest you are now having
second thoughts about it. You're
considering that if you conduct
this trial fairly, which was your
promise, you may lose.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(laughs)
Lose?

PICARD
Yes, even though you're judge, and
prosecutor....

"Q" (JUDGE)
(nods)
And jury.

PICARD
(considers it; nods)
Accepted...so long as you keep
to your agreement.
(indicates Tasha)
And assaulting a prisoner is
hardly a fair trial.

55 OPTICAL ANGLE ON "Q" (OPTICAL)

55

Seems to be considering it. Then he looks downward,
indicates.

(CONTINUED)

55 CONTINUED:

55

"Q" (JUDGE)
This is a merciful court.

"Q" waves his hand DOWNWARD TOWARD TASHA AND A RIPPLE
OF LIGHT plays over the woman, UNFREEZING HER.

*
*

55A ANOTHER ANGLE "Q" (JUDGE)

55A

The court very disorderly now with some spectators
standing on their benches SHOUTING as an annoyed "Q"
brings his "bench" up hovering over the heads of
everyone.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(continuing; greatly
AMPLIFIED)
SILENCE!

The order is so LOUDLY AMPLIFIED that it comes near to
shaking the entire courtroom structure. The spectators
bite off their words and sink frightened into their
seats. We notice "Q" throwing a glance toward Picard
to see if the Captain is properly impressed. Then the
"bench" is lowered to allow "Q" to face Picard again.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(continuing)
Continuing these proceedings, I
must caution you that legal
trickery is not permitted. This
is a court of fact!

PICARD
(same words; same time)
...court of fact!
(nods)
We humans know our past, even when
we're ashamed of it. I recognize
this court system as the one which
agreed with Shakespeare's
suggestion -- 'Kill all the
lawyers.'

"Q" (JUDGE)
(nods)
Which was done.

PICARD
Leading to the rule: 'Guilty until
proven innocent.'

(CONTINUED)

55A CONTINUED:

55A

"Q"(JUDGE)

Of course. Bringing the innocent
to trial would be unfair.

(leaning in; voice
amplified)

YOU WILL NOW ANSWER TO THE CHARGE
OF BEING A GRIEVOUSLY SAVAGE RACE.

PICARD

I will answer only specific
charges! 'Grievously savage'
could mean anything.

"Q"(JUDGE)

Fool! Are you certain you want
a full disclosure of human
ugliness?

(to Mandarin-Bailiff)

So be it! Present the charges.

Mandarin-Bailiff refers to his portable view screen,
then steps forward and presents it for Picard's
examination.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF

Criminal, you will read the
charges to the court.

Picard takes the parchment, glances through some amount
of it. Then he looks up.

PICARD

I see no charges against us, your
honor.

"Q"(JUDGE)

(pounds "bench top")

Criminal, you are out of order!

Soldiers move in, unslinging automatic weapons, of which
the barrels of two of them are now placed against Troi's
and Data's heads.

FADE OUT.

PART THREE

FADE IN:

56 INT. "Q" COURTROOM - WIDE ANGLE

56

Action continuing from where it ended. The gun barrels are now pressing even closer to Troi and Data's heads as:

"Q" (JUDGE)
Soldiers...
(indicates guns)
... you will press those triggers
if this criminal answers with any
word other than 'guilty'...

57 CLOSER ANGLE

57

The Soldiers CLICKING FIRING ACTION TO FULL COCK. "Q" turns to Picard.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(continuing)
Criminal, how plead you?

Picard takes his time, looking to his people, the Soldiers holding the guns at their heads, then to "Q." He seems to be taking too much time, and one of them shifts his weight, the other begins grasping his weapon even more firmly. Then:

PICARD
Guilty...

Picard's people can't help but show relief and even the soldiers lighten up their stance and their grip on the weapons, until:

PICARD
(continuing)
... provisionally.

Surprised by this "add on," the Soldiers begin bringing their guns in close again, looking for guidance to "Q" who looks like he could decide either way. After considering it for a moment:

"Q" (JUDGE)
The Court will hear the provision.

(CONTINUED)

57 CONTINUED:

57

PICARD

We question whether this court
is abiding by its own trial
instructions. Do I have
permission to have Commander Data
repeat the record?

"Q" (JUDGE)

There will be no legal trickery!

PICARD

These will be your own words, your
Honor.

(to Data)

Exactly what followed his Honor's
statement that the prisoner would
not be harmed?

58 EMPHASIZING DATA

58

Taking a moment to consult his memory, then:

DATA

Yes, sir. The Captain had asked
the question...

(in Picard's VOICE)

'Can we assume this will be a fair
trial?'

(in Data's VOICE)

And in reply, the judge stated...

59 OTHER ANGLES

59

as Data goes on.

DATA

(continuing in "Q"'s
VOICE)

'... Yes, absolutely equitable.'

"Q" (JUDGE)

Immaterial testimony, entirely
immaterial!

PICARD

All right!

(waits until he has
"Q"'s attention)

We agree there is evidence to
support the court's contention
that humans have been savage.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

59 CONTINUED:

59

PICARD (Cont'd)
(moves in closer to
"Q")
I say 'test me' ...test whether
this is presently true of humans.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(suddenly alert)
I see, I see.
(an idea forming)
And so you petition the Court
to accept you and your comrades
as proof of what humanity has
become.

PICARD
There should be many ways we can
be tested. We have a long mission
ahead of us...

"Q" (JUDGE)
Another brilliant suggestion,
Captain. But your test hardly
requires a 'long mission.'
(LAUGHS)
Your immediate destination offers
more challenge than you can
possibly imagine. Yes, yes, this
Farpoint Station will be an
excellent test.

Picard, like the others, is now becoming just a bit
concerned. What does lie ahead of them on Farpoint
Station?

60 ANGLE INCLUDING MANDARIN-BAILIFF

60

with "Q" nodding to him as the Bailiff stands, raising
his voice.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF
Stand respectfully. All present,
respectfully stand!

61 WIDE ANGLE

61

Spectators standing. Picard and his people coming to
their feet too.

62 EMPHASIZING "Q" AND PRISONERS (OPTICAL) 62

as "Q" moves his "bench" into position.

"Q" (JUDGE)
This trial is adjourned to allow
the criminals to be tested.

Mandarin-Bailiff has his Assistant LOUDLY CLANG THE
BELL.

MANDARIN-BAILIFF
This honorable court is adjourned!

There is a smile coming onto the face of "Q" as he turns
to Picard.

"Q" (JUDGE)
Captain, you may find you are not
nearly clever enough to deal with
what lies ahead for you. It may
have been better to accept
sentence here.

"Q" WAVES TOWARD THEM, PRODUCING THE BLINDING LIGHT
EFFECT we've seen before -- and the EFFECT BECOMES:

63 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE 63

Picard and the others now in their normal garb and at
their regular stations, all beginning to register their
realization of where they now are.

64 ANGLES EMPHASIZING DATA, TROI, AND TASHA 64

Reacting to where they now find themselves. Data turns
to the Conn position.

DATA
Uh... what is present course,
Conn?

The CONN OFFICER looks at Data, surprised. *

CONN
(to Data)
It's exactly what the Captain
ordered, sir. Direct heading to
Farpoint Station.

Data has reviewed his console readings during this,
turns to Picard:

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

DATA
Confirm we are on that heading,
sir.

CONN
(to Data)
Know anything about Farpoint?
It sounds like a fairly dull
place.

PICARD
Actually, Conn, we've heard just
the opposite.

Picard, Data, Troi and Tasha exchange looks, then settle
back.

65 EXT. SPACE - LONG SHOT - PLANET (OPTICAL)

65

MOVING IN on a yellowish ball of a planet glowing
against the black backdrop of a starry space in the
reflected light of its sun. There is some cloud layer.
At this distance, the planet's land masses are vague
and indistinct.

RIKER (V.O.)
Personal log, Commander William
Riker, Stardate 41153.7.

66 CLOSER - ON THE PLANETS AND THE USS HOOD (OPTICAL)

66

An older class starship (the USS Hood) lies in
geosynchronous orbit above the planet.

RIKER(V.O.)
(continuing)
U.S.S. Hood has dropped me off
at Farpoint Station where I await
the arrival of the new U.S.S.
Enterprise...

67 CLOSER - ON THE OLD CITY/STATION (OPTICAL)

67

AN AERIAL VIEW of the small, obviously old Bandi city
connected to the modern sprawling spaceport/station,
both set in the middle of a harsh and forbidding
landscape. This is Farpoint Station. CAMERA PUSHES
IN on the Old City portion.

(CONTINUED)

67 CONTINUED:

67

RIKER (V.O.)
(continuing)
... to which I have been assigned
as First Officer. Meanwhile...

68 INT. OLD CITY CORRIDOR - PANNING RIKER

68

Commander William T. Riker approaching the door leading
to the office of Farpoint's Administrator.

RIKER (V.O.)
(continuing)
... I have been asked to visit
the Farpoint Administrator's
office in the old city.

69 INT. ZORN'S OFFICE - OLD CITY - DAY - ANGLE ON
RIKER AND ZORN

69

Riker ENTERING, crossing to an elegant, unusually shaped
desk where ZORN, the station Groopler (administrator)
rises and (unused to handshaking) at first offers the
wrong hand, then gets the procedure straightened out
with MUMBLED APOLOGIES. As with all the Bandi, Zorn
is tall, skinny, rather grey-looking -- appears to be
sixty-ish (as do all the Bandi, including the young
ones).

ZORN
I thought you would want to know,
Commander Riker, that we've still
no word from your vessel. But,
I trust we have made your waiting
comfortable?

RIKER
Luxurious is more like it. Would
it seem ungrateful if I ask for
some information?

ZORN
Anything!

RIKER
Fascinating the advanced
materials you've used in building
this space station. Your energy
supply must be as abundant as I've
heard.

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

ZORN

Geothermal energy is the one great blessing of this planet. I'll have all the details of that sent to your quarters.

RIKER

Thank you. But it still seems incredible that you've built this station so rapidly and so... so perfectly suited to our needs.

Pushes a desk top bowl of fruit toward Riker.

ZORN

Would your care for an Earth delicacy, Commander?

RIKER

Well, if there's an apple there...

There isn't and WE CAN SEE that this disappoints Zorn.

ZORN

I'm sorry, Commander.

RIKER

(looking up; continues)

It doesn't matter... what I was saying was...

(sees something out of

SCENE)

Well, I'll be damned!

70 CAMERA PANS RIKER

70

as he steps to the far end of Zorn's desk where ANGLE REVEALS a second bowl of fruit. Riker picks an apple from it.

ZORN

Ah... ah yes, there was another selection here...

RIKER

(perplexed)

Zorn, I would have sworn it wasn't here a moment ago.

ZORN

And does your failure to notice it make it unwelcome?

(CONTINUED)

70 CONTINUED:

70

RIKER

I'm sure it won't, sir.

ZORN

The same with Farpoint Station, Commander. We hope a few easily answered questions about it won't make Starfleet appreciate it less.

Riker eyes Zorn thoughtfully, then takes a bite out of the apple. He chews, then:

RIKER

And this is delicious. Thank you.

(crossing to door)

Good morning, Groppler Zorn.

He is EXITING even as Zorn levers himself out of his own chair.

ZORN

Good morning.

The door closes behind Riker, and Zorn turns around angrily.

ZORN

(continuing)

You've been told not to do that. Why can't you understand? It will arouse their suspicions...

As he speaks, CAMERA ANGLE WIDENS TO REVEAL clearly that there is no one else in the room, nor does he appear to be speaking into any sort of communication device. He seems to be talking to the walls.

ZORN

(continuing)

... and if that happens, we will have to punish you. We will, I promise you. We must!

No reply that WE CAN HEAR. Is this man mad?

70A EXT. BANDI CITY AND FARPOINT STATION (OPTICAL)

70A

CAMERA PUSHES IN ON Farpoint Station.

71 INT. FARPOINT FOYER

71

In considerable contrast to Zorn's old city office we just left, this structure has a "starbase" look with its dazzling tritanium and glass construction. The few people in sight are Starfleet personnel. ENTERING FOREGROUND are DOCTOR BEVERLY CRUSHER and her fifteen-year-old son, WESLEY. Like most other humans of this century, she doesn't look her age. Although forty years old, she looks hardly more than thirty. Her attractiveness is underscored by a naturally provocative walk -- the woman can't help it. This is counter-balanced by her quick intelligence and her professional knowledge and skill as a physician. Her son, Wes, has that same quick intelligence, multiplied by four. That lively brain is ensconced in the body of a perfectly normal boy with moderate good looks, a cheerful personality, but with considerable maturity for someone his age.

72 ANOTHER ANGLE

72

Riker ENTERS SCENE behind them and hurries to catch up. He calls:

RIKER
Doctor Crusher...

WESLEY
Mother, it's Commander Riker.

Beverly slows, lets Riker walk along with them. WE SEE that despite her attractive face and form, she is naturally dignified and a bit reserved with new acquaintances like Riker.

RIKER
Hello, Wesley. Enjoying Farpoint Station?

WESLEY
Yes, sir.

Riker smiles at the boy. It's clear he approves of this polite and likeable kid. Then he becomes aware that Beverly has answered his greeting and is waiting.

RIKER
Saw you and thought I'd join your stroll, if I may.

BEVERLY
Actually, we're about to do some shopping.

(CONTINUED)

72 CONTINUED:

72

Riker throws her a look. Is she rejecting the offer of his company?

RIKER

I've been meaning to visit the mall myself. If I may?

BEVERLY

Of course.

She MOVES toward an exit door. Wes has been looking from one to the other of them, interested in what they've said... and not said.

73 INT. FARPOINT SHOPPING MALL - DAY

73

The ANGLE suggests a covered, airy mall with flowers and trees -- many of them Earth types but with a scattering of alien vegetation too. It is a spacious walkway with a number of pleasant shops and booths. In b.g. WE SEE Bandi natives of this world, a tall and greyish life form, quiet and overly polite. Beverly, Wesley and Riker move down a line of shops.

74 CLOSER - BEVERLY, WESLEY, RIKER

74

as they walk, Wes continuing to eye the two adults. Then:

WESLEY

If you're wondering about Mom, Commander Riker, she's isn't actually unfriendly. She's just shy around men she doesn't know.

Beverly is startled; Riker amused.

BEVERLY

Wesley...!

(swallows her annoyance;
to Riker)

I believe that means he would like us to be friends.

RIKER

(grins)

I'm willing, Doctor.

(more serious)

And although we're not officially part of the Enterprise yet, I thought there might be something useful we could do while we wait.

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED:

74

Beverly stops at a table in front of a shop selling exotic materials. The modest selections of cloth are lined up on the table, some draped for best effect. Beverly looks over them critically, feeling weight and texture. The Bandi SHOPKEEPER has stayed at the rear of the booth.

BEVERLY

'Useful?' How, Commander?

RIKER

Investigating some things I've noticed here, Doctor. The last was a piece of fruit...

Beverly has frowned over a particularly pretty piece of emerald green material which she holds up for the Shopkeeper to see.

BEVERLY

Gold would be lovely with this.

The Bandi merchant smiles, nods and and searches further. Wes watches the merchant appraisingly.

RIKER

You see, I had asked for an apple...

BEVERLY

I'm sure, Commander, there are reasons for a First Officer to want to demonstrate his energy and alertness to a new captain. But since my duty and interests are outside the command structure...

The Bandi Merchant turns, now holding a bolt of the same emerald green but with a gold pattern added -- interrupts Beverly by holding it up for her approval.

RIKER

Isn't it remarkable he happened to have exactly what you asked for?

Beverly glances sharply at Riker, suppressing a somewhat chagrined look.

(CONTINUED)

74 CONTINUED: (2)

74

BEVERLY
(to Merchant)
Thank you. I'll take the entire
bolt. Send it to our Starship
when it arrives, charged to Doctor
Crusher.

The Merchant nods, ticks the information off on a flat
little gadget that dangles from his belt.

75 ANOTHER ANGLE - DOLLYING WITH BEVERLY, RIKER, WESLEY

75

as they walk away, Riker enjoying the look that's come
onto her face over this incident.

RIKER
Let's see, where were we?

BEVERLY
I was accusing you of inventing
work in order to curry favor with
your new captain. I apologize.

WESLEY
That gold pattern wasn't there,
Mom.

They stop a little distance off and look back toward
the shop. *

BEVERLY
Maybe this is something Jean-Luc
would want looked into.

RIKER
Jean-Luc Picard? You know the
Captain?

WESLEY
(proudly)
When I was little, he brought my
father's body home to us.

Riker is startled but Beverly only smiles, fondly pats
her son's head.

BEVERLY
Yes, Wes. Long, long ago.
(to Riker)
A pleasure to meet you, Commander.
Will you forgive us now while we
pack?

(CONTINUED)

75 CONTINUED:

75

RIKER
My pleasure, Doctor.
(to Wesley)
See you aboard, Wes.

75A ANOTHER ANGLE - RIKER

75A

As he walks on alone, then his stroll is interrupted by LIEUTENANT GEORDI LaFORGE who ENTERS SCENE. He is racially black, technically blind, wears a slim device (like futuristic sunglasses) over his eyes.

His head always turns toward the person speaking to him because his "seeing" thru his "sunglasses" prosthesis actually results in better than "normal" vision. As he arrives:

GEORDI
Sir, the Enterprise is arriving
but...

RIKER
(interrupting)
Is this an official report,
Lieutenant?

GEORDI
Sorry, Commander.
(comes to attention)
Sir, Lieutenant LaForge reporting
the Enterprise now arriving but
without the Saucer Section, sir.

RIKER
Stardrive section only? What
happened?

GEORDI
I don't know, sir. Captain Picard
has signalled for you to beam up
immediately.

RIKER
Our new Captain doesn't waste time
-- which makes it a good rule for
me, also.
(to Geordi)
Thank you, Lieutenant.

Riker touches his communicator, his VOICE now "treated"
to indicate he is transmitting. (This will be standard
communicator format.)

(CONTINUED)

75A CONTINUED:

75A

RIKER
(continuing)
Enterprise, this is Commander
Riker on Farpoint. Standing by
to beam up.

Then, the TRANSPORTER EFFECT OPTICAL.

76
thru
77

OMITTED

76
thru
77

FADE OUT.

PART FOUR

FADE IN:

78 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 78

The Enterprise stardrive module in orbit of the Farpoint planet.

79 INT. STARDRIVE TRANSPORTER ROOM - ANGLE ON PLATFORM (OPTICAL) 79

as Riker BEAMS IN. Lieutenant Tasha Yar of Security is there, waiting until Riker is fully materialized, then:

TASHA

Lieutenant Yar of Security, sir.
Captain Picard will see you on
the battle bridge.

Riker was prepared to shake hands but Tasha is already leading the way toward the turbolift.

80 INT. TURBOLIFT 80

Riker looks Tasha over, waiting, then:

RIKER

With the saucer gone, can I assume
something interesting happened
on your way here?

TASHA

That's for the Captain to explain,
sir.

As Riker follows her inside, she speaks quietly toward the controls:

TASHA

Battle bridge.

The doors snap closed and the lift moves.

81 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - ANGLE ON PICARD 81

He is seated in the command chair with Data and a couple of other crewpersons at their stations.

PICARD

Do we have clearance?

(CONTINUED)

81 CONTINUED:

81

DATA

Aye, sir. Into standard parking orbit.

PICARD

(nods)

Make it so.

The bridge turbolift doors open, Riker ENTERS the bridge after Tasha, follows her to Picard.

TASHA

Commander Riker, sir.

RIKER

Riker, W.T., reporting as ordered, sir.

Picard doesn't offer his hand.

PICARD

(to Tasha)

Is the viewer ready?

TASHA

All set up, sir.

Riker is still at attention, forcing Picard to offer his hand now.

PICARD

Welcome aboard. We'll first bring you up to date on a little... 'adventure' we had on our way here, Commander. Then we'll talk.

TASHA

(to Riker)

This way, sir.

True, Picard does not waste time. Tasha is already leading Riker toward a viewer at the aft section of the Battle Bridge.

82 ANGLE ON BATTLE BRIDGE AFT VIEWER (OPTICAL)

82

as Tasha motions Riker to the seat, turns the VIEWER ON. The VIEWER SHOWS A SHOT FROM EARLIER WHEN "Q" (ELIZABETHAN) HAD APPEARED AND IS TALKING TO Picard. The VOICES ARE FAINT and Riker leans in, riveting attention to the bridge record.

83 ANGLE ON PICARD AND DATA

83

as the android officer turns toward the Captain.

DATA

(interrupting)

Message from the saucer module.
It will arrive here in fifty-one
minutes, sir.

PICARD

Inform them we'll connect as soon
as they arrive.

Picard stands, crosses past Tasha on his way to the
Ready Room.

PICARD

(to Tasha)

Bring the Commander to me when
he's finished.

Picard EXITS.

84 ANGLE ON RIKER

84

Where VIEWER SHOWS ANGLE ON THE "Q" GRIDWORK STRETCHING
OVER THE HEAVENS, THEN SHOT OF "Q" (21st CENTURY).
Riker TURNS AWAY FROM VIEWER TOWARD CAMERA as he looks
at the crewpersons on the bridge. He speaks to no one
in particular.

RIKER

He calls that 'a little
adventure?'

85 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE READY ROOM

85

Picard at a viewer going over a rather complex screen of
formulas. A BUZZER at the door, he turns the viewer
off.

PICARD

Come.

Riker ENTERS, crosses to where the Captain indicates
he's to sit. He does so, looking at Picard. Then:

RIKER

Not exactly a 'run of the mill'
happening, Captain.

(CONTINUED)

85 CONTINUED:

85

PICARD

It seems we're alive only because
we were placed on 'probation,'
...a very serious kind of
'probation.'

Over which we have heard a CHIME SOUND.

PICARD

(continuing)

Go.

DATA (O.S.)

The saucer module now entering
orbit with us, sir.

PICARD

Acknowledge. Commander Riker will
conduct a manual docking. Picard
out.

RIKER

Sir?

PICARD

You've reported in, haven't you?
You are qualified?

RIKER

Yes, sir.

PICARD

Then I mean now, Commander.

Riker jumps to his feet, EXITS. CAMERA PANS to Picard
whose expression now relaxes. He's not too unhappy with
what he's seen of his new First Officer so far.

86 EXT. SPACE - SAUCER SECTION, BATTLE SECTION
(OPTICAL)

86

The saucer section is above and ahead of the battle
section. The battle section is SLOWLY moving ahead
toward the saucer section for link-up.

87 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - FULL SHOT

87

Riker at the controls, concentrating. Tasha and Data
are studying him, privately evaluating this new man.

(CONTINUED)

87 CONTINUED:

87

DATA
You say you will be doing this
manually, sir? No automation?

RIKER
As ordered.

88 EMPHASIZING RIKER

88

He's making a couple of calculations, glancing up at the
viewscreen.

89 ANGLE ON VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

89

The rear end of the saucer is moving closer, but it is
still high.

90 EMPHASIZING RIKER

90

RIKER
(to Data at Conn)
Velocity to one-half meter per
second. Adjust pitch angle to
negative three degrees.

91 EXT. SPACE - SAUCER AND BATTLE SECTION (OPTICAL)

91

The battle section is seen rising, angling forward
slightly, still moving slowly toward the saucer.

92 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING RIKER

92

glancing at the O.S. viewscreen, works his console
again.

RIKER
Watch your roll angle, Conn.
(into intercom)
All stations, prepare for
reconnection.

93 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON SAUCER AND BATTLE SECTION
(OPTICAL)

93

The two are level now, quite close together, the battle
section still moving slowly forward.

- 94 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - ANGLE ON RIKER 94
Riker looks up at the viewscreen again.
- 95 ANGLE ON VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL) 95
The saucer looms in the viewscreen -- everything is level, the docking section is dead ahead -- we are still moving forward.
- 96 CLOSE ON RIKER 96
He makes a couple of quick entries on his console.
- RIKER
Thrusters to station keeping, all velocities zero.
(aside)
Her inertia should do the job now.
- 97 EXT. SPACE - SAUCER AND BATTLE SECTION (OPTICAL) 97
The two glide together smoothly.
- 98 INT. BATTLE BRIDGE - WIDE SHOT 98
Riker hits a couple more tabs on his panel as:
- RIKER
Lock-up... now.
- 99 EXT. SPACE - FINAL HOOK-UP (OPTICAL) 99
The reverse of disconnecting SHOTS we saw earlier -- huge STARDRIVE SECTION and SAUCER MODULE MECHANISMS MAKING FINAL HOOK-UP.
- 100 EXT. ENTERPRISE IN ORBIT (OPTICAL) 100
The docking complete.
- 101 thru 102 OMITTED 101 thru 102
- 103 INT. MAIN LOUNGE - TWO SHOT 103
Picard and Riker as:

(CONTINUED)

103 CONTINUED:

103

PICARD

A fairly routine maneuver but you handled it quite well.

RIKER

Thank you, sir.

(with irony)

I hope I show some promise.

An exchange of looks between the two. Clearly, Riker is annoyed by this "faint praise" kind of welcome.

PICARD

I do have some questions for you, however.

RIKER

Yes sir, I thought you might.

There's nothing disrespectful in Riker's tone of voice, but he does leave an impression that he's not to be walked on either.

PICARD

I see in your envelope that Captain DeSoto thinks very highly of you. One curious thing, however, you refused to let him beam down to Altair IV.

RIKER

In my opinion, sir, Altair IV was too dangerous to risk exposing the Captain.

PICARD

I see. A captain's rank means nothing to you.

RIKER

Rather the reverse, sir. A captain's life means a great deal to me.

PICARD

Isn't it just possible, Commander Riker, that you don't get to be a starship captain without knowing if it's safe to beam down or not? Isn't it a little presumptuous for a First Officer to second guess his captain's judgment?

(CONTINUED)

103 CONTINUED: (2)

103

RIKER

Permission to speak candidly, sir?

PICARD

Always.

RIKER

Having been a first officer
yourself, you know that assuming
that responsibility must, by
definition, include the safety
of the captain. I have no problem
with following the rules you lay
down... short of compromising your
safety.

PICARD

You don't intend to back off that
position?

RIKER

No, sir.

Picard takes another beat to study him carefully, then:

PICARD

One further thing... a special
favor?

RIKER

Anything, sir.

PICARD

Using the same kind of strength
you showed with Captain DeSoto,
I'd appreciate it if you can keep
me from making an ass of myself
with children.

RIKER

Sir?

PICARD

I'm not a family man, Riker, and
yet, Starfleet has given me a ship
with children aboard.

RIKER

(nods)

Yes, sir. And families...

(CONTINUED)

103 CONTINUED: (3)

103

PICARD

And I don't feel comfortable with children. But, since a captain needs an image of 'geniality' towards them, you're to see that's what I project.

RIKER

Aye, sir.

For the first time, Picard smiles, extending his hand. WE SEE he's surprisingly warm when he wants to be. Riker takes Picard's hand for a firm and friendly handshake.

PICARD

Welcome to the Enterprise, Mister Riker.

104 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

104

as Riker steps out of the turbolift. He stops, takes in the size of this compared to the Battle Bridge. The Klingon Lieutenant turns, seeing Riker:

WORF

Yes sir?

RIKER

Is Commander Data on duty?

WORF

Commander Data is on a special assignment, sir. He's using our shuttlecraft to transfer an Admiral over to the Hood.

RIKER

An Admiral?

WORF

He's been aboard all day, sir, checking over medical lay-out.

RIKER

Why the shuttlecraft? Can't he just beam over?

WORF

I suppose he could, sir. But the Admiral's a rather remarkable man.

105 INT. ENTERPRISE CORRIDOR - ANGLE AT INTERSECTION 105

Data and the Admiral ENTER SCENE at the intersection.
the ADMIRAL is very old with an almost transparent look.

ADMIRAL

Have you got some reason to want
my atoms scattered all over space?

DATA

No sir. But at your age, sir,
I thought you shouldn't have to
put up with the time and trouble
of a shuttlecraft.

The Admiral stops. Facing Data, he draws himself up as
straight as he can. His voice is crotchety and trembly
-- and fiercely stubborn.

ADMIRAL

Hold it right there, boy!

DATA

Sir?

ADMIRAL

What about my age?

DATA

Sorry, sir. If that subject
troubles you...

ADMIRAL

Troubles me? What's so damned
troubling about not having died?
How old do you think I am?

DATA

One hundred thirty-seven years,
Admiral. According to Starfleet
records.

ADMIRAL

Explain how you remember that so
exactly.

DATA

I remember every fact I am exposed
to, sir.

The Admiral peers at him closely, scowling.

ADMIRAL

I don't see any points on your
ears, boy, but you sound like a
Vulcan.

(CONTINUED)

105 CONTINUED:

105

DATA

No, sir. I am an android.

ADMIRAL

(snorts)

Almost as bad.

DATA

(at a loss, but still
respectful)

I thought it was generally
accepted, sir, that Vulcans are
an advanced and most honorable
race.

The Admiral stares at him a moment, his severe blue eyes
gentling and his feisty scowl fading. He pats Data's
sleeve and nods slightly.

ADMIRAL

They are, boy. They are. And
also damned annoying at times.

DATA

Yes, sir.

As they move away, Data gently assisting the old man:

ADMIRAL

This is a new ship, boy, but she's
got the right name. Remember
that.

DATA

I will, sir.

ADMIRAL

You treat her like a lady.

(beat, quietly)

She'll always bring you home...

FADE OUT.

PART FIVE

106 FADE IN: 106
thru OMITTED thru
110 110

111 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND HOOD IN ORBIT (OPTICAL) 111

EMPHASIZING the considerable difference in the sizes of the two starships as WE SEE that the USS Hood is PULLING AWAY, LEAVING ORBIT.

112 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ANGLE ON RIKER (OPTICAL) 112

He is standing before the huge viewscreen. Behind him is the young Klingon, Worf, with the rest of the bridge stations only nominally manned. Set in geosynchronous orbit over the planet, the Enterprise requires minimal monitoring at this time. *

113 ANGLE ON TURBOLIFT DOORS 113

They OPEN, and Picard steps out onto the bridge.

PICARD
Have you signaled the Hood,
Commander Riker?

RIKER
(nods)
Your exact message.
(in French)
Bon voyage mon ami. Aye, sir.

114 ANOTHER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL) 114

as Picard smiles and steps toward it.

PICARD
And what was the reply, computer? *

MAIN VIEWER FLICKERS, then startles us with an ugly FLASH OF LIGHT that becomes an IMAGE OF "Q" (JUDGE) who is in LIMBO, but looking directly at Picard. His VOICE BOOMS LOUDLY, annoyed in tone:

"Q" (JUDGE)
YOU'RE WASTING TIME! OR DID YOU
THINK I WAS GONE?

(CONTINUED)

114 CONTINUED:

114

Picard is as startled as Riker. The young Klingon, Worf, leaves his position, drawing his phaser and placing himself protectively between Picard and the threatening "Q" image.

PICARD

Do you intend to blast a hole through the viewer, Lieutenant?

Worf apologetically puts his phaser away, lets Picard wave him aside.

PICARD

(continuing)

If the purpose of this is to test humans, your honor, we must proceed in our own way.

"Q" (JUDGE)

YOU ARE DILATORY! YOU HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS! ANY FURTHER DELAY AND YOU RISK SUMMARY JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU, CAPTAIN.

A FLASH OF LIGHT and the main viewer returns to an image of the planet below.

115 ANOTHER ANGLE

115

WORF

Sorry, sir...

RIKER

You reacted fast, Mister Worf...

PICARD

... but futilely.

WORF

I'll learn to do better, sir.

PICARD

Of course you will... We've a long voyage ahead of us.

Picard dismisses Worf with a flicker of a smile which takes some sting out of what he just said.

RIKER

What do we do now, sir? With their monitoring our every move, every word...

(CONTINUED)

115 CONTINUED:

115

PICARD
We do exactly what we'd do if this
"Q" never existed. If we're going
to be damned, let's be damned for
what we really are.

Riker is suddenly very pleased with this captain. He
nods emphatically.

116 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

116

U.S.S. Enterprise in orbit of planet Deneb IV.

PICARD V.O.
(continuing)
Captain's log, stardate 41153.8.
Of the twenty-four hours "Q"
allotted us to prove ourselves...

117 CLOSER ON ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

117

PICARD V.O.
(continuing)
...eleven have now passed without
incident. And yet I cannot forget
"Q's" prediction that we will face
some critical test.

118 INT. MAIN BRIDGE READY ROOM

118

Picard and Riker comparing notes.

RIKER
This planet's interior heat
results in abundant geothermal
energy, sir. But it's about all
this world does offer.

PICARD
And it's your belief that this
is what made it possible for them
to construct this base to
Starfleet standards?

(CONTINUED)

118 CONTINUED:

118

RIKER

Yes sir. We have to assume that they've been trading their surplus energy for the construction materials used here. According to our ship's scans, many of the materials used are not found on this world.

PICARD

(smiles)

Perhaps it's like those incidents you describe in your report as 'almost magical' attempts to please us.

RIKER

Those events did happen, sir.

PICARD

And in time we'll discover the explanation. Meanwhile, none of it suggests anything threatening. If only every life form had as much desire to please.

(stands)

Ready to beam down? I'm looking forward to meeting this Groppler Zorn.

Picard is leading Riker to the cabin door.

RIKER

I feel there's more to it than just 'pleasing us,' sir.

PICARD

(as they EXIT)

Like something "Q" is doing to trick us?

119 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

119

as Picard and Riker ENTER from the adjoining Ready Room. Troi is just arriving in the turbolift and Picard calls to her.

PICARD

Over here, Counselor!

(to Riker)

I've asked her to join us in this meeting.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

119 CONTINUED:

119

PICARD (Cont'd)
(indicating)
May I introduce our new First
Officer, Commander William Riker.
Commander Riker, our ships's
counselor, Deanna Troi.

120 TWO SHOT - RIKER AND TROI

120

He's obviously stunned to find her here, although she
isn't at all surprised.

TROI'S VOICE
(carrying her thoughts)
Do you remember what I taught you,
Imzadi? Can you still sense my
thoughts?

Then, she holds out her hand formally.

TROI
A pleasure, Commander.

RIKER
(nervously)
I, ah... likewise; Counselor.

121 ANGLE INCLUDING PICARD

121

Studying the two of them with some curiosity now.

PICARD
(to Riker)
Have the two of you met before?

RIKER
We... we have, sir.

PICARD
Excellent. I consider it
important that my key officers
know each other's abilities.

TROI
We do, sir; we do.

Meanwhile, Picard has indicated the turbolift and is
leading them toward it.

122 EMPHASIZING TROI 122

as she looks back toward Riker serenely.

TROI'S VOICE

(her thoughts)

I, too, would never say goodbye,
Imzadi.

123 EXT. OLD CITY - ESTABLISHING - (OPTICAL) 123

123A EXT. COURTYARD - ESTABLISHING SHOT - (OPTICAL) 123A

with dust blowing.

PICARD (V.O.)

My crew and I need a bit more
information...

124 INT. ZORN'S OFFICE 124

Where Zorn sits behind his desk, his posture and attitude indicating some nervousness. Seated facing him are Picard, Riker, and Troi. WE SEE that Zorn's attention is on Troi.

PICARD

(continuing)

...before we make our
recommendations to Starfleet.

ZORN

No objections to that, but...

(eyeing Troi again)

...but I'm puzzled over your
bringing a Betazoid to this
meeting. If her purpose here is
to probe my thoughts, sir...

TROI

I can sense only strong emotions,
Groppler. I am only half
Betazoid; my father was a
Starfleet officer.

ZORN

I have nothing to hide, of course.

(CONTINUED)

124 CONTINUED:

124

PICARD

Good, since we admire what we've seen of your construction techniques. Starfleet may be interested in your constructing starbases elsewhere too.

125 ANGLE EMPHASIZING TROI

125

as her expression begins to indicate an awareness of something distressing, something painful. During which:

ZORN

Captain, we are not interested in building other facilities.

126 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD AND RIKER

126

This stumps Picard for a moment, during which:

RIKER

If I may, Captain...
(gets a nod)

Then a trade, Groppler? Some things you need in return for lending us architects and engineers who can demonstrate your techniques.

127 EMPHASIZING ZORN

127

ZORN

Bandi do not enjoy leaving their home world. If Starfleet cannot accept that small weakness, then we will be forced, unhappily, to seek an alliance with someone like the Ferengis, or...

Zorn interrupted by a small GROAN coming from Troi. Her eyes are now closed over a strong distress she's sensing.

128 VARIOUS OTHER ANGLES

128

As appropriate.

PICARD

Counselor...? What is it?

(CONTINUED)

128 CONTINUED:

128

TROI
(glancing toward Zorn)
Do you want it described here,
sir?

PICARD
Yes! No secrets here if we're
all to be friends.
(to Zorn)
Agreed, Groppler?

ZORN
We ourselves have nothing to hide,
but...

TROI
(another GROAN;
grimacing)
Pain... pain, loneliness, terrible
loneliness, despair...
(indicates Zorn)
I'm not sensing the Groppler, sir.
Or any of his people... but it's
something very close to us here.

PICARD
(to Zorn, demandingly)
The source of this? Do you have
any idea?

ZORN
No!
(stands)
No, absolutely not. And I find
nothing helpful or productive in
any of this!

PICARD
(stands; to Zorn)
That's it? No other comment?

ZORN
What do you expect from us? We
offer a base designed to your
needs, luxurious even by human
standards...

Riker and Troi come to their feet too as Picard
interrupts.

(CONTINUED)

128 CONTINUED: (2)

128

PICARD
...while refusing to answer even
our simplest questions about it.
(to Riker)
We'll adjourn for now...
(to Zorn)
...while we all reconsider our
positions.

The three CROSS toward the exit.

ZORN
Captain, the Ferengi would be very
interested in a base like this.

PICARD
Fine. I hope they find you as
tasty as they did their past
associates.

Picard and his people EXIT.

129 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

129

The U.S.S. Enterprise still in orbit over Deneb IV.

130 INT. HOLODECK (PRONOUNCED HOLLOW-DECK) CORRIDOR

130

Riker moving as if seeking someone. He intercepts a
YOUNG FEMALE ENSIGN who is passing and the junior
officer sees Riker's emblem of rank and comes to
attention.

RIKER
Ensign, can you help me find
Commander Data? I was told he's
somewhere on this deck.

YOUNG ENSIGN
This way, sir.

131 ANGLE AT CORRIDOR WALL

131

as the Ensign steps to a black surface of the corridor
wall.

(CONTINUED)

131 CONTINUED:

131

YOUNG ENSIGN
You must be new to these galaxy
class starships, sir.
(puts hand on the black
surface, saying)
Tell me the location of Commander
Data.

At the touch and the words "Tell me" the black surface
comes alive with light patterns showing appropriate
information.

COMPUTER VOICE
Lieutenant Commander Data... now
located in Holodeck area 4-J.

YOUNG ENSIGN
(indicating readout)
And as you see, sir, it's pointing
you that way.

Riker AD-LIBS a thanks, goes in the indicated direction.

132 PANNING RIKER

132

Moving off in the indicated direction. Then the black
surface there comes alive with a FLASHING DIRECTION
SIGNAL.

COMPUTER VOICE
The next hatchway on your right.

RIKER
(responding
automatically)
Thank you...

COMPUTER VOICE
You're more than welcome,
Commander Riker.

Which startles him a bit but he walks on and turns right
at a sophisticated looking Holodeck Hatchway.

133 INT. HOLODECK CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

133

The Parkland hidden at this moment by a WILD SECTION OF
CORRIDOR WALL AND HATCHWAY which, when the hatch is
opened, will REVEAL PARKLAND.

(CONTINUED)

133 CONTINUED:

133

COMPUTER VOICE
(continuing; without
delay)
And if you care to enter,
Commander...

RIKER
(snaps; interrupting)
I do.

Immediately, the hatch slides open and WE SEE THE
PARKLAND (LOCATION). It looks (and is) real, including
land contours, trees, and even a small stream nearby.
Beyond that the Parkland stretches off for what appears
to be miles and miles away to the horizon.

134 ANGLE BACK TOWARD HATCHWAY

134

as Riker ENTERS through it and stands inspecting the
Parkland scene with genuine appreciation and then HEARS
SOMEONE WHISTLING A MELODY, but doing it rather badly
and laboriously.

135 ANGLE PAST RIKER INTO PARKLAND

135

as he MOVES AWAY, seeking the source of the WHISTLING
which will begin to grow LOUDER now.

136 ANGLE AT STREAM

136

as Riker crosses, stepping from rock to rock. He makes
a misstep, almost falls, then recovers and gets across.
He looks back at the stone which caused it.

137 CLOSER ON RIKER

137

As he walks, the WHISTLING is nearby now. He stops,
calls:

RIKER
Hello!

The WHISTLING has continued without pause. Riker cocks
his ear, corrects his direction slightly.

138 EXT. WOODLAND GLEN

138

Riker ENTERS SHOT through shrubbery, sees something and
stops.

139 ANGLE ON DATA

139

Lying there, cushioned by deep grass. He's totally absorbed in certain melody notes he's attempting -- and keeps missing.

140 PANNING RIKER

140

Moving onto TWO SHOT where he stops, and WHISTLES the same melody, hitting the correct notes. A startled Data looks up blankly, then comes quickly to his feet, but Riker waves him back down, sits beside him.

DATA

Marvelous how easily humans do that, sir. I still need much practice.

Riker hesitates, then:

RIKER

There are some puzzles down on the planet that Captain Picard wants answered. He suggests I take you on the Away Team I'll be leading.

DATA

I shall endeavor to function adequately, sir.

Riker hesitates, wanting to say something but not sure how to begin.

RIKER

Uh, yes. And when the Captain suggested you I, uh, looked up your record...
(hesitates)

DATA

Yes sir, a wise procedure always.

RIKER

Then, your rank of Lieutenant Commander is honorary.

DATA

No, sir. Starfleet Class of '78; honors in probability mechanics and exobiology.

RIKER

But your files... they say you're a...

(CONTINUED)

140 CONTINUED:

140

DATA
(waits; then)
Machine? Correct, sir. Does that trouble you?

RIKER
(hesitates)
To be honest... yes, a little.

DATA
Understood, sir.. Prejudice is very human.

RIKER
Now that troubles me. Do you consider yourself superior to us?

DATA
I am superior in many ways. But I would gladly give it up to be human.

RIKER
(studies Data; then)
Nice to meet you, Pinocchio.

Data seems uncomprehending.

RIKER
(continuing; explains)
a joke.

DATA
(straight-faced)
Ah! Intriguing.

RIKER
(big grin)
You're going to be an interesting companion, Mister Data.

FADE OUT.

PART SIX

FADE IN:

141 EXT. PARKLAND - RIKER AND DATA

141

walking together.

DATA

This woodland pattern is quite popular, sir. Perhaps because it duplicates Earth so well, coming here...

(apologetically)

... makes me feel as if I'm human too.

RIKER

(taking it all in)

I didn't believe these could be so real.

DATA

Much of it is real, sir. If the transporters can convert our bodies to an energy beam, then back to the original pattern again...

RIKER

Yes, of course.

(indicates)

And all these have much simpler patterns.

142 EXT. PARKLAND AT STREAM

142

Data leading the way, then indicates.

DATA

The rear wall.

RIKER

(peers)

I can't see it.

DATA

We're practically next to it.

Riker is squinting hard now, trying to make out the wall. Data stops, bends and picks up a rock.

142A EFFECTS ANGLE

142A

As Data throws the rock directly ahead about eight feet
where it hits the "wall" with a thud, bounces back.

RIKER
Incredible!

WESLEY (O.S.)
(calling)
Commander Riker, isn't this
great?

*

142B MEDIUM ON RIKER

142B

Turning, then grinning, waving.

142C RIKER'S P.O.V. - THE ROCK CROSSING AT STREAM

142C

Where Wes Crusher is hurrying toward us, bouncing from
rock to rock.

WESLEY
This is one of the simple
patterns, Commander Riker.
They've got thousands more, some
you just can't believe.

*

142D ANGLE TO INCLUDE RIKER AND DATA

142D

Moving down the stream.

RIKER
Careful, that next rock is
loose...!

142E WIDER ANGLE

142E

as that rock moves underfoot, tumbling Wes into the
stream.

PANNING DATA IN, demonstrating his enormous strength
as he easily lifts Wesley completely out of the water.
An amazed Wesley looks at Data.

WESLEY
Wow!

143
thru
144

OMITTED

143
thru
144

145 EXT. PARKLAND - ANGLE ON WILD HATCHWAY AND
CORRIDOR SECTION (OPTICAL)

145

as the hatchway smoothly SLIDES OPEN AGAIN. Through
it is REVEALED THE PARKLAND, through which Riker, Data
and a very wet Wesley make their way to the HATCHWAY.
As they MOVE THROUGH HATCHWAY, the bulkhead BEGINS
CLOSING.

146 INT. HOLODECK CORRIDOR - ANGLE ON CAPTAIN PICARD

146

The Captain walking with a Senior Officer when he sees
Riker and the others. He motions the Senior Officer
to continue on by himself, stops and waits.

146A VARIOUS ANGLES - AS APPROPRIATE

146A

As Riker, Data and Wes move INTO SHOT with Picard. Wes
is instantly aware that his soaked clothing is dripping
water onto the starship deck. He'd like to remove
himself but knows that Picard has already seen his
puddle forming on the deck.

RIKER

Mister Data has agreed to join
my Away Team, Captain.

PICARD

(with another glance
toward Wes's puddle)
Very good.

WES

Sir, maybe I should get something
to wipe this water up.

PICARD

(coolly)
Good idea.

Picard turns and EXITS.

147 INT. SICKBAY - BEVERLY AND WESLEY

147

Wesley is wiping himself dry now. He is
enthusiastically trying to explain his adventures.

(CONTINUED)

147 CONTINUED:

147

WESLEY
... and there's a low gravity
gymnasium, too. It would be hard
to get bored on this ship.

148 CLOSER TWO SHOT - BEVERLY AND WESLEY

148

As he wipes, he's been turning something over in his
mind.

WESLEY
Mom...
(beat)
... could you get me a look at
the bridge?

BEVERLY
That's against the Captain's
standing orders.

WESLEY
Are you afraid of the Captain,
too?

BEVERLY
I certainly am not!

WESLEY
But Captain Picard is a pain,
isn't he?

BEVERLY
Your father liked him very much.
Great explorers are often lonely,
...no chance to have a family.

WESLEY
Just a look, at the bridge, Mom.
From the turbolift when the doors
open. I wouldn't get off. I
promise.

BEVERLY
You're looking for trouble, Wes.

He shuts up. Beverly looks at him and can't ignore the
very real want in his eyes.

BEVERLY
(continuing)
Let's see what we can do.

Wesley shows a delighted grin.

149 EXT. FARPOINT STATION/CITY - DAY - EMPHASIZING 149
STATION (OPTICAL)
TO ESTABLISH our location.

150 INT. STATION SHOPPING AREA - DAY - ON AWAY TEAM 150
Which is made up of Riker, Data, Troi, Tasha and Geordi.
There are a number of people in the mall area, some in
identifiable Enterprise-type uniforms. The others are
in various civilian clothes. They are taking in the
Bandi shops, booths, food and drink offered by Bandi
vendors.

TASHA
Recommend that someone could begin
by examining the underside of the
station, sir.

TROI
Our sensors do show some passages
down there, sir. Perhaps you and
I?

Troi glances at Riker with just a shade of archness,
perhaps the lift of an eyebrow. Riker glances away,
troubled.

RIKER
Tasha, you and the Counselor.

Troi and Tasha move off. Riker turns to Geordi.

RIKER
Let's start with the topside.
Have you noticed anything unusual?

Riker and the others MOVE OUT OF SCENE, examining
everything they pass.

151 INT. ANOTHER STATION AREA 151
ON GEORDI as he looks around the area, moving slowly
and carefully scanning. Then he shakes his head.

GEORDI
Well, I can't see through solid
matter, sir, but the material so
far looks very ordinary.

DATA
Confirmed by the construction
records, sir. Almost exactly the
material that Starfleet uses.

(CONTINUED)

151 CONTINUED:

151

TASHA'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
Team Leader, we've found
something interesting.

152 INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAY

152

Not at all what one would expect of a "service tunnel," if this is indeed that. These are smooth, rounded, glistening walls whose GLOW lights up the entire passageway. (We'll see something similar later on a mystery vessel). Tasha is activating her communicator.

TASHA
We're in a passageway directly under the station sir. But the tunnel walls here are made from something we've never seen before.

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
And Troi, have you sensed anything there?

Troi appears reluctant as she activates her communicator.

TROI
Sir, I've avoided opening my mind. Whatever I sensed in the Groppler's office became very painful.

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
I'm sorry, Counselor, but you must. We need more information.

Troi complies... then her face contorts in agony and a SMALL SCREAM ESCAPES. She sinks to her knees, Tasha hurrying in to support her.

TROI
No, no, such pain... pain, pain..

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
(overlapping)
Hang on, I'm coming... Enterprise, lock us onto her signal!

Tasha has her arm around Troi, whispering words of comfort.

153 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL) 153

After a moment, the familiar TRANSPORTER SOUND BEGINS. Riker, Data, and Geordi BEAM IN, SOLIDIFY. Then Riker hurries over to Troi while Data and Geordi examine their surroundings with great curiosity.

154 ANGLE ON TROI 154

Riker helping her very tenderly:

RIKER

I'm sorry. Close your mind to the pain...

TROI

Unhappiness... terrible despair...

RIKER

Who?

TROI

I don't know! No life form anything like us.

Riker is looking around at the glowing walls.

RIKER

What in the hell kind of place is this?

(turning)

Geordi, what do you see?

Geordi has been inspecting the wall closely. He shakes his head.

GEORDI

It's of no material I recognize, sir. Or have even heard of.

155 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 155

as before, in geosynchronous orbit.

156 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ANGLE ON PICARD 156

in the captain's chair. The bridge is nominally manned at this time. WE WILL SEE Worf at the Ops panel. Picard glances around as the SOUND OF THE TURBOLIFT DOORS OPENING COMES OVER, and he freezes.

157 PICARD'S P.O.V. - BEVERLY AND WESLEY 157

standing just inside the turbolift door. Beverly is uncomfortable; Wesley is all eyes, taking in as much as he possibly can in this one limited look at his dream place. Beverly starts to step out, gesturing to Wesley to stay in the turbolift.

BEVERLY
Permission to report to the
Captain...

158 WIDER ANGLE - INCLUDING PICARD, BEVERLY 158

PICARD
(coolly)
Children are not allowed on the
bridge, Doctor.

BEVERLY
Captain, my son is not on the
bridge. He merely accompanied
me on the turbolift.

PICARD
Your son?

BEVERLY
His name's Wesley. You last saw
him years ago when...

She trails her words; Picard understands.

PICARD
Oh.

He glances from Beverly to Wesley, clears his throat.

PICARD
(continuing)
Well -- as long as he's here...

159 WIDER - INCLUDING WESLEY, BEVERLY, PICARD 159

Wesley looks to Picard hopefully. Beverly waits, then
Picard shrugs, tries to sound friendly.

PICARD
(continuing)
I knew your father, Wesley. Want
a look around?

Wesley is out like a shot.

(CONTINUED)

159 CONTINUED:

159

PICARD

(continuing; quickly)

But don't touch anything.

Wesley is in awe. To him, this is the equivalent of a devout Catholic stepping into the nave of St. Peter's Basilica. The turbolift is on the level of the "horseshoe," so the command positions are spread below him. Picard moves down to the captain's chair level, Wesley moving with him. He is careful to put his feet down just right so he doesn't even scuff the floor. Picard watches, steps aside to gesture toward the command chair.

PICARD

(continuing)

Try it out.

(as Wesley does so)

The panel on your right is for log entries, library-computer, access and retrieval, viewscreen control, intercoms, and so on.

WESLEY

(nodding; pointing)

Yes sir. On here, the backup Conn and Ops panels, plus armament and shield controls.

Picard looks closely at Wesley, perplexed.

PICARD

The forward viewscreen is controlled by the Ops position...

WESLEY

Yes sir, which uses high resolution, multi-spectral imaging sensor systems...

PICARD

How the hell do you know that, boy?

Before Beverly or Wesley can reply, a VERY DISTINCTIVE SIGNAL SOUNDS (Captain's comm signal) and Wesley, closest to the control, punches a control and looks into the viewer.

WESLEY

Perimeter alert, Captain!

Wesley is instantly embarrassed; Beverly is mortified; Picard is angry.

(CONTINUED)

159 CONTINUED: (2)

159

WESLEY
I'm sorry. I didn't mean
to...

BEVERLY
Wes! You shouldn't
have touched anything...

PICARD
Off the bridge! Both of you.

Worf has come to his feet, not sure whether or not he
should respond to the call. Beverly is hustling Wesley
toward the turbolift.

WORF
You have a perimeter alert,
Captain.

BEVERLY
(to Picard)
As my son tried to tell you!

She EXITS into the turbolift, the doors CLOSING behind
her and Wesley. Picard, slamming his fist into his
other palm, jumps for his command chair as:

PICARD
Picard. Go ahead.

SECURITY'S INTERCOM VOICE
Ship's sensors have detected the
presence of a vessel approaching
this planet. No ship is scheduled
to arrive at this time.

PICARD
Have Commander Riker and his team
beamed back up! Security, could
that be the Hood returning here?

SECURITY'S INTERCOM VOICE
The vessel does not match the
Hood's configuration or I.D.
signal.

PICARD
Put it on main viewer!

160 ANGLE ON VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

160

Instantly, the image of a ship is flashed on the screen.
It appears big, dark, ominous -- even at far range --
and it is approaching very swiftly.

161 ANGLE ON PICARD AND WORF

161

PICARD
Identification?

SECURITY'S INTERCOM VOICE
Vessel unknown, configuration
unknown, sir.

PICARD
Hail it!

WORF
(works his panel)
We've been trying, sir. No
response.

PICARD
Raise all shields, phasers at
ready.

WORF
(works panel)
Shields up, sir. Phasers ready.

162 OMITTED

162

163 ANGLE ON VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL)

163

The ship is closer now -- looks menacing -- and still
coming fast.

FADE OUT.

PART SEVEN

FADE IN:

164 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL) 164

The Enterprise in orbit.

165 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE 165

All bridge positions are filled now, everyone watching the viewscreen intently.

166 ANGLE ON VIEWSCREEN (OPTICAL) 166

The mystery vessel approaching closer.

167 PICARD AND WORF 167

PICARD

Get me Groppler Zorn. Continue universal greetings on all frequencies.

There is a BEEP, a pause, then:

ZORN'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE

This is Zorn, Captain.

168 INT. ZORN'S OFFICE - DAY - ON ZORN 168

He is seated at the desk, speaks into a small portable communicator grid shaped to fit the palm of his hand.

PICARD'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE

There is an unidentified vessel moving into orbit with us. Do you know who it is?

169 INTERCUT BETWEEN ZORN AND PICARD AS NEEDED. 169

ZORN

There are no ships scheduled to arrive until --

PICARD

I asked if you know who it is, Groppler. You mentioned the Ferengi Alliance to me.

(CONTINUED)

169 CONTINUED:

169

ZORN

(very nervous)

But we have had no dealings with them. It was only a... a thought.

PICARD

Are you certain of that, Groppler?

ZORN

I promise you we were making an empty threat, Captain. I wanted your cooperation. Forgive me --

WORF

Definitely entering an orbital trajectory, sir.

SECURITY POSITION

It measures twelve times our volume, Captain.

*

170 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON MYSTERY VESSEL/ENTERPRISE
(OPTICAL)

170

The mystery vessel approaches and settles into geosynchronous orbit. It is positioned slightly above and to the side of the Enterprise -- and it is a great deal larger than the Enterprise. Suddenly, A GLOWING PULSE OF LIGHT throbs out from the mystery vessel toward the Enterprise.

171 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - FULL SHOT (OPTICAL)

171

The LIGHT GLOWS OVER EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE ON THE BRIDGE. They are startled by it, but no one is hurt. As the GLOW FADES AWAY:

PICARD

All stations, give any damage reports.

The others are looking at each other, shaking their heads. No problems. Worf has checked his console readings.

*

WORF

Sensors say we were just scanned, sir.

*

172 INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAY

172

Troi is leaning against the strange, smooth and shining tunnel wall as if still feeling pain. Riker, obviously still concerned for Troi, is examining the strange tunnel walls with the tricorder while Geordi moves his "eyes" inches away from the surface to examine it closely. Data is testing his communicator and WE'LL HEAR him trying to get a signal back from the Enterprise.

TASHA

(to Troi)

Pain again?

RIKER

(turning; sharply)

Troi, you've been at it enough!

TROI

No, I feel close to an answer of some kind.

DATA

(interrupting)

Commander, something down here is shielding our communicators.

TROI

(comes to her feet)

Yes, that's exactly the feeling I've been reading. As if someone doesn't want us to be in touch with our ship.

RIKER

Come on...

(Leads the way)

... let's get to the surface.

173 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND MYSTERY VESSEL
(OPTICAL)

173

The mystery vessel clearly larger than the Enterprise and moving near it in orbit.

174 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER
(OPTICAL)

174

on which is featured an IMAGE OF MYSTERY VESSEL.

(CONTINUED)

174 CONTINUED:

174

WORF

There is no computer record of
any such vessel, sir. Nothing
even close.

SECURITY POSITION

Still no response, sir. We've
done everything but threaten them.

PICARD

Sensor scans, Mister Worf.

WORF

Our sensor signals seem to just
bounce off.

(bites off words;
indicates to viewer)

Something's happening, sir...

175 FULL ON MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

175

as a beam of something STRIKES DOWNWARD TOWARD THE
PLANET SURFACE. (It doesn't look exactly like the
Enterprise phasers but is the same sort of thing.)

176 EXT. SPACE - ANGLE ON MYSTERY VESSEL (OPTICAL)

176

as another phaser-like BEAM STRIKES DOWN AT THE PLANET.

177 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

177

Excitement.

178 ANGLE ON OPS POSITION

178

WORF

They're firing on Farpoint,
sir...!

PICARD

(toward Security
position)

Bring photon torpedoes to ready

*

WORF

Wait, sir. They're hitting the
old Bandi city, not Farpoint
Station.

179 INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAY

179

Riker and his team racing to where the rounded, smooth and shining walls of the tunnel begin to give way to a more ordinary looking rectangular corridor of mixed stone and tile walls.

180 ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING STAIRWAY AHEAD

180

Riker pulling to a halt in order to examine with curiosity the blend where the unknown type tunnel walls give way to stone and tile construction similar to what we're seen in the old Bandi city. Ahead is a stone block stairway leading up to that old city. Geordi has hurried in, peering closely at the more familiar kind of wall surface.

TROI

(indicates ahead)

Those stairs are where Tasha and I entered down here, sir.

GEORDI

At this point, it becomes ordinary stone and tile, sir.

(turns, puzzled)

Matching what's above.

Followed by a LONG RUMBLING EXPLOSION ("PHASER HIT" type) WITH THE LONG FLASH OF IT REFLECTING DOWN THE STAIRWAY FROM THE UPPER LEVEL AHEAD. As this SOUND FADES, WE HEAR A FAINT DISTANT SCREAM which dies away too.

TASHA

My God! Was that a phaser blast?

DATA

Negative. But something similar.

Again, the SAME KIND OF EXPLOSION SOUND followed by similar LIGHT FLICKERS from the stairway ahead. Riker turns to Troi:

RIKER

You, Tasha, and Geordi will beam up to the ship from here. Now!

(to Data)

Come on, I want to see exactly what's happening.

Riker starts off to the stairway, Data following.

TROI

Don't. If you should be hurt...

(CONTINUED)

180 CONTINUED:

180

A stern look comes over Riker's face as he turns quickly to her:

RIKER

You have your orders, Lieutenant!
Carry them out!

TROI

Yes sir, I'm sorry, sir.

181 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

181

Riker and Data begin climbing the stairway, leaving the CAMERA CENTERED ON TROI, TASHA AND GEORDI. Troi has already reached for her communicator control.

TROI

(continuing)

Enterprise, three to beam up.

After a moment, the familiar TRANSPORTER SOUND, followed by TRANSPORTER EFFECT ON THE THREE DISSOLVING INTO THE LIGHT SPARKLE. Then, they're gone.

182 INT. COURTYARD (OPTICAL)

182

OLD CITY IN IN B.G. where FIRE RAGES in a smashed structure in that part of the old city WE CAN SEE. In CLOSER FOREGROUND is an entrance to the underground passageway, this entry guarded by thick, hand-worked metal door, locked. This village square is a connecting point between the Old City and Farpoint Station. A short distance in the OFF-CAMERA DIRECTION lies Farpoint Mall.

183 THE METAL DOORS (OPTICAL)

183

WE HEAR a hand phaser HUM as a GLOW FLICKERS OVER THE METAL DOORS which now spring open, and a CLASHING OF METAL SOUND. Riker and Data ENTER SCENE through those doors, phasers in hand.

184 CLOSER - RIKER AND DATA

184

as Riker touches his communicator control.

RIKER

Enterprise, Riker. Come in.

(CONTINUED)

184 CONTINUED: 184

interrupted by the closer sound of a PHASER-LIKE BOLT FROM THE MYSTERY VESSEL. Also from closer, THE LIGHT OF THE BLAST REFLECTS ON THEIR FACES and they whirl to see:

185 OMITTED 185

186 ANGLE INTO OLD CITY 186

where a building is being BLASTED INTO STONES AND DUST.

187 INT. ZORN'S OFFICE - OLD CITY 187

filled with the dust and SOUNDS of a nearby BLAST. Zorn is working frantically with his communicator.

ZORN
Enterprise, Enterprise, help us!
Come in, please...

188 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE (OPTICAL) 188

On MAIN VIEWER THE IMAGE OF THE mystery vessel which as WE WATCH will FIRE ANOTHER PHASER-LIKE BOLT DOWN TOWARD THE PLANET. The Bridge Crew are anxiously poised on the edge of their seats, waiting for Picard's next order.

ZORN'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
... what shall we do? Help us,
please.

PICARD
(overlapping)
Tune him down!
(into transmitter)
Commander Riker, come in. Where
are you?

189 . ANOTHER ANGLE - INCLUDING TURBOLIFT 189

As the doors SNAP OPEN TO REVEAL TROI, TASHA, AND GEORDI who hurry onto the bridge, take their regular positions (Geordi relieving Conn and Tasha relieving Security).
Meanwhile:

(CONTINUED)

189 CONTINUED:

189

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
With Data, on the edge of the old
city, Captain. It's being hit
hard.

PICARD
And Farpoint Station? Any damage
there?

190 EXT. COURTYARD - FARPOINT MALL IN B.G. (OPTICAL)

190

No indication that Farpoint Station has been damaged at
all. Riker, standing with Data, is using his
communicator.

RIKER
Negative on damage to Farpoint,
sir. Whoever they are, it seems
they're carefully avoiding hitting
the station.

PICARD'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
It's from an unidentified vessel
that's entered orbit with us here.
No ID, no answer to our signals...

During which there's another BLAST SOUND with the same
kind of LIGHT FLICKERS.

191 ANGLE INCLUDING OLD CITY (OPTICAL)

191

As Riker whirls again in that direction, interrupting
Picard:

RIKER
They're hitting the Bandi city
hard, sir. Many casualties very
probable.

192 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING PICARD

192

Everything as we last left it.

PICARD
(into transmitter)
Understand, Commander. Would you
object to your Captain ordering
a clearly illegal kidnapping?

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
No objection, sir.

(CONTINUED)

192 CONTINUED:

192

PICARD

Zorn may have the answers we need.
Get Groppler Zorn and bring him
here!

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE

Aye, sir!

193 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

193

Picard looks at the IMAGE of the huge mystery vessel
still in orbit nearby. Picard turns to Troi:

PICARD

They're forcing a difficult
decision on me, Counselor.

TROI

(nods)

But, I doubt protecting the Bandi
would violate the Prime Directive.
True, they are not actual
allies...

PICARD

But we are in the midst of
diplomatic discussions with them.

(turns to Tasha)

Lock phasers on that vessel,
Lieutenant.

194 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

194

In b.g., Tasha touching panel controls.

TASHA

Phasers locked on, Captain.

Anything further INTERRUPTED BY OPTICAL EFFECT, the
BLINDING LIGHT FLASH we've seen before and FADING TO
REVEAL "Q," wearing the Judge's costume from the earlier
courtroom sequence. He is standing in front of Picard.

"Q" (JUDGE)

Typical, so typical. Savage
lifeforms never follow even their
own rules.

FADE OUT.

PART EIGHT

FADE IN:

195 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING PICARD AND "Q" 195

Rather than being nervous over the arrival of "Q" (JUDGE), Picard has become coldly angry.

PICARD
Get off my bridge!

196 ANOTHER ANGLE 196

"Q" stepping toward Picard, smiling sadly.

"Q" (JUDGE)
Interesting, that order about
phasers. *

TASHA
(ignoring "Q"; to
Picard)
Still standing by on phasers,
Captain.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(turning to Picard)
Please don't let me interfere.
Use your weapons.

PICARD
With no idea of who's on that
vessel, my order was a routine
safety precaution. *

"Q" (JUDGE)
(breaking into LAUGHTER)
Really? No idea of what it
represents? The meaning of that
vessel is as plain as...
(then taps his nose)
... as plain as the noses on your
ugly little primate faces.

LOUDER LAUGHTER.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(trying to control it)
And if you were truly civilized,
Captain, wouldn't you be doing
something about the casualties
happening down there?

(CONTINUED)

196 CONTINUED:

196

In answer, Picard touches the communications control on his uniform.

PICARD
Captain to C.M.O., are you reading
any of this?

197 INT. SICKBAY - ANGLE EMPHASIZING BEVERLY

197

But she's with a half dozen Medical Assistants very busy preparing medical supplies, bringing portable medical equipment, etc.

BEVERLY
Medical teams already preparing
to beam down, Captain.

PICARD'S VOICE
(relieved)
Compliments on that, Doctor!

198 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

198

Picard turning back to "Q."

PICARD
Any questions? Starfleet people
are trained to render aid and
assistance whenever...

"Q" (JUDGE)
(interrupting)
But not trained in clear thinking.

PICARD
Let's consider your thoughts.
You call us 'savages' and yet you
knew those people down there would
be killed. It is you whose
conduct is uncivilized.

WOLF
Sir, they're firing on the planet
again.

199 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

199

Where WE SEE the mystery vessel beginning to FIRE BLASTS
down at the planet again.

(CONTINUED)

199 CONTINUED:

199

PICARD

(to Worf)

Go to impulse power! Position us between that vessel and the planet. Forcefields full on!

WORF

Aye, sir, impulse power to...

Worf trails his words, perplexed. His panel is fading, GOING DARK.

WORF

(continuing)

We have no ship control, sir.
It's gone!

200 INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE ZORN'S OFFICE - DAY -
RIKER AND DATA

200

They are headed toward Zorn's office door when the BLUE BOLT HITS beside the door, flooding the scene with a FLASH OF BLUE LIGHT. The corridor rocks, and the ceiling comes down partially. Riker and Data are flung down by the explosion. A beat, and then Data stirs, sits up. Riker is slower, but is managing to haul himself upright.

DATA

Are you undamaged?

RIKER

Yes. You?

Data's eyes glaze slightly as he seems to go into a sort of "trance" that lasts just a few seconds. Then:

DATA

All systems operating.

201 ANGLE INCLUDING ZORN'S OFFICE DOOR

201

It is hanging by its hinges, and debris-dust is drifting out of it. Riker and Data move quickly to and through the open door.

202 INT. ZORN'S OFFICE - DAY - FULL SHOT 202

as Riker and Data ENTER. The office has been badly damaged, especially near the door. O.S. THE SOUND OF ANOTHER BOLT EXPLODING echoes. The room shakes under the impact. There is a MUFFLED SOB near the desk.

203 CLOSER ANGLE - NEAR DESK 203

Zorn is cowering under his elegant desk, shaking and sobbing in fear.

ZORN

Please. You can make it stop.
Drive it away.

RIKER

Drive who away, Groppler?

Zorn reacts as if he knows he's said too much.

ZORN

I don't know.

DATA

Unlikely, sir.

(to Zorn)

Our records show that you supervised all Bandi contact with other worlds...

ZORN

We haven't done anything wrong!

RIKER

Then if we can learn nothing from you, we'll leave.

ZORN

(frightened)

No! No, don't leave, I'll try to explain some of...

204 EMPHASIZING ZORN (OPTICAL) 204

A kind of TRANSPORTER SOUND is heard, and then a TRANSPORTER EFFECT, somewhat different from the Starfleet variety, CENTERS on Zorn. He begins SCREAMING as he FADES FROM VIEW.

205 ANGLE ON RIKER 205

as he keys his communicator.

(CONTINUED)

205 CONTINUED:

205

RIKER
First Officer to Enterprise.

PICARD'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
Go ahead, Riker.

RIKER
We've lost Zorn, sir. Something
like a transporter beam, has
snatched him out of here.

206 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

206

"Q" listening to:

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE
Question, sir, could it have been
this "Q"?

"Q" (JUDGE)
(laughs)
None of you knows who transported
him? You're running out of time,
Captain.

207 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD AND TROI

207

She's frowning, trying to "feel" something.

TROI
Captain... Suddenly I'm sensing
something else. It's
satisfaction, enormous
satisfaction.

PICARD
From the same source as before?

TROI
No, that was on the planet. This
is much closer.

208 ANGLE TO INCLUDE MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

208

and the image of the mystery vessel.

"Q" (JUDGE)
(to Troi)
Excellent, Counselor!
(indicates Picard)
He's such a dullard, isn't he!

(CONTINUED)

208 CONTINUED:

208

INTERCOM VOICE
Captain from Transporter Room.
First Officer and Mister Data now
beaming aboard.

"Q"(JUDGE)
Excellent also!
(to Picard)
Perhaps with more of these little
minds helping, you'll...

209 EMPHASIZING PICARD

209

As he whirls suddenly on "Q."

PICARD
(interrupting)
That is enough, damn it!

"Q"(JUDGE)
Have you forgotten we have an
agreement?

In b.g., the turbolift doors SNAP OPEN but unnoticed
by Picard and "Q" as they continue their argument.
Riker and Data appear, move onto bridge as:

PICARD
We have an agreement which you
are at this moment breaking by
taking over our vessel,
interfering with my decisions!
(steps up nose-to-nose)
Either leave or finish us!

"Q" stands, during which we have the impression that
everyone is holding his breath. Then:

"Q"(JUDGE)
(gently)
Temper, temper, mon Capitain.
I am merely trying to assist a
pitiful species. Perhaps I'll
leave if Commander Riker provides
me with some amusement.

PICARD
(to Riker)
Do nothing that he asks!

(CONTINUED)

209 CONTINUED:

209

"Q"(JUDGE)

But I ask so little. And it is so necessary if you are to solve all this.

(turns; indicates vessel image in Main Viewer)

Beam over there with your... what do you call it... your 'away team?'

PICARD

I'll risk no lives on such an unknown.

"Q" (JUDGE)

You should already know what you'll find there. But perhaps it is too adult a puzzle for you.

RIKER

Captain, with all respect, I want to beam over there.

210 EMPHASIZING "Q" (OPTICAL)

210

amused at all this. He turns from Riker to look at Picard.

"Q"(JUDGE)

You show promise, my good fellow.

PICARD

He is the embodiment of what we are. You should have realized long ago that humanity is no longer a savage race!

"Q"(JUDGE)

YOU MUST STILL PROVE THAT!

A familiar BLINDING FLASH, and then "Q" is gone.

211 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD AND RIKER

211

realizing "Q" is gone, turning to look at each other. Riker checks a reading on his panel.

RIKER

Of the twenty-four hours he gave us, we have less than one left, sir.

(CONTINUED)

211 CONTINUED:

211

PICARD

(nods)

You impressed him, Number One.
That's hopeful.

RIKER

Thank you, Captain.

FADE OUT.

PART NINE

FADE IN:

212 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND MYSTERY VESSEL 212
(OPTICAL)

In orbit over the planet.

213 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM 213

Riker's Away Team moving onto the transporter platform. With him are Data, Troi, and Tasha. They carry the usual Away Team equipment which they're now checking.

RIKER
Phasers on stun.

Everyone checks hand phasers. AD-LIB answers of "checked," "on stun," etc. Riker turns to Transporter Chief.

RIKER
Energize.

214 INT. MYSTERY SHIP TUNNEL - WIDE ANGLE (OPTICAL) 214

TRANSPORTER SOUND, then the BEAMING EFFECT. Then, fully MATERIALIZED, Riker and the others look around to orient themselves.

DATA
Most interesting, sir.

TASHA
Much the same construction as the underground tunnel we saw.

Which describes it perfectly. The same rounded shape and GLOWING WALL of unknown composition. The "tunnel" is deserted; NO SHIP SOUNDS of any kind.

TASHA
(continuing)
But no sound of power; no equipment. How does this ship run?

Riker nods a direction. Tasha takes the point as they move out.

(CONTINUED)

214 CONTINUED:

214

Clearly, these are exceptionally well-trained people. Data is already using his tricorder to check the walls. He obviously gets nothing, shakes his head. Troi suddenly staggers, GROANS.

RIKER

Troi, what is it?!

(waits anxiously)

Is it the same as you felt down there?

TROI

No, this is... different. It feels much more powerful... full of anger... hate...

TASHA

Toward us?

TROI

No. It's directed down toward the old Bandi city.

DATA

Most intriguing again. The place that this vessel was firing upon...

(abruptly stops; to

Riker)

Sorry, sir, I seem to be commenting on everything.

RIKER

(small smile)

Good, my friend. Don't stop.

215 EXT. SPACE (OPTICAL)

215

Enterprise and the mystery vessel still in orbit.

216 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - EMPHASIZING PICARD

216

Geordi and Worf at their positions. Picard is in the command seat, antsy.

RIKER'S COMMUNICATOR VOICE

Enterprise, Riker. This is turning out to be a very long tunnel or corridor, sir. Still no sign of mechanism or circuitry...

217 INT. NARROW MYSTERY SHIP TUNNEL - RIKER AND GROUP 217

They're now moving along fairly rapidly although this tunnel is narrower here. Otherwise, its look hasn't changed.

RIKER
(continuing)
...or controls, read-outs, nothing
at all like any vessel I've seen
before.

TROI
(interrupting)
Groppler Zorn, sir... in great
fear...
(motions)
Just ahead.

218 INT. TUNNEL CONNECTION - CAMERA MOVING WITH THEM 218

Continuing on around a sharp turn, Troi is reacting to something she feels.

TROI
There's a different feeling to
the corridor here, sir. Very
different...

ZORN (O.S.)
(in pain)
No, please! No more!

Troi reacting, indicates ahead.

TROI
Pain, sir. From the one called
Zorn...

219 INT. ZORN'S "CELL" (OPTICAL) 219

Zorn is suspended in the center of this area in a forcefield. Riker, Data, Troi, and Tasha come INTO SHOT around the curve in the tunnel, stop amazed at the sign of Zorn who cries out in pain again.

220 CLOSER ON ZORN IN FORCEFIELD (OPTICAL) 220

Zorn is held suspended off the deck in the center of a cylindrical forcefield. The forcefield edges GLITTER SOFTLY to outline the shape of it.

221 OMITTED 221

222 ANGLE AT FORCEFIELD (OPTICAL) 222

The FORCEFIELD SPARKLES, CLICKS, causing Zorn to writhe and twitch. He SCREAMS.

ZORN

No! Please! No more! Please,
no more...

223 ANGLE ON AWAY TEAM (OPTICAL) 223

They move forward toward him, and are brought up sharply by the leading edge of the forcefield. Data has already started to scan with his tricorder. Riker calls to Zorn.

RIKER

Zorn. Can you hear me?

Zorn manages to lift his head, and WE SEE his pain-filled face, his features twisted into a grimace of intense agony.

ZORN

Make it stop the pain. Please...

TROI

Has the alien communicated...?

(breaks off; then to
Riker)

That's it, sir! It's just one
alien that I'm sensing here.

ZORN

(another GROAN)

Please! I don't understand what
it wants.

TROI

(studying Zorn; then)

Not true. He does know.

Data interrupts by holding his tricorder so that Riker can see the readings he's gathered. Riker registers at seeing something unique as Data pulls out his phaser. Riker does the same and both of them concentrate on making some exact setting on their phasers.

224 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL) 224

As Data and Riker raise their phasers toward Zorn.

(CONTINUED)

224 CONTINUED:

224

ZORN
(in terror)
No, no, please don't!

Data and Riker trigger their phasers and WE SEE a SORT OF COLORED GLOW on the FORCEFIELD HOLDING Zorn, the GLOW SPREADING OVER THE ENTIRE FORCEFIELD. Then, suddenly the FORCEFIELD DISAPPEARS, GLOW AND ALL, and Zorn tumbles out onto the floor free of restraint.

225 EMPHASIZING TUNNEL WALL (EFFECTS)

225

Where the wall is moist, somehow "alive" and undulating. Beyond it, Tasha is assisting Zorn to his feet, supporting him. Meanwhile, Troi looks around Zorn's "cell," sensing something troubling. Riker has turned on his communicator:

RIKER
Away Team to Enterprise...

A TENDRIL OF PLASMA EMERGES FROM THIS PART OF THE WALL, swaying and moving toward Riker.

TROI
(interrupting; warning)
Imzadi....!

But the TENDRIL is already wrapping around him. Data tries to pull the TENDRIL from him, succeeds only in getting a NEW TENDRIL wrapped around himself. (What we're seeing is this part of the mystery "vessel" becoming a living thing.)

RIKER
Enterprise, come in. Beam us...

Interrupted by a NEW TENDRIL WRAPPING ITSELF AROUND HIS HEAD.

226 OMITTED

226

227 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

227

Picard speaking anxiously toward his command panel as WE HEAR Riker's MUFFLED SOUNDS OF DISTRESS.

PICARD
Transporter chief, yank them back!
Now!

(CONTINUED)

227 CONTINUED:

227

WORF
(indicating)
Captain...!

228 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

228

toward which Lieutenant Worf is pointing. On it the
IMAGE of the mystery vessel is BEGINNING TO CHANGE IN
SHAPE. The firm, hard edges of the spaceship are giving
way to something softer, very mysterious in nature.

229 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

229

in which WE SEE a familiar BLINDING FLASH and "Q"
appears, now wearing the uniform of a STARFLEET CAPTAIN.

"Q" (STARFLEET)
Your time is up, Captain.

PICARD
(into command panel)
Transporter Chief, do you have
their coordinates?
(beat; then)
Transporter Chief!

"Q" stepping to the command position.

"Q" (STARFLEET)
He can't hear you, Captain.

PICARD
(touching insignia)
Transporter Chief, come in!

He looks to "Q" who only smiles.

PICARD
(continuing)
"Q,"... I've people... in trouble
over there...!

"Q" sits in Picard's command position. Other bridge
personnel come to their feet angrily, then hesitate as:

PICARD
(continuing)
Everyone, at ease! That's an
order!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

229 CONTINUED:

229 *

PICARD (Cont'd)
(to "Q")
My people are in trouble, "Q."
Help them; I'll do whatever you
say...

*
*
*
*
*

As "Q" gives another hand signal downward, the Captain,
freed, rises to his feet. Interrupted by the strange
transporter SOUND that accompanied Zorn's kidnapping.

*
*
*

230 OMITTED

230 *

231 WIDE PORTION OF MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

231

Now the same STRANGE TRANSPORTER EFFECT APPEARS, this
time MATERIALIZING FIVE IMAGES -- Riker, Data, Troi,
Tasha, and Groppler Zorn.

232 ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD (OPTICAL)

232

Very surprised, looking from his away team to "Q."

"Q" (STARFLEET)
You'll do whatever I say?

PICARD
(hesitates; nods)
It seems I did make that bargain.

TROI
The agreement isn't valid, sir.
It wasn't "Q" that saved us.

"Q" (STARFLEET)
(quickly; indicating
viewer)
Save yourselves! It may attack
you now.

233 ANGLE INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

233

On which the changed IMAGE of the mystery "vessel" seems
to be floating in closer to the Enterprise.

RIKER
It was that which sent us back,
Captain.

(CONTINUED)

233 CONTINUED:

233

TROI

Yes sir. It is not merely a vessel, sir. Somehow it is alive.

"Q" (STARFLEET)

She lies! Destroy it while you have a chance.

(to Tasha)

Make phasers and photon torpedoes ready...!

PICARD

No! Do nothing he demands.

ZORN

But that thing was killing my people, Captain...

PICARD

True, but why? Was there a reason?

"Q" (STARFLEET)

It is an unknown, Captain! Isn't that enough?

PICARD

If you had earned that uniform you're wearing, you'd know that the unknown is what brings us out here!

"Q" (STARFLEET)

Wasted effort, considering the human intelligence.

PICARD

Let's test that...

(to Zorn)

...starting with the tunnels you have under Farpoint, Groppler.

RIKER

Identical to the ones on that space vessel lifeform, over there. Why was it punishing you, Groppler?

PICARD

In return for pain you caused to some other creature?

(CONTINUED)

233 CONTINUED: (2)

233

ZORN

We did nothing wrong! It was injured, we helped it...

PICARD

(interrupting; to Zorn)
Thank you, that was the missing part.

(turns)

Tasha, rig main phaser banks to deliver an energy beam.

TASHA

(puzzled)

Aye, sir.

Tasha steps to her panel, makes settings on controls there.

RIKER

You're right, Captain. It has to be conceivable that somewhere in the galaxy there could exist creatures able to convert energy into matter...

PICARD

(nodding)

And into specific patterns of matter. Much as our transporters do.

TASHA

(indicating)

On the viewer, Captain!

234 ANGLE EMPHASIZING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

234

Where the vessel/creature IMAGE is SOFTENING FURTHER INTO AN AMORPHOUS, COLORFUL AND LOVELY SHAPE. Picard turns to the Groppler, demanding:

PICARD

Zorn, you captured something like that, didn't you?

On main viewer, the IMAGE NOW SHOWS LOVELY FEATHERY TENDRILS, and it is BEGINNING TO MOVE DOWN TOWARD THE PLANET. Zorn reacts to this, shows panic.

ZORN

Warn my people, please! Leave Farpoint Station immediately!

(CONTINUED)

234 CONTINUED:

234

"Q" (STARFLEET)
He's lied to you, Captain.
Shouldn't you let his people die?

PICARD
(nods to Conn)
Transmit the message. 'Leave the
Farpoint space station
immediately.'

TROI
Then it was a pair of creatures
I was sensing. One down there
in grief and pain, the other up
here, filled with anger...

DATA
(nodding)
And firing not on the new space
station, but on the Bandi, their
city.

PICARD
(to "Q")
Attacking those who captured
its...
(to Troi)
...its mate?

TASHA
Energy beam ready, sir.

PICARD
(to Tasha)
Lock it in on Farpoint Station.

"Q" stands in an annoyed manner, indicates the captain's
position to Picard.

"Q" (STARFLEET)
I see now it was too simple a
puzzle. But generosity has always
been my weakness.

as "Q" moves aside, Picard takes his position, turning
to Tasha.

PICARD
Let it have whatever it can
absorb. Energize!

235 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

235

in orbit, as a THICK, PALE BLUE ENERGY BEAM AIMS
DOWNWARD.

236 EXT. FARPOINT STATION (OPTICAL) 236

HIGH DOWNWARD SHOT SHOWING THE ENERGY BEAM terminating and being absorbed into Farpoint Station.

237 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL) 237

Picard and others watching the energy beam terminating at Farpoint Station.

TASHA

Now getting feedback on the beam, sir.

PICARD

Discontinue it.

(to Zorn)

Groppler Zorn, there'll soon be no Farpoint Station if I'm right about this.

"Q" (STARFLEET)

A lucky guess!

ZORN

Please believe me, we meant not to harm the creature. It was starving for energy...

PICARD

Which your world furnishes you in plenty.

ZORN

But we did feed it!

PICARD

But only enough to stay alive, to shape itself into the form you needed...

TROI

(interrupting)

Sir, it's wonderful! A feeling of great joy. And gratitude.

238 EXT. FARPOINT STATION (OPTICAL) 238

The city/station miniature -- the Farpoint Station part of it GROWING SOFT, SHIMMERING, SLOWLY BECOMES A CREATURE OF GOSSAMER, FEATHERY LIGHTNESS -- now gracefully rising up from its captivity.

239 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL) 239

Where what was once the "mystery vessel" but now an increasingly beautiful COLORFUL, FEATHERY TENDRIL SHAPE is descending closer and closer to what was once the Farpoint Station part of city/station (miniature).

239A THE TWO CREATURES (OPTICAL) 239A

The smaller one rising up toward its mate. They touch -- delicate matter/energy tendrils twining -- and then together they move upwards out of sight.

240 EXT SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL) 240

As the two creatures rise up past it.

241 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL) 241

on which the two creatures are rising upward OUT OF IMAGE FRAME. (POSSIBLE ANGLE BRIDGE DOME?)

TROI

Great joy and gratitude... from both of them.

242 ANGLE EMPHASIZING "Q" (OPTICAL) 242

as Picard turns on him.

PICARD

Why? Do you use other lifeforms for recreations?

"Q"

If so, you've not provided the best...

PICARD

Leave us!

"Q"

Temper, temper, Mon Capitan...

PICARD

Get off my ship.

(CONTINUED)

242 CONTINUED:

242

"Q" (STARFLEET)
(chuckles)
I do so only because it suits
me to leave. But I will not
promise never to appear again.

*
*
*

ANOTHER BLINDING FLASH AND "Q" DISAPPEARS. It takes a
moment to realize that he is gone. In fact, the last
few moments have left them exhausted and speechless.

242A EXT. SPACE - STARSHIP (OPTICAL)

242A

In orbit over Deneb IV.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, stardate 41174.2.
The agreement for the use of
Farpoint Station has been
completed, per my instructions...

242B OMITTED

242B

*

242C ANGLE EMPHASIZING PICARD

242C

Riker and Troi beside him, Tasha and Worf at Security
above, Data and Geordi at Conn and Ops.

PICARD
(to Data)
All stations?

DATA
Ready for departure, sir.

Riker has been giving a look to Troi who hides a smile,
nods. Picard sees this.

PICARD
Some problem, Riker.

RIKER
Just hoping this isn't the usual
way our missions will go, sir.

Picard screws up his face in mock consideration of this,
then nods.

(CONTINUED)

242C CONTINUED:

242C

PICARD
Oh no, Number One, I'm sure most
will be much more interesting.
(toward Conn)
Let's see what's out there.
ENGAGE!

242D FULL ON BRIDGE - INCLUDING MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)
As they leave Deneb IV.

242D

242E EXT. SPACE - STARSHIP (OPTICAL)
As it leaves the planet, then goes to warp speed.

242E

FADE OUT.

THE END