



Star Trek: The Next Generation  
"A Blast From The Past"  
Part I

By

Debbie Roche

November 1994  
Revised Nov 2024



**TEASER**

1 INT. RIKER'S ROOM - ENTERPRISE (DAY 1: 1300)

RIKER enters and approaches his bed. The Computer buzzes as he reaches it.

COMPUTER (VO)  
Commander, there is a subspace message  
from Starfleet Research...

RIKER  
(puzzled)  
Research? I ...

COMPUTER (VO)  
The message is from Lieutenant  
Commander T'Pra Ross.

RIKER  
(surprise)  
Debra! I haven't ...

COMPUTER (VO)  
Would you like to view the message now,  
Commander?

RIKER  
(smile)  
Yes.  
(beat)  
Transfer it to the monitor.

He walks over to the monitor saying the following line more to himself than to the Computer.

RIKER  
I wonder what she's been up to.

He reaches monitor, sits in front of it, and turns it on.

RIKER  
Begin.

The computer runs message tape.  
Tape: A young woman wearing a Blue Starfleet uniform, sitting behind a desk. The message is as follows.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

Hello Will. It's been a while.

(beat)

I suppose you're wondering why I'm calling.

(beat)

Well, it seems that HQ wants me to lead an investigation.

(beat)

And they've assigned The Enterprise to assist me.

(beat)

There's a lot that needs to be done before the rendezvous with your ship, so...

(beat)

I'll see you on board Commander. Ross out.

The computer displays the "END TRANSMISSION" prompt.

RIKER leans back in his chair and remembers the first time he met Debra Ross.

FADE TO:

2 EXT. ACADEMY GROUNDS (FLASHBACK: MAY 15, 2353)

ROSS is walking and talking to two girls. One of the girls is a Vulcan (GIRL #2). RIKER is lounging under a tree reading a book. The girls sit on a nearby bench. ROSS is sitting in the middle. ROSS looks over at RIKER.

ROSS

I think I just met Mr. Right.

GIRL #1

He is cute, isn't he?

GIRL #1 looks at ROSS.

GIRL #1

I bet you don't have the nerve to go over and say hi.

GIRL #2

(raise eyebrow)

I bet she does.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL #1  
(surprise)  
You do? Thought Vulcans didn't gamble?

GIRL #2  
We do not.

While GIRL #1 and GIRL #2 are talking, ROSS is just staring at RIKER. RIKER looks up from his book and catches her staring. He flashes her a smile. She smiles back. He returns to his book.

GIRL #2  
But in this case, the odds are very  
much in T'Pra's favour.

(beat)  
By my calculations, the odds of her  
striking out with him, are 375.6 to 1.

GIRL #1  
(surprise)  
375.6 to 1?!?!?

GIRL #2  
I believe, that is what I said.

GIRL #1  
Class starts in five, maybe we should  
get back.

ROSS looks at the girls.

ROSS  
You go ahead. I'm going to go over and  
introduce myself.  
Wish me luck.

GIRL #1 and GIRL #2 rise from bench.

GIRL #1  
Good luck.

GIRL #2  
(raise eyebrow)  
Luck? You do not need luck. I...

GIRL #1  
(exasperated)  
Come on Points, let's go.

GIRL #1 and GIRL #2 head back to campus. ROSS rises, takes a deep breath, and walks over to RIKER. RIKER notices a shadow cast over his book and looks up.

ROSS

Hi. My name is T'Pra Ross. Friends call me Debra.

ROSS sits down under the tree beside him.

ROSS

Mind if I join you?

RIKER smiles at her.

RIKER

Not at all. I'm William Riker.

ROSS

(mutter)

I know.

RIKER

What was that?

ROSS

Nothing.

ROSS looks at the book in his hands.

ROSS

What are you reading?

RIKER shows her the cover of the book. 'The Wonderful Wizard of OZ.' ROSS' alarm goes off.

ROSS

(mutter)

Damn.

(clearly)

I've got to get to class.

ROSS is about to get up when she thinks of something.

ROSS

Would you like to get together tonight, for dinner?

RIKER

(smile)  
I'd love to.

ROSS

Great.  
(beat)  
I'll see you tonight then. 1800 hours?

RIKER

(smile)  
I'll be there.

ROSS smiles back, then rises and returns to campus. RIKER smiles as she walks off, then returns to reading.

FADE TO:

3 INT. ROSS' ROOM - STARFLEET ACADEMY

ROSS is setting the table. The door chimes.

ROSS

Who is it?

RIKER (VO)

It's me, Will.

ROSS

Come in.

The door opens and RIKER enters. He has a bottle of wine in his hands. He walks over to her, holding up the bottle.

RIKER

Where should I put this?

ROSS looks at RIKER.

ROSS

Um...on the table. Dinner's almost ready.

RIKER

Wait, you're cooking?  
(impressed)  
Not using the replicator?

(CONTINUED)

ROSS  
(teasing)  
Have you got something against an  
honest to goodness home cooked meal?

RIKER  
(defensive)  
No, I just...  
(beat)  
I'll pour us a glass of wine.

RIKER goes to the table and pours two glasses of wine. The computer timer goes off. ROSS pours the spaghetti into a bowl and pours the sauce over it, then brings the bowl to the table.

RIKER  
Smells great.

ROSS  
Dig in.

RIKER and ROSS put some on their plates. RIKER eats some.

RIKER  
Tastes great too.

ROSS  
(smile)  
Thank you.

RIKER  
Great sauce.  
Where'd you get the recipe?

ROSS  
It's an old family recipe. It belonged  
to my great-grandmother. She was an  
excellent cook.

CONTINUE TO:

3a TIME FLIES

They finish dinner, then sit on sofa. They talk for a while, then lounge on floor in front of the fireplace. They talk, laugh, and drink for hours.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)



3b TIME RETURNS TO NORMAL

COMPUTER (VO)

Wake up call. Rise and Shine. Time  
0600. Your first class 0700.

ROSS

Oh my gosh! I can't believe it's so  
late. I mean so early.

RIKER

(smile)  
I can't believe we spent the whole  
night talking.

They both rise from the floor and head to the door.

ROSS

Neither can I.

They reach the door, which automatically opens. RIKER stands  
in the doorway and looks at ROSS.

RIKER

Can I see you tonight?

ROSS

(smile)  
I'd like that.

RIKER

(smile)  
See you tonight then...

Their eyes lock and he kisses her. Short kiss. She pulls him  
back for a longer, deeper kiss. (In the background, a  
communicator beeps, and PICARD's voice summons RIKER to the  
bridge.)

FADE TO:

4 INT. RIKER'S ROOM - ENTERPRISE (1310)

RIKER returns to the present.

PICARD (VO)

Commander Riker, report to the bridge.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

8.

RIKER jumps to his feet.

RIKER  
Acknowledged.

RIKER exits his room.

FADE TO INTRODUCTION

(CONTINUED)

ACT I (DAY 1)

5 EXT: SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (1400)

Cruising at warp speed.

PICARD (VO)

Captain's Log, Stardate 46837.2: After completing our mission on Rigel VII, we are en-route to Starbase 9 for some minor repairs. While there, we will pick up Starfleet research scientist Lieutenant Commander Ross. She will lead us into the Draco System on a mission, which at this time, is unclear to me.

ZOOM INTO:

6 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed.

PICARD

ETA to Starbase 9, Mr. Data?

DATA

1 hour, sir...

PICARD

Thank you.

PICARD straightens his tunic.

PICARD

Well Number One, I hear the Commander's an old friend of yours?

RIKER

Yes sir. We met in the Academy.

PICARD raises an eyebrow in surprise.

PICARD

The Academy? I guess you're looking forward to seeing her again then.

(CONTINUED)

RIKER

Yeh.

WORF

Captain, we are being hailed by  
Starbase 9.

PICARD

On screen, Mr. Worf.

The Starbase Commander appears on the Main View Screen. PICARD  
addresses him.

PICARD

This is Enterprise, go ahead.

STARBASE COMMANDER

Good afternoon, Captain.

(beat)

We've noticed that you'll arrive  
sooner than anticipated. We're a  
little behind here, so...

(beat)

...feel free to enjoy all that we have  
to offer. Starbase out.

PICARD

(quietly to Riker)

Let's hope we are not here too long. I  
hear Command wants the results of our  
findings yesterday.

RIKER smirks and drifts off into the past again.

FADE TO:

7 EXT. ACADEMY GRADUATION RECEPTION

ROSS and RIKER are talking. Two Admirals approach. One  
addresses RIKER.

ADMIRAL #1

Excuse me, may I speak with you for a  
moment, Mr. Riker.

RIKER

Sure Admiral.

(CONTINUED)

RIKER gives ROSS a "see ya later" look. RIKER and the ADMIRAL walk over to a nearby table. The other ADMIRAL approaches ROSS.

ADMIRAL #2

And I, you, Ms. Ross.

ROSS

Of course, sir.

ADMIRAL #2 joins ROSS at her table.

PAN TO:

7a FOCUS on RIKER and ADMIRAL #1.

ADMIRAL #1

Look, I'll be blunt. Starfleet has just given me an assignment, and I'd like you to be on my team.

RIKER

I'd be honored, sir.

ADMIRAL #1 hands RIKER a Datapad.

ADMIRAL #1

It's all outlined in here. Read it over and report to me at 0800.

RIKER

Yes sir.

ADMIRAL #1 leaves. RIKER starts to read. ROSS approaches. She looks sad/distant. ROSS sits. RIKER looks up from the Datapad.

RIKER

What's wrong?

ROSS

Nothing.

(beat)

What'd the Admiral want? Good news, I hope.

RIKER

That depends on how you look at it.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

What do you mean?

RIKER takes a deep breath.

RIKER

He wants me to be part of a team for  
an assignment that's halfway across  
the galaxy.

RIKER continues with only the slightest pause. ROSS says her  
line at the same time.

RIKER

I'm thinking of  
turning him down.

ROSS

That's great!

RIKER's not sure he heard her right. ROSS says her line at the  
same time as RIKER.

RIKER

What?

ROSS

Why?

ROSS

(beat)

I mean it's what you wanted, right?

RIKER

Yeh, but...

RIKER takes her hand in his.

RIKER

What about us?

ROSS

Let me tell you my news. Maybe then  
you'll understand...

(beat)

I just learned that my application to  
the V.S.A. has been approved.

RIKER

The V.S.A.?

(beat)

You mean, The Vulcan Science Academy?

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

Yes.

(beat)

I applied 2 years ago. Before I met you. They said my application would be on hold. Pending my marks here.

RIKER

But why...

ROSS

Will, it's the best Science Academy in the whole Federation. Besides, it will give me the chance to get to know Vulcan better. Not to mention spending time with my Great-Grandfather whom I haven't seen in years.

RIKER

(surprise)

Your Great-Grandfather?

ROSS

Yes. He's a Vulcan.

RIKER

(surprise)

A Vulcan? I didn't know you were Vulcan. I mean, you don't look or sound like a Vulcan.

ROSS

I'm only 1/8th Vulcan.

(beat)

Anyway, going to the V.S.A. will mean at least 5 years on Vulcan.

(beat)

I was wondering how to tell you but... but your assignment has handled that. It should be ending around the same time.

She removes the ring he gave her.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

If we still feel the same way then...

She offers the ring back to him.

ROSS

I'd be the happiest woman alive to accept this.

He looks at ring and he reluctantly takes it.

ROSS

I do love you, William. But the best thing for us to do now, is go our separate ways.

RIKER

You're right. You're always right...  
(beat)  
One last dance?

RIKER gets up from the table and offers her his hand. ROSS accepts it.

ROSS

Of course.

They walk to the dance floor and embrace in a slow dance. As they dance, we hear PICARD's voice calling RIKER back to the present.

FADE TO:

8 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE

PICARD

Right, Number One?  
(No answer)  
Commander?  
(No answer)  
Will!

RIKER snaps out of his daydream.

RIKER

Sorry Captain, What was that?

(CONTINUED)



PICARD

I...

DATA

Captain, we are approaching Starbase.

PICARD

Thank you, Mr. Data.

(beat)

Mr. Worf, inform Starbase we've arrived.

WORF

Aye sir.

(beat)

Captain, Starbase informs me that Lieutenant Commander Ross has arrived and is ready to transport.

PICARD

(To Worf)

Tell them to stand by.

WORF

Aye sir.

PICARD stands up and motions RIKER to come with him.

PICARD

Number One.

(beat)

Mr. Data, you have the Bridge.

PICARD and RIKER walk to the turbolift.

DATA

Aye sir.

PICARD and RIKER enter turbolift.

PICARD

Main Transporter.

The turbolift doors close.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

9 INT. MAIN TRANSPORTER ROOM (1500)

Doors open. PICARD and RIKER enter. PICARD turns to the Transporter Chief.

PICARD

Inform Starbase that Lieutenant  
Commander Ross may transport up.

CHIEF

Aye sir.

CHIEF signals Starbase and prepares the Transporter. ROSS materializes on the center pad.

PICARD

Welcome aboard Commander. I'm Jean-Luc  
Picard, Captain of The Enterprise. And  
I believe you already know my First  
Officer.

ROSS smiles at RIKER.

ROSS

Yes.

ROSS steps off the transporter pad and goes to RIKER.

ROSS

It's been a while, Will.

RIKER smiles at her. PICARD notices how they are looking at each other and calls RIKER. RIKER breaks eye contact with ROSS and looks at PICARD when he starts to speak.

PICARD

Number One.

(beat)

Would you care to show Commander Ross  
to her quarters?

RIKER smiles.

RIKER

Thank you, Captain.

PICARD looks to ROSS.

(CONTINUED)

PICARD

I've scheduled a meeting for 1900 to introduce you to the members of my crew who will be available to assist you.

(beat)

Maybe you can talk to him.

(indicates Riker)

into giving you a tour of this ship after you've settled in.

RIKER and ROSS laugh quietly. He offers her his arm.

RIKER

Commander.

ROSS takes RIKER's arm.

ROSS

Commander.

(turn to Picard)

See you at 1900, Captain.

RIKER and ROSS exit. PICARD turns to the TRANSPORTER CHIEF, who's been staring the whole time.

PICARD

They're old friends.

CHIEF

Oh, I'll bet they were a lot more than that, sir.

PICARD

I'll be on the Bridge. Inform Starbase that Commander Ross arrived safely.

CHIEF

Yes sir.

PICARD exits Transporter ROOM. CHIEF signals Starbase.

CUT TO:

10 INT. HALLWAY - ENTERPRISE (1600)

RIKER and ROSS exit the turbolift laughing. They start walking down the hall.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

What about the time we went horse back riding and were having so much fun, that we lost track of the time, and I was almost late for my...

ROSS can't remember the name of the class. RIKER tries to think of it. After a few seconds, he remembers it.

RIKER

Computer Cybernetics.

ROSS

Right. Computer Cybernetics. Lucky for me, Professor Knight was also running late.

They reach ROSS' quarters.

RIKER

Well, here we are.

CONTINUE TO:

11 INT. ROSS' QUARTERS - ENTERPRISE (1601)

Door opens. They enter. ROSS looks around as if looking for something.

ROSS

I had some stuff directly transported here. Know where they'd be?

RIKER

Probably in the other room, around the corner.

RIKER points.

ROSS

Thanks. Be right back.

ROSS disappears around the corner. RIKER sits down. ROSS addresses the Computer from the other room.

ROSS (VO)

Computer, what time is it?

(CONTINUED)

COMPUTER (VO)

1601.

ROSS (VO)

The Captain said 1900, right Will?

RIKER

That's right.

ROSS re-enters the room. RIKER doesn't notice since his back is to her.

ROSS

Good.

RIKER turns at the sound of her voice so close.

ROSS

That leaves us with three hours.

ROSS puts her arms around his neck and kisses him. RIKER puts his arms around her and pulls her to him.

FADE TO COMMERCIALS.

ACT II (DAY 1)

12 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE - ENTERPRISE (1910)

PICARD, CRUSHER, TROI, WORF, DATA, and LAFORGE, are sitting around the table. RIKER and ROSS are late.

PICARD

How are the repairs coming?

LAFORGE

Almost completed. Should be done within the hour.

WORF opens his mouth to say something, but the doors open to reveal RIKER and ROSS laughing. RIKER and ROSS noticing that everyone is already there stop laughing and remain standing in the doorway. RIKER looks at PICARD.

RIKER

Sorry we're late Captain. We...

RIKER looks at ROSS, who looks at the floor.

RIKER

...lost track of the time.

PICARD

Please, be seated.

RIKER and ROSS enter and take their respective seats at the table. PICARD leans over the table and addresses ROSS.

PICARD

Has he been showing off this great ship of ours?

ROSS looks at RIKER. She smiles then lies.

ROSS

Well, not all of it, sir.

PICARD realizes he's just stuck his foot in his mouth.

PICARD

Oh, I see.

(CONTINUED)

PICARD straightens his tunic and clears his throat.

PICARD

Well, let's move on, shall we...

(beat)

Everyone, this is Lieutenant Commander Ross of Starfleet Research. She will be with us for our mission into the Draco System.

EVERYONE nods hello.

PICARD

Commander Ross, this is everyone.

(beat)

On your left, Lieutenant Commander Data. On your right, Lieutenant Worf, Chief of Security, and next to him, our CMO, Beverly Crusher. On...

ROSS

Wait. Crusher?

ROSS looks at CRUSHER.

ROSS

Any relation to Wes Crusher?

EVERYONE, including RIKER, gets a look of surprise on their faces.

CRUSHER

Yes. He's my son.

PICARD

He was on The Enterprise for 3 1/2 years before leaving for the Academy.

ROSS

That's right. I vaguely remember him mentioning that.

DATA

Excuse me Commander, but how do you know Wesley?

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

Well, Wes was the one who, I guess you could say, brings me here.

WORF

(puzzled)

The boy?

ROSS

He's not a boy anymore, Lieutenant. In fact, he's quite a charming, and brilliant, young man. You should be proud Doctor.

CRUSHER

Thank you, Commander.

PICARD

(confused)

You mean the reason we're heading off to the Draco System is because of Wesley?

ROSS

Well, sort of. But I'll get into that later. Please, continue with your introductions.

PICARD

Yes. Now where was I?

DATA opens his mouth to answer, but ROSS beats him to it.

ROSS

I believe you were on the other side of the table.

PICARD

Right.

(beat)

Across from Lieutenant Worf, we have Lieutenant Commander Geordi LaForge, Chief of Engineering. On his right, is Ship's Counselor, Deanna Troi. And you already know Commander Riker and myself.

(CONTINUED)



LAFORGE

I don't mean to interrupt Captain,  
but... what exactly is our mission?

PICARD looks to DATA for a quick, brief, summary.

PICARD

Data.

DATA opens his mouth to speak, but LAFORGE cuts in.

LAFORGE

Wait, Data.

(beat)

Could we have the abridged version.  
You know, 50 words or less.

DATA

(think)

It seems Starfleet has been detecting  
strange energy readings from within  
that system, over the last few months.  
And if what they think, is correct...  
we could be looking at a new power  
source.

(beat)

I believe that fit your criteria,  
Commander.

LAFORGE

Excuse me?

DATA

You said, 50 words or less, I believe  
my description...

LAFORGE

Yes, yes, thanks Data.

(beat)

So, we get to go and see what these  
readings are. And if...

WORF

I still don't see where Wesley fits  
into this.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

I was holding a research seminar at the Academy and Wes was one of the Cadets attending.

(beat)

I was discussing the energy readings and after the seminar he came up to me and asked if he could assist me in further research.

(beat)

Together we ruled out radio waves and a few other things.

(beat)

Then he started comparing the readings to known power sources. We concluded that they could very well be one. But for now...

LAFORGE

Everything relies on what we find.

ROSS

Exactly.

LAFORGE

How much do we know about Draco?

ROSS

Not much.

ROSS rises from the table and addresses the Computer.

ROSS

Screen on.

ROSS walks over to the Screen. EVERYONE faces the Screen.

ROSS

Computer, display map of The Draco System.

Computer displays map.

ROSS

This map was made by a 20th Century astronomer and...

(CONTINUED)

LAFORGE

(raise eyebrow)

20th Century?

(beat)

Doesn't Starfleet have anything more... up to date?

ROSS

Not that we could find, Commander.

ROSS returns everyone's attention to the map display.

ROSS

According to this map the system consists of 22 stars, 3 of which are double stars, and a nebula.

(beat)

The nebula classified as NGC-6543 is believed to be a Planetary Nebula, which should appear as a bright blue disk.

(beat)

The area we are interested in, is here.

She points to the bottom of THE DRAGON'S HEAD.

ROSS

We believe the readings are originating from either Beta or Gamma Draco.

LAFORGE

Could the nebula be causing the energy readings?

ROSS

We don't know very much about the nebula, but from all we do know, no. We don't believe the nebula is the cause.

(beat)

But we will further examine the nebula when we reach it. Any questions?

EVERYONE nods no.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

Very well, screen off.

The screen goes off. ROSS turns to PICARD.

ROSS

Captain.

With that one word, she returns the meeting to him. ROSS returns to her seat, and RIKER gives her a smile.

PICARD

Thank you, Commander.

(beat)

Well, now that we know what we are in for, let's get to work.

PICARD rises. EVERYONE, except TROI and LAFORGE, head for the door. RIKER waits at the door for ROSS. WORF and DATA exit. ROSS takes RIKER's arm, and they leave. TROI watches them from her seat. The doors close leaving TROI and LAFORGE alone. LAFORGE rises from the table and looks at TROI.

LAFORGE

Wonder what's between them?

TROI speaks with a hint of jealousy in her voice.

TROI

They were close at The Academy.

TROI rises. LAFORGE looks at her, questioningly.

LAFORGE

How do you know?

TROI heads to the door.

TROI

She was the one, he was still trying to get out of his system when we met on Betazed.

LAFORGE realizes that he's put his foot in his mouth.

LAFORGE

Oh.

(CONTINUED)

TROI exits. The doors close.

LAFORGE

When will I learn to keep my mouth shut?

LAFORGE shakes his head and exits.

CUT TO:

13 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (DAY 2: 1200)

Ship leaving Starbase.

PICARD (VO)

Captain's Log, Stardate 46838.3:  
Having completed all business at Starbase 9, we've set course for the Draco System. Mr. Data informs me, that it will take 5 1/2 days to reach Draco at Warp 6. I have sent a request to Command, for permission to exceed Warp Speed restrictions. I await a reply.

ZOOM INTO:

14 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed. LAFORGE is talking to WORF.

LAFORGE

I can't wait to get a good look at that nebula. I hear we'll be the first ship, to get this close to it, in...

DATA

Incorrect Commander.

DATA turns around and addresses LAFORGE.

DATA

The first ship to come into contact with NGC-6543, now called the Draco Nebula, was the S.S Excalibur.

(CONTINUED)

LAFORGE leans on the horseshoe railing.

LAFORGE

Yeh, but it never came back.

DATA

Incorrect. It did return. Exactly 100 years after it disappeared... in the vicinity of the nebula.

RIKER

I remember reading something about that in The Logs Of The Enterprise.

(beat)

It was during the command of Christopher Pike, wasn't it?

DATA

Correct Commander.

PICARD

Were there any follow up missions to see where she had been for 100 years?

DATA

(think)

Only one. The U.S.S Quintillus. A Class-1 Scout. She was sent out 16 years later.

RO

(curious)

16 years, why so long?

DATA

Unknown.

RO

(still curious)

What did she find out?

DATA

Also unknown. She also disappeared. At the same co-ordinates as The Excalibur...

RO says her next line as DATA is finishing his.

(CONTINUED)

RO DATA  
Great! We could be and never returned.  
next.

RIKER  
Not yet anyway.

LAFORGE thinks of something. He starts talking, as he is walking down the ramp.

LAFORGE  
Wait Data. When did you say The  
Quintillus disappeared?

DATA  
16 years after...

LAFORGE  
(shake head)  
No, Data. I mean the date. Old Earth  
Calendar?

DATA  
2269

LAFORGE  
Okay. Now if you take today's date,  
O.E.C.

RIKER  
2369

LAFORGE  
and subtract the date that The  
Quintillus disappeared...

TROI  
2269

LAFORGE  
You get...

WORF  
100 years.

LAFORGE  
Right. Which means...

RO

Which means that she might just appear at any moment in the vicinity of the nebula.

LAFORGE

Exactly.

RIKER

And The Enterprise will be there to see her home.

WORF

Just like last time.

LAFORGE

Coincidence?

(beat)

Or something else?

PICARD

Well, in either case, I think we should get there ASAP.

(beat)

Mr. Worf, any word from Starfleet yet on whether or not we can exceed Warp restrictions?

WORF

No sir, I...

WORF stops talking as his console beeps.

WORF

Wait.

A message comes in. He answers it.

WORF

Starfleet's approved request sir.

LAFORGE turns and walks back to his station.

PICARD

ETA, if we increase to Warp 9, Mr. Data?



DATA consults his panel.

DATA  
24 hours, Captain.

PICARD  
Increase to Warp 9, Mr. Data.

DATA  
Aye Sir. Warp 9.

DATA changes Warp factor from 6 to 9.

PICARD  
Engage.

FADE TO COMMERCIALS.

ACT III (DAY 3)

15 EXT. DRACO SYSTEM - NEBULA (1145)

All that is seen at first is the nebula (2 sec). Then there is a flash of blue light, and a ship exits the nebula. It's The Quintillus. A MK-VII Class-1 Scout Ship of the Hermes Class. ID NCC-590.

ZOOM INTO:

16 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - THE QUINTILLUS

The crew uniforms are circa TOS. The Captain is an Earth female. She is sitting in her chair. Her Science Officer is a full Vulcan and is at his station.

CAPTAIN

Helm, where are we?

HELM

According to my instruments sir, we are...

(beat)(quietly)

...that can't be right?

CAPTAIN

What can't be right?

(beat)

Well out with it, Lieutenant.

HELM

Sorry sir. We are...

(beat)

...exactly where we were, before we got pulled off course. Only we are heading in the opposite direction.

CAPTAIN raises an eyebrow.

CAPTAIN

You mean, we just did a 180 degree turn?

HELM

Yes sir.

(CONTINUED)

SCIENCE

Captain, long range sensors are detecting an object approaching us at...

(raise eyebrow)

Warp 9.

CAPTAIN

(turn to him)

Warp 9. Are you sure Lieutenant?

SCIENCE

Positive Captain.

CAPTAIN

Computer.

(beat)

Identify approaching vessel.

COMPUTER (VO)

Working.

(beat)

Vessel configuration unknown.

CAPTAIN

Red alert.

Ship goes to Red Alert. Klaxons come on.

SCIENCE

Computer.

(beat)

Display results of long-range sensor scan.

Computer displays the results, on his terminal panel. He looks it over.

SCIENCE

(quietly)

Fascinating.

CAPTAIN

Did you say something, Lieutenant?

(CONTINUED)

SCIENCE

It would seem, that even though the computer failed to recognize the vessel, it is a Federation Ship.

CAPTAIN

What?

SCIENCE

The call numbers on her hull, clearly identify her as The Enterprise.

CAPTAIN

The Enterprise? But...

SCIENCE

I believe the problem could be in the call numbers themselves. The sensor scan lists them as NCC-1701-D.

CAPTAIN

D? Co...

The CAPTAIN, not being able to hear herself think over the noise of the Klaxons, yells her next line.

CAPTAIN

Will somebody please turn off those annoying Klaxons? I can't even hear myself think.

The Klaxons shut off.

CAPTAIN

Thank you.

The CAPTAIN turns to the SCIENCE Officer.

CAPTAIN

Now Lieutenant where was I?

(beat)

Oh yes. Could the nebula have somehow interfered with our computers?

SCIENCE

Unknown, Captain.

CAPTAIN

(To Helm)

How long were we in there anyway  
Lieutenant? It felt like years.

HELMSMAN consults the chronometer.

HELM

Exactly 10 seconds, sir.

CAPTAIN

10 seconds?

(beat)

That can't be right!

(beat)

Four Enterprises could not have been  
built and destroyed, in only 10  
seconds.

(beat)

This makes no sense.

The CAPTAIN turns to the COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.

CAPTAIN

Lieutenant send the following message  
to The Enterprise.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Yes sir.

CUT TO:

17 INT. HOLODECK THREE - ENTERPRISE (1200)

ROSS is creating a program. We only see her, and the Arch. We  
do not see the program that she is creating.

PICARD (VO)

Commander Ross, we have just entered  
The Draco System. Please report to the  
Bridge.

ROSS

Acknowledged.

ROSS enters one final command line.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

Computer.  
(beat)  
Save program.

HOLODECK returns to normal state and the exit door opens.

COMPUTER (VO)

Program saved. You may exit when  
ready.

ROSS exits.

CUT TO:

18 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - THE ENTERPRISE (1215)

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed.

PICARD

Slow to Impulse, Mr. Data.

DATA

Yes, Captain.

DATA enters the command into his console. WORF leans on the handrail and addresses PICARD.

WORF

Captain, incoming message from...  
(beat)  
The Quintillus. Audio only.

PICARD

It appears that Geordi was right  
Number One.  
(to Worf)  
Let's hear what they have to say  
Lieutenant.

WORF

Aye sir.

WORF plays the message tape.

(CONTINUED)

## MESSAGE (AUDIO ONLY)

*This is Captain Maria Rosenburg, of the Scout ship Quintillus. We have some questions to ask you and are awaiting your reply.*

*(beat)*

*As you are not within Visual Communication range yet, an Audio acknowledgment will suffice for now. Quintillus out.*

## PICARD

Mr. Worf, address the following message to The Quintillus.

## WORF

Yes sir.

CUT TO:

19 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - QUINTILLUS (1230)

## SCIENCE

Captain.

*(beat)*

The Enterprise just entered Visual range.

*(beat)*

I can see now why the Computer failed to identify her.

*(beat)*

It would seem, that a lot has changed in her design since the last...

## ROSENBURG

*(Raise eyebrow)*

What do you mean?

*(beat)*

The last time we saw her was two months ago, when we delivered some medical supplies to Kir...

## SCIENCE

Captain. I suggest you see for yourself.

The SCIENCE OFFICER addresses the computer.

(CONTINUED)

## SCIENCE

Computer, display approaching vessel.  
Magnification 10 and state the  
dimensions of said vessel.

The Computer displays The Enterprise, on the main view screen.  
The Bridge crew is amazed at the size of her and shows it.

## COMPUTER (VO)

Approaching vessel is 642.5 meters in  
length. 467 meter in width. 137.5  
meters in height. And weighs 397,805  
metric tons.

## ROSENBURG

That's "The Enterprise"?

## COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Captain. Incoming message from The  
Enterprise.

## ROSENBURG

Let's hear it, Lieutenant.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER plays message. Audio only.

## MESSAGE: PICARD (VO)

*This is Captain Jean-Luc Picard, of  
the Starship Enterprise. We have  
received your message and await visual  
contact.*

*(beat)*

*There is much we must tell you,  
Enterprise out.*

## ROSENBURG

Picard eh.

ROSENBURG looks at the COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.

## ROSENBURG

*(beat)*

Lieutenant, open a channel to The  
Enterprise.

ROSENBURG stares at image on the viewscreen.

(CONTINUED)



ROSENBURG

I want to know...

(beat)

...among other things...

(beat)

...just what Starfleet thinks it is trying to prove, with a warship like that. Things couldn't have changed that much, in just 10 seconds.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Yes sir.

CUT TO:

20 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE (1245)

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed. (NOTE: The Horseshoe has 5 seats, 2 on either side of PICARD. The extra two are empty at this moment.) The Turbolift doors open. ROSS exits Turbolift and starts to walk down the ramp. She notices The Quintillus on The View Screen and stops.

ROSS

Oh my god, he was right!

RIKER

Who was right?

PICARD

Right about what?

ROSS

My... grandfather. About the nebula. He said it could be some sort of time displacement.

ROSS continues down ramp and heads for her seat. (The empty one beside TROI.)

PICARD

Why didn't you mention this before?

ROSS sits.

ROSS

I never believed it.

RO is curious.

(CONTINUED)

RO

How'd your grandfather come up with this theory?

ROSS

It all started when he was a young Lieutenant and the ship he was serving on, entered this sector.

RO

Your grandfather was on The Excalibur?

ROSS

No.  
The Enterprise.

RIKER

(surprise)  
The Enterprise? That would make him Am...

ROSS

Yes.

RIKER

Why didn't you ever tell me?

ROSS

It's a long story.

WORF

Sorry to interrupt.  
(beat)  
But we are being hailed by The Quintillus.

PICARD

On screen, Mr. Worf.

WORF

Yes sir.

CUT TO:

21 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - QUINTILLUS (1300)

The bridge of The Enterprise appears on the Main View Screen.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG

Well Captain Picard, I...

ROSENBURG notices WORF and gets defensive.

ROSENBURG

Is this some of trick? Why is there an Imperial Klingon on the bridge of a Federation Warship?

CUT TO:

22 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE

The bridge of The Quintillus is on the Main View Screen.

ROSENBURG

And those uniforms, they're not like any Starfleet uniforms I've ever seen. Now you...

PICARD

Wait. If you'll give me a few minutes, I'm sure...

ROSS looks at PICARD.

ROSS

Captain. May I address Captain Rosenberg?

PICARD gives ROSS a "be my guest" look.

PICARD

Certainly.

ROSS

Thank you.

ROSS faces the View Screen.

ROSS

Captain, I am Lieutenant Commander Ross. Do you have a young Vulcan on board, by the name of Sulik?

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

## 23 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - QUINTILLUS

The bridge of The Enterprise appears on the Main View Screen. ROSENBURG is wondering, just who this woman is. And what her connection to SULIK is.

ROSENBURG

Yes.

ROSS

May I speak with him?

ROSENBURG turns to SULIK.

ROSENBURG

Lieutenant.

ROSENBURG motions for SULIK to come over. SULIK walks over and stands beside ROSENBURG.

ROSS

Lieutenant Sulik?

SULIK nods.

ROSS

I have a message for you from your cousin.

SULIK rises his eyebrow.

ROSS

He says, "I-Chaya runs free."

SULIK recognizes the phrase.

SULIK

May I ask, how you know my cousin?

ROSS

You may ask.

(beat)

But I don't think you will believe the answer.

SULIK rises an eyebrow.

(CONTINUED)

SULIK

Try me.

ROSS

Your cousin...

(beat)

...is my grandfather?

CUT TO:

24 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE

The bridge of The Quintillus is on the Main View Screen. SULIK rises an eyebrow, to what ROSS just said.

SULIK

Grandfather?

(beat)

That is impossible. Sp...

ROSS cuts SULIK off.

ROSS

I told you you would not believe me.

(beat)

As you can tell, this ship and her crew, especially Mr. Worf, do not resemble and Federation ship and crew, you know of.

(beat)

There have been several changes since your ship disappeared. The most noticeable, and most important being the Alliance between the United Federation of Planets and The Klingon Empire.

(beat)

Just like the Organians predicated.

ROSENBERG

Alliance? There weren't any talks, at least none that we were aware of before that nebula drew us into it.

According to our computer that was only 10 seconds ago. How could all that have happened, in only a matter of seconds?

(CONTINUED)

DATA

According to our calculations, what to you may have appeared as only a matter of seconds, has in fact been exactly 100 years.

ROSENBURG

100 years, how can that be?

DATA

Unknown. At this time we have little or no information on the nebula other than the fact that it is there.

(beat)

Based on the fact that both you and The Excalibur entered the nebula and exited it exactly 100 years later one could conclude that it must be some sort of time displacement.

ROSENBURG

So, I guess that means we have a lot to catch up on. A whole century.

CUT TO:

25 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - QUINTILLUS

The bridge of The Enterprise appears on Screen.

PICARD

Captain. Why don't you and Lieutenant Sulik beam over for an, in person welcome to the 24th Century.

ROSENBURG thinks about it, and is about to agree, when SULIK whispers something to her.

SULIK

It could be a trap, Captain. They've offered us no concrete proof that we have indeed been transported into our own future.

ROSENBURG

(quietly to Sulik)  
You're right.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG addresses the viewscreen.

ROSENBURG

(to Picard)

Can you offer us any proof that you are who you say you are? And that we have been transported forward in time 100 years?

CUT TO:

26 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE

The bridge of The Quintillus, is on the Main View Screen.

PICARD

Well I...

(beat)

No. I guess I can't. You're just going to have to trust us!

ROSENBURG

Give us some time to think this over. We'll get back to you. Quintillus out.

The View Screen image changes to an external shot of The Quintillus.

FADE TO COMMERCIALS:

(CONTINUED)

ACT IV (DAY 3)

27 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE (1325)

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. ROSS is sitting beside TROI. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed.

TROI

Captain, I believe she truly wants to believe us, but...

RIKER

Maybe while they decide whether or not to believe us, we can figure out a way to make them.

PICARD

Like what, Number One?

RIKER

Allow them access to our computers.

TROI

Computers can be tampered with, Will.

(beat)

Besides if they won't believe us, what makes you think they'll believe our computer?

RIKER

It's worth as try, Counselor! Unless you have a better idea?

TROI is about to say something, but ROSS cuts her off.

ROSS

I do.

PICARD looks at her.

PICARD

You do?

ROSS smiles. RIKER recognizes that smile.

(CONTINUED)



ROSS

Allow me to transport over and, with Lieutenant Sulik's consent, I'll submit to a mind meld.

RIKER

A mind meld? You can't be serious?

ROSS

Don't worry. I used to do it all the time with Sp... my grandfather.

(beat)

Well Captain? What do you think?

PICARD

I think...

(beat)

I think it's a great idea.

(beat)

I was involved in a mind meld a few years back, with the late Ambassador Sarek.

(beat)

It was one of the most educational and challenging experiences I've ever had.

PICARD turns to ROSS.

PICARD

(beat)

If Sulik agrees, you have my permission, Commander.

FADE TO:

28 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - QUINTILLUS (1330)

ROSENBERG

(To Sulik)

What does "I-Chaya runs free" mean Lieutenant?

SULIK

My cousin had a pet Sehlat named I-Chaya. They were inseparable.

SULIK pauses remembering the pet.

(CONTINUED)

SULIK

One day my cousin came to see me,  
without I-Chaya. When I asked where I-  
Chaya was...

(beat)

...he told me, I-Chaya runs free. I-  
Chaya had died earlier that day,  
saving my cousin's life.

ROSENBURG

Then they really could be who they say  
they are?

SULIK

(raise eyebrow)

Yes.

(beat)

Not many people know, knew, what  
happened that day.

ROSENBURG

So...

(beat)

Do we trust them?

SULIK

We could interface our computers with  
theirs, but how can we be sure they  
haven't tampered with their computers!  
Or ...

Momentary pause before ROSENBURG prompts SULIK to continue.

ROSENBURG

Or what, Lieutenant?

SULIK

I could try a mind meld with Commander  
Ross.

ROSENBURG

Your cousin's "grand-daughter"?

SULIK

Yes.

ROSENBURG looks at the rest of the bridge crew.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG  
Any other suggestions?

All nod negative. ROSENBURG turns back to SULIK.

ROSENBURG  
Very well, Lieutenant If she agrees,  
you have my permission.

ROSENBURG turns to The COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER.

ROSENBURG  
Hail the Enterprise, Lieutenant.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER  
Yes Captain.

CUT TO:

29 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - ENTERPRISE (1345)

PICARD is flanked by RIKER and TROI. WORF, RO, and DATA are at their respective stations. ROSS is sitting beside TROI. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed.

WORF  
Captain, The Quintillus is hailing us.

PICARD  
On screen, Lieutenant.

The Main View Screen image change to the bridge of The Quintillus.

PICARD  
Well Captain, what have you decided?

ROSENBURG  
With your permission Captain, we  
request that Commander Ross transport  
over.

PICARD  
(raise eyebrow)  
For what purpose?

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG

With her permission, Lieutenant Sulik would like to mind meld with her. It is the quickest, and most effective, way to determine if you are telling us the truth. If the results are positive, I shall transport over with her, when she returns.

PICARD's trying to determine if he should mention that ROSS has already agreed to a mind meld. RIKER gives him a "don't say anything" look.

PICARD

A mind meld...

PICARD turns to ROSS and gives her a "play along" look.

PICARD

Well, do you want to do this?

(beat)

It is up to you!

ROSS

Certainly.

(beat)

We've got nothing to hide.

PICARD

Report to Main Transporter Room and prepare to beam over.

ROSS

(Rising)

Yes sir.

ROSS heads for the Turbolift. PICARD turns back to View Screen.

PICARD

Captain, we will need the coordinates of your Transporter Room.

ROSENBURG

I'll have our Transporter Chief transmit them. Quintillus out.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS enters the Turbolift, the doors close, and the View screen goes black.

TROI

"We" might not have anything to hide,  
but Commander Ross does.

PICARD

What do you mean?

TROI

I'm not certain. I just get the  
feeling, that she's either hiding  
something from us, or is not being  
totally honest with us.

RIKER

(defensive)

I've known T'Pra Ross for almost 17  
years. I don't think she's hiding  
anything.

TROI

With all due respect Commander, you  
haven't seen her in more than 15 years!  
She might not still be the person you  
remember. People change.

PICARD

Do you think we should stop her from  
transporting over?

TROI

I'm...

RIKER

Captain. If we stop her, they will  
suspect something. Maybe whatever it  
is Deanna thinks she is hiding she'll  
be able to shield from Sulik. Or maybe  
he won't consider it important. Either  
way, I ...

PICARD

You're right Number One.

PICARD turns to TROI.

PICARD

If you want to take this up with her when she returns, go right ahead.

TROI

Yes sir.

FADE TO:

30 EXT. SPACE - QUINTILLUS (1500)

ROSENBURG (VO)

Captain's Log, Stardate Unknown: Upon exiting the nebula over 4 hours ago, ship's scanners picked

CONTINUE TO:

31 INT. MAIN TRANSPORTER ROOM - QUINTILLUS

ROSS beams over. SULIK is waiting for her.

ROSENBURG (VO)

up an object, later identified as The Enterprise NCC-1701-D coming

ROSS and SULIK exit.

CONTINUE TO:

32 INT. HALLWAY - QUINTILLUS

ROSS and SULIK walk down the hallway.

ROSENBURG (VO)

towards us. We opened communications and were informed by her Captain, that the nebula had transported us 100 years into the future.

(beat)

Lieutenant Sulik and a Lieutenant

They enter a Turbolift.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

33 INT. TURBOLIFT - QUINTILLUS

ROSS and SULIK are in the Turbolift.

ROSENBERG (VO)

Commander Ross, from The Enterprise, who claims to be his cousin's grand daughter, have agreed to a Vulcan Mind Meld.

CONTINUE TO:

34 INT. HALLWAY - QUINTILLUS

ROSS and SULIK exit Turbolift and start down hall.

ROSENBERG (VO)

I am awaiting the results to see what our next step shall be.

The log entry stops, and we focus on SULIK and ROSS.

SULIK

I hope you don't mind, Commander, but I believe the best place to conduct this, would be in my quarters.

ROSS stops walking and looks at SULIK. Then, in a sarcastic almost teasing tone, says following line.

ROSS

Why Sulik, we've only just met.

SULIK rises his eyebrow in confusion and stops.

SULIK

Excuse me, Commander?

They continue down hall.

ROSS

If you weren't a Vulcan, I'd think you were trying to get me alone.

SULIK is still confused and rises his eyebrow again.

(CONTINUED)

SULIK

I fail to see...

ROSS stops, says her line, then continues walking.

ROSS

I... Never mind Sulik. Forget it.

SULIK shrugs his shoulders.

SULIK

It's forgotten, Commander.

ROSS

T'Pra, please.

(beat)

I'm sick of everyone calling me  
Commander!

SULIK

Very well. T'Pra.

They reach his room. He stops.

SULIK

Here we are.

CONTINUE TO:

35 INT. SULIK'S QUARTERS - QUINTILLUS

The door opens, and they enter. SULIK motions ROSS to sit down.  
They both sit.

SULIK

Shall we begin?

ROSS

Whenever you're ready.

SULIK prepares himself, then places his hands on her face, in  
the proper Mind Meld positions.

SULIK

My mind, to your mind.

FADE OUT:

(CONTINUED)



36 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (1800)

Camera zooms into Tenforward.

CONTINUE TO:

37 INT. TENFORWARD - ENTERPRISE

Camera zooms to RIKER. He's sitting at the bar, talking to GUINAN, and playing with his drink glass. SUPERNUMERARIES as needed.

RIKER

What could be taking so long? She's been over there for almost three hours!

GUINAN

Will, relax.

(beat)

Who knows, maybe the meld was completed an hour ago and they're discussing what has happened to his cousin since they last saw each other. And we all know that a lot has happened to Spo...

RIKER

(look at her)

Guinan, anything he would have wanted to know... would've been revealed in the meld.

RIKER goes back to staring into his glass. TROI enters and walks over. She stands beside RIKER.

TROI

She'll be okay, Will.

RIKER

I know.

(look at Troi)

It's not like she hasn't done this before.

(beat)

It's just... it shouldn't take so long. We should have...

(CONTINUED)

RIKER's communicator beeps.

PICARD (VO)  
Commander Riker, report to Main  
Transporter Room.

RIKER rises from his chair and taps his communicator.

RIKER  
Acknowledged.  
(to Troi and Guinan)  
Here goes nothing.

RIKER exits. TROI and GUINAN watch him leave.

GUINAN  
I've never seen him this worried about  
anyone. He must really care for her.

GUINAN starts to leave. TROI looks at RIKER's half empty glass  
and says following line. More to herself than GUINAN.

TROI  
Yeh.

FADE TO COMMERCIALS:

(CONTINUED)

ACT V (DAY 3)

38 INT. MAIN TRANSPORTER ROOM - ENTERPRISE (1815)

PICARD, DATA, and WORF are present. The doors open, and RIKER enters.

PICARD

Ah, Number One. I have some good news. Captain Rosenberg is beaming over with Commander Ross, and three of her officers.

TRANSPORTER CHIEF

Captain. They are ready for transport.

PICARD

Energize, Chief.

The Transporter hums, and five people materialize on the platform.

PICARD

Captain Rosenberg. Welcome aboard.

All step off Transporter Platform. As PICARD introduces them, they nod hello. ROSENBURG et al, nod back.

PICARD

May I introduce my First Officer. Commander William Riker.

(beat)

And my Chief of Security. Lieutenant Worf.

Momentary pause.

ROSENBURG

I hope we have a chance to talk later Lieutenant, there's so much I'd like to know about your people.

WORF

I would be honored, Captain.

PICARD

And this is Lieutenant Commander Data.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG

Data? What an unusual name.

ROSENBURG notices his pale complexion, and yellow eyes.

ROSENBURG

You're not human, are you?

DATA

No sir, I am an Android.

ROSENBURG

An Android! Well, I never thought I'd live to see the day when Starfleet started recruiting Androids.

ROSENBURG realizes what she's just said, and smirks.

ROSENBURGG

And I probably wouldn't have. If it wasn't for that nebula out there.

DATA

Actually Captain, I am currently the only Android in Starfleet.

ROSENBURG

I see.

(beat)

Now, let me introduce you to my officers. This is my Science Officer, Lieutenant Sulik.

(beat)

Our CMO, Philip DeMont.

(beat)

And our Ship's Engineer, Lieutenant Commander Colin MacLaughin.

PICARD addresses all.

PICARD

Welcome aboard.

PICARD looks at DATA.

PICARD

Mr. Data, would you escort Mr. MacLaughin to Engineering and ask Geordi to show him around.

DATA

Yes Captain.

MACLAUGHIN

Thank you, Captain.

PICARD

You're welcome, Commander.

MACLAUGHIN

(to Rosenberg)

See you later, sir.

ROSENBURG

Have fun Colin.

MACLAUGHIN

Oh, I will sir.

DATA and MACLAUGHIN exit.

DEMONT

(to Picard)

With your permission sir, I'd love to see Sickbay.

PICARD

(smile)

Of course, doctor. We'll let you off on the way.

PICARD, RIKER, WORF, ROSS, ROSENBURG, and DEMONT, exit.

CONTINUE TO:

30 INT. HALLWAY - ENTERPRISE

PICARD is at the front with ROSENBURG beside him. RIKER, ROSS, and SULIK, are behind them. ROSS is between RIKER and SULIK.

(CONTINUED)

WORF and DEMONT, are behind them. They are walking to the Turbolift.

ROSENBURG

Where are we going, Captain?

PICARD

It's a surprise.

They reach the Turbolift and enter.

CONTINUE TO:

40 INT. TURBOLIFT - ENTERPRISE

PICARD

Sickbay.

The doors close and the Turbolift starts to move.

ROSENBURG

I see they've removed the handle grips.

(beat)

How many more changes can we look forward to?

The Turbolift stops and the doors open.

DEMONT

Thanks Captain.

PICARD

No problem, doctor.

DEMONT exits.

ROSENBURG

See you later, Phil.

DEMONT smiles. Doors close.

PICARD

Tenforward.

Turbolift starts to move.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG

Ten what...?

SULIK

Tenforward. I believe it is some sort  
of bar, Captain.

PICARD, RIKER, and WOLF, all give him a "How'd you know" look.  
ROSENBURG gives him a "WHAT" look. And ROSS just blushes and  
looks at the floor. No one notices.

SULIK

T'... Commander Ross "told" me.

EVERYONE gets an "OH" look on their face.

ROSENBURG

(raise eyebrow)

A bar, on a Starship? Don't you worry  
about your officer's being  
intoxicated?

PICARD

Tenforward serves an alcohol  
substitute known as Synthehol.

ROSENBURG

Synthehol?

PICARD

Yes.

(beat)

It is a synthetic alcohol.

The Turbolift stops. The doors open. They edit.

CONTINUE TO:

41 INT. HALLWAY - ENTERPRISE

They walk down hall.

PICARD

It simulates the appearance, smell,  
and taste of alcohol, but it's  
intoxicating effects can be dismissed  
in humanoids, with a mental effort.

(CONTINUED)

ROSENBURG is curious.

PICARD

(beat)

Therefore, one may drink to one's heart's content - without suffering any negative effects.

(beat)

It was originally developed by The Ferengi.

ROSENBURG

The who?

PICARD

The Ferengi.

ROSENBURG

I've never heard of them. Who are they?

PICARD

The Ferengi, are intergalactic traders, whose main motivation is profit.

WORF

In appearance, they are quite short, and have very large ears.

They reach Tenforward and enter.

CONTINUE TO:

42 INT. TENFORWARD - ENTERPRISE

PICARD spots GUINAN and TROI at the bar and leads everyone over.

PICARD

Guinan, Deanna, I'd like you to meet Captain Rosenberg and Lieutenant Sulik.

TROI

Pleasure to meet you Captain, Lieutenant.

(CONTINUED)



RIKER

Permission to be excused, sir?

ROSS

Me too? There is a lot...

PICARD realizes that they want to spend some time alone.

PICARD

Permission granted.

TROI gives ROSS a look, that goes unnoticed by everyone. Except, of course, GUINAN. TROI also picks up on something between ROSS and SULIK, but ignores it, figuring it is probably just a result of the mind meld. RIKER and ROSS leave the group. PICARD turns to TROI.

PICARD

Would you care to join us, Counselor?

TROI

It would be a pleasure.

The group heads for a nearby table.

CUT TO:

43 INT. HALLWAY - ENTERPRISE

RIKER and ROSS exit the Turbolift and walk toward a Holodeck.

RIKER

Where are we going?

ROSS

There's something I want to show you.

RIKER

Really, like what?

ROSS

A holo-program I've been working on.

They reach the Holodeck and stop.

ROSS

Computer. Run program ROSS-IC-1.

(CONTINUED)

Computer loads program.

COMPUTER (VO)  
Program complete. You may enter when  
ready.

ROSS looks at RIKER, and smiles.

ROSS  
Enter.

The Holodeck doors open. ROSS motions RIKER in.

ROSS  
After you...

They enter.

CONTINUE TO:

44 INT. HOLODECK THREE - ENTERPRISE

RIKER is awed at the beauty. A golden path sparkles in the light of the full moon above. It is snowing. There is no snow on the path. There is a castle, not in view yet, that is made of ice. The sky is a typical Earth night sky. ROSS grabs RIKER's hand and they start up the path to the castle.

RIKER  
It's beautiful.  
(beat)  
It looks like something out of an Old  
Earth fairy tale.

They walk on in silence. When they reach the clearing, RIKER notices the castle and stops.

RIKER  
I suppose I'll find a wizard in there.

RIKER points to the castle. ROSS stops and gives him a confused look.

ROSS  
What makes you say that?

(CONTINUED)

RIKER

(smirks)

We are following a yellow brick road,  
aren't we?

ROSS

I guess. In a way. So?

RIKER

Didn't you ever read "The Wonderful  
Wizard of OZ"?

ROSS

The wizard of what...?

RIKER

OZ!

They continue walking on the path.

RIKER

It was a novel written in the late  
1800's by L. Frank Baum.

ROSS

(shake head)

No.

(beat)

Maybe you mentioned it because I knew  
it meant something.

(beat)

You always were one for Old Earth  
stories.

They reach the castle, and the door opens. They enter.

CONTINUE TO:

45 INT. CASTLE - HOLODECK THREE

RIKER

I suppose we follow the Red one.

ROSS is surprised that RIKER guessed right. She says her line,  
as they are walking down the red path.

(CONTINUED)

ROSS

How'd you know that?

RIKER gives her a look.

RIKER

Process of elimination. I figured it couldn't be the golden one, because we just came off a gold one, and therefore it was too obvious. That left the red and the blue ones, which, are the same colour as our uniforms.

(beat)

Since you designed this program, the blue path was also obvious. So I chose the red one.

ROSS puts her arm around his waist and rests her head on his shoulder. They follow the path and pass: paintings, suits of armor, sculptures, and other things that you might expect to find in an authentic 13th Century castle.

RIKER

I must say... you certainly made this place look authentic.

ROSS

Thanks.

They reach the end of the hall. There is one door. They stop.

ROSS

Actually, the computer assisted in the decoration.

RIKER looks at her. Short pause.

ROSS

Well, aren't you going to open it?

RIKER

I'm not sure.

ROSS

Go on Will. I promise, it won't bite.

(CONTINUED)

RIKER

Oh well.

(slowly turn knob)

It's only a hologram. If I don't like it, I can always turn it off.

ROSS

That's the spirit.

RIKER slowly opens the door.

CONTINUE TO:

46 INT. ROOM - HOLODECK THREE

They enter. ROSS closes the door. RIKER spots an ice bucket and approaches it. He removes the bottle. He reads the label.

RIKER

Where'd you get this?

ROSS

Sulik gave it to me.

RIKER pops the cork and removes the two glasses from the table.

RIKER

Shall we...

RIKER pours two glasses.

CUT TO:

47 INT. ENGINEERING - ENTERPRISE (1845)

LAFORGE

Well, that concludes the tour, Colin.

MACLAUGHIN

I can see there's been a lot of changes, since my time. I guess our ship will be put in a museum or something when we get back. Both laugh. Thanks again for taking the time to show me this, Geordi.

(CONTINUED)

LAFORGE

No problem.

MACLAUGHIN

I wonder where my Captain, and DeMont are?

LAFORGE

I could find out for you.

MACLAUGHIN wonders how, he can't see any Comm panels around.

MACLAUGHIN

How?

LAFORGE points to his communicator.

LAFORGE

With this.

MACLAUGHIN

What is it?

LAFORGE

It's a communicator.

MACLAUGHIN

Really, how's it work?

LAFORGE

Basically, you simply tap it, then ask for the person you want. The computer then locates that persons comm badge, and it beeps.

MACLAUGHIN

Wow, I bet they really come in handy on Landing Party missions. I mean, they free your hands an...

LAFORGE

(laugh)  
Yeh, they do.

MACLAUGHIN

Well, show me how it works.

(CONTINUED)

LAFORGE

Okay.

(taps communicator)

LaForge to Picard.

PICARD (VO)

Picard here, go ahead Geordi.

LAFORGE

I've completed the tour down here, and Mr. MacLaughin would like to know where the rest of his party is.

PICARD (VO)

Last time I saw Captain Rosenberg and Lieutenant Sulik, they were in Tenforward talking to Troi and Worf. And Dr. DeMont, was in Sickbay with Dr. Crusher.

LAFORGE

Thanks Captain. LaForge out.

LAFORGE addresses MACLAUGHIN.

LAFORGE

I'll just check and see if they're still there.

MACLAUGHIN nods. LAFORGE taps communicator again.

LAFORGE

LaForge to Crusher.

CRUSHER (VO)

Crusher here, what can I do for you. Geordi?

LAFORGE

Is Dr. DeMont still with you?

CRUSHER (VO)

Yes, as a matter fact he was....

LAFORGE

Why don't the two of you meet us in Tenforward?

(CONTINUED)

CRUSHER (VO)

Sounds good, see you there. Crusher out.

LAFORGE

LaForge to Worf.

WORF (VO)

Worf here.

LAFORGE

Are Captain Rosenburg and Lieutenant Sulik still with you in Tenforward?

WORF (VO)

Yes Commander.

LAFORGE

Inform them that Mr. MacLaughin, Dr. DeMont, Dr. Crusher, and myself, are coming to join you.

WORF (VO)

Yes sir. Worf out.

LAFORGE

(to MacLaughin)  
Let's go.

LAFORGE and MACLAUGHIN exit.

CUT TO:

48 INT. ROOM - HOLODECK THREE (1900)

RIKER and ROSS are relaxing in front of a fire. They are sitting on a rug. Each have a glass of champagne in their hand.

RIKER

This is a great program. How'd you ever think of it?

ROSS

(smile)  
Well, I remembered your fascination with Old Earth. So, with the help of the computer, we came up with this.

(CONTINUED)



RIKER

Well, I love it.

RIKER kisses her. He breaks the kiss and gets up off the floor. He walks over to the table. She follows. He picks up the bottle. She puts her hand over his, on the bottle, and puts the bottle down. He turns around. She puts her arms around his neck and kisses him. He puts his arms around her and pulls her to him. She melts in his arms. He swoops her up and carries her over to the bed.

TO BE CONTINUED...

FADE TO END CREDITS.

(CONTINUED)