

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Datalore"
#40271-114

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REVISED FINAL DRAFT

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STAR TREK: "Datalore" - 10/26/87 - CAST

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Datalore"

CAST

PICARD
RIKER
BEVERLY
DATA (plus DATA as LORE)
DATA/LORE (PHOTO-DOUBLE)
TASHA
WORF
GEORDI
WESLEY
CHIEF ENGINEER ARGYLE
COMPUTER VOICE (MAJEL BARRETT)

STAR TREK: "Datalore" - 10/26/87 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Datalore"

SETS

INTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE

Main bridge

Data's Quarters

Sickbay

Observation Lounge

Corridor

Captain's Ready Room

turbolift

Cargo Room Transporter Three

DATA'S PLANET

Underground Complex

Colony Laboratory

Storage Area

corridor

EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE

DATA'S PLANET

CRYSTAL ENTITY

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Datalore"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

traveling at high warp against an array of stars.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, stardate 41242.4.
Our last assignment has taken us
into the remote Omicron Theta
star system, home of our android
crewmember Lieutenant Commander
Data. Although we are due...

2 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Everyone at his regular station with the exception of
Data whose station is manned by WESLEY.

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

... at our next assignment, I have
decided to increase velocity to
warp eight to visit Data's home
planet for a few hours in the
hopes of unraveling some of the
mystery of his beginnings.

GEORDI turns to RIKER.

GEORDI

Sir, we are now twenty minutes
from Omicron Theta...

(checks reading)

... mark!

Riker gets a nod from PICARD, replies to Geordi.

RIKER

Stand by for subwarp; head for
standard orbit of Data's planet.

(to Picard)

Wonder why Data hasn't come up
here.

2 CONTINUED:

PICARD

He said he wanted to be alone.
Perhaps it's a bigger moment for
him than we thought.

(turns to Wesley)

If he needs a formal invitation,
Ensign, you do the honors.

WESLEY

(to his feet)

Yes sir!

Wesley heads quickly toward the turbolift.

PICARD

Walk!

Wesley slows to a walk.

3 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS

Totally bare except for a quite sophisticated wall
computer and a mirror on a tripod which DATA now stands
in front of watching himself. He SNEEZES. It is not
a good sneeze, comes off rather artificial. Data tries
again, harder... but not much better. Then a CHIME
and Wesley ENTERS.

WESLEY

(excitedly)

Data... !

Data SNEEZES a third time. Wesley stops, puzzled.

WESLEY

(continuing)

What are you doing?

DATA

Sneezing.

WESLEY

Have you got a... a "cold?"

DATA

A cold what?

WESLEY

It's a disease my mother says
people used to get.

3 CONTINUED:

DATA

(nods)

Ah. But humans still sneeze for other reasons and I cannot seem to do it right.

Another artificial sounding SNEEZE.

WESLEY

How can you be practicing sneezing when you're arriving for the first time at your home planet? Aren't you interested in that?

Without changing tone of voice or expression, Data heads with Wesley for the door of the cabin.

DATA

More than interested. Fascinated. One might say agog. But I find sneezing interesting also.

4 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

From the Main Viewer WE CAN SEE that the starship is at subwarp now, and a rather BROWNISH LOOKING PLANET IS COMING INTO VIEW in the distance.

TASHA

(checking readings)

Confirming Class M reading there.

But...

(checks readings)

... but the sensors aren't showing any life readings. Not even vegetation.

PICARD

Strange. The cruiser that found Data reported farmland here.

Data and Wesley EMERGE from the turbolift, CROSS ONTO the bridge. Riker turns to Data, indicates Helm.

RIKER

Want to take her into orbit, Data?

DATA

No thank you, sir.

4 CONTINUED:

Riker, surprised, indicates for Wesley to fill Data's Helm position again. Data instead, walks forward and examines the PLANET COMING CLOSER, more than filling the Main Viewer screen. All eyes are on Data as he examines his home planet on the viewer, then turns and moves back to take a seat in the Command Area.

PICARD

Continue on into close parking orbit.

GEORDI

Aye, sir.

DATA

(beat; to Picard)

I could say "home, sweet home," sir... if I understood how the word sweet applies.

PICARD

It usually refers to the memories.

RIKER

But usually one's own memories, Captain.

(to Data)

Do the memories you were given include "farms?"

DATA

Affirmative, sir. Turning soil, seeding, harvesting... but the colony's principal interest was science.

TASHA

Data, I can't understand how you can hold the memories of four hundred eleven people. If that means every experience, every day they lived...

DATA

It does not, unfortunately. It means only the knowledge they had accumulated. Actually, I am quite deficient in some basic human information.

(to Picard)

Sneezing, for example.

4 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

"Sneezing?"

GEORDI

Approaching close parking orbit,
sir.

PICARD

(to Riker)

Assemble your away party,
Commander.

Riker stands; Picard smiles at Data.

PICARD

(continuing)

This is an exciting moment for
you, Data. I'm tempted to lead
the away team down myself, except
for the fact the first officer
would object...

RIKER

How would Starfleet judge me if
I didn't, sir? An entire Earth
colony did disappear down there.

As Riker stands, replacements are ENTERING to take over
the bridge positions of Geordi, Worf and Tasha who will
move to the turbolift with him.

WORF

(to Data)

You have no memory at all of what
happened to them, Data?

4 CONTINUED: (3)

DATA

My final memory is of great
danger, something sudden and not
understood... then a blank as if
the colonists were gone.

GEORDI

Now in close parking orbit, sir.

PICARD

Welcome home, Mister Data.

Data looks puzzled at this. Then he joins the away
team which EXITS the bridge.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE IN ORBIT (OPTICAL)

The starship in close orbit of Data's home planet.

6 EXT. DATA'S PLANET (OPTICAL)

The Away Team of Riker, Data, GEORDI, TASHA and Worf MATERIALIZING on the planet surface. Far from it looking like farmland, the place is barren. They stand for a moment looking around -- Worf is alert to any security problems -- Tasha scans with her tricorder -- Riker is carefully looking over their surroundings -- Geordi kneels, inspecting the ground.

TASHA

(to Riker)

Recording signal now locked onto the Enterprise, sir.

RIKER

(to Geordi)

This looks like anything but farmland.

GEORDI

Agreed, sir. The soil here's completely lifeless.

RIKER

This is the exact position listed in the Tripoli log.

(turning

Do you recognize anything, Data?

DATA

The land contours are familiar, sir. Topographically, this is the correct area.

Interrupted by Geordi who has begun crumbling soil close to his nose, examining it as he lets the fragments fall from his hand.

6 CONTINUED:

GEORDI

This once was rich farmland. I'd guess something like twenty to thirty years ago...

DATA

I was discovered twenty-six years ago...

GEORDI

(still sifting soil)

There is still plant cellulose in the soil. No signs of decay. Also no signs of bacteria either.
(looks up)

If you don't mind a wild guess, sir, I'd say everything on this planet could have been dead or dying at the time Data was found.

RIKER

The Tripoli log stated that all plant life appeared brown and "dormant." They assumed it was normal for that season.

GEORDI

... whereas actually everything was dying...

DATA

(interrupting;
indicating)

I was found twenty meters in that direction, sir.

Data begins leading the way toward a narrow ledge leading down into a depression.

7 ANOTHER ANGLE

as all follow Data's lead.

TASHA

(moving alongside Data)

Data, any idea at all why you were given the colonists' memories?

DATA

I have always felt that it was done hurriedly, but I know little more.

7 CONTINUED:

Data stops where a small rectangular depression has been carved in the rock.

DATA

(continuing)

Here, sir. This is where the cruiser's landing party found the signal device that had led them here.

(indicates)

And they found me lying there, sir.

8 ANOTHER ANGLE

Data is leading them to a very undistinguished-looking stone pallet. This and the barren location look to be considerably less than the exciting mystery they have expected.

TASHA

You were just lying out in the open? No identity record, no instructions... ?

DATA

Only a layer of dust.

Data bends, BLOWS, and a CLOUD OF DUST ARISES from the pallet.

DATA

(continuing)

There's much more of it now, after twenty-six years.

Only Geordi shows active interest in this place. He has moved off to begin scanning the area from different perspectives.

RIKER

What is the first thing you remember, Data?

DATA

Opening my eyes and finding myself looking into the eyes of the Tripoli landing party, sir.

(MORE)

8 CONTINUED:

DATA (Cont'd)
(indicating the path
back)

They believed that the signal
device sensed their presence,
and activated me.

TASHA

Then this very spot was your
birthplace...

DATA

But not at all like a human birth.
Having the colonists' memories,
I knew immediately how to speak,
who I was, where I was...

TASHA

You were born and became fully
knowledgeable at the same instant!

DATA

I had no idea that was unusual,
of course.

TASHA

It's such a strange place to be
born.

RIKER

So was a manger.

WORF

A "manger," sir?

RIKER

I won't even try to explain that
one, Worf...

GEORDI

(calling)

I understand now, sir! I've got
this figured!

Geordi moves in, indicating aspects of the area.

GEORDI

(continuing)

It was really very cleverly done
to make this look like a natural
hollow in the terrain here.
Signs of it being constructed
hurriedly...

9 SPECIAL EFFECTS ANGLE

Geordi moves to the rock face behind Data's "birth pallet," examining it very closely.

GEORDI

... as if to hide something here.

Data nods, seeming to understand more of this now.

DATA

Yes, that was it, Geordi.

(to Riker)

This has awakened a memory remnant of how the colonists hoped to remain hidden...

(beat; concentrating)

... but their fear of being discovered led to their storing information in me.

Geordi has brought his VISOR device within inches of a point on the rock facing.

GEORDI

Yes, I thought so.

Geordi brings a finger carefully to an almost invisible crack on the rock facing... presses! A HUMMING SOUND and a SPECIAL EFFECT opening in the rock facing APPEARS.

10 INT. UNDERGROUND COMPLEX - ANGLE INTO THE ENTRY

A curving tunnel. Geordi steps in closer, Riker and Data pressing in next. Geordi reaches out, touching something that suddenly ILLUMINATES the tunnel. Tasha, duty always, steps forward and scans the tunnel. Then to Riker:

TASHA

No life readings in here either, sir.

Riker leads the way as the team cautiously heads into the tunnel. Worf and Tasha flank him, weapons ready, as they move into a rectangular corridor.

11 ANOTHER ANGLE

as they continue to an intersecting corridor which features a familiar-looking type of sliding metal door. Geordi again makes a close examination of this, then touches a sensor switch. The sliding door OPENS.

12 INT. COLONY LABORATORY

Similar to some very sophisticated things we've seen on the Enterprise, the lab is filled with equipment and instruments of the most sophisticated twenty-fourth century level. In addition to workbenches, etc. there is a prominent covered worktable which will figure in scenes here. The team ENTERS with Tasha at the lead, weapon in hand -- and with Worf professionally guarding their rear at the door to the corridor they entered from. Riker scans the lab.

RIKER

The colony laboratory, I'd guess.
Extremely well equipped.

(to Data)

Does this place stir any memories,
Data?

DATA

Only vague impressions of some
of my functions being tested
here, sir...

Data indicates, moves toward a wall on which proud scientist parents had posted their children's drawings. Several of them PICTURE a crystal-like formation or design, obviously huge judging from the very tiny people who seem to be fleeing from it. Data pulls one of these drawings free, hands it to Riker.

RIKER

Posted by a proud parent...

DATA

(continuing)

This pictures something that feels
familiar, sir. And dangerous,
although I have no idea what it
represents. And that is all...

Then Data indicates a desk/workbench combination which includes highly sophisticated-looking devices.

DATA

(continuing)

... except for an impression that
this was a... "Doctor Soong's"
work area.

RIKER

Who? You can't mean Doctor
Noonien Soong?

12 CONTINUED:

DATA

(nods)

He was called that here...
although, his memories indicate
he traveled here under a different
name.

GEORDI

Doctor Noonien Soong, my friend,
just happens to have been Earth's
foremost robotics scientist!

TASHA

Until he tried to make Asimov's
dream of a positronic brain come
true.

RIKER

(nodding)

The positronic brain. He promised
it would do so much. When it
failed completely, Doctor Soong
disappeared.

(eyes Data)

Now we know he went off somewhere
to try a second time.

(turns; indicating)

Geordi, Data, we'll take a close
look at this lab.

(to Tasha)

You and Lieutenant Worf
reconnoiter where the rest of
these corridors lead.

Tasha and Worf EXIT, AD LIBBING "Aye, sir." Geordi
and Data choose areas to inspect while Riker
concentrates on the Soong workbench.

13 ANOTHER ANGLE

Riker moves to the large, thick laboratory table
mentioned earlier. Whatever they've found out about
it has lead Riker now to touch a control on it -- and
it now hinges apart HUMMING and presenting the torso
and head part of a human-shaped mold. Seeing what is
happening, Geordi and Data hurry over.

GEORDI

(beat)

Data... it's you.

13 CONTINUED:

Data hesitates, then reaches in and extracts a one-half head and shoulders portion of the mold, presses it against himself. It fits perfectly!

RIKER

An epidermal mold, I'd guess.
Made to give your exterior the
desired finish.

TASHA'S COM VOICE

Lieutenant Yar to Commander Riker.

Riker touches his insignia.

RIKER

Come in, Lieutenant.

TASHA'S COM VOICE

Sir... this installation is big
enough to hold hundreds of people.
But all that's here now is empty
beds.

RIKER

Thank you, Lieutenant. Complete
your record scans, then report
back here.

GEORDI

Sir...

(bends)

Seems to be a storage area here...

Geordi has indeed discovered a storage area which he now opens. All three of them look, REACT.

14 ANGLE INCLUDING STORAGE AREA

which REVEALS enough Data-like arms, torso and head to startle us. It also startles our away team members. The head looks surprisingly lifelike! (There are more Data-like parts further back in the storage area, apparantly enough to make up a whole Data if put together.)

15 ANGLE ON DATA, RIKER, AND GEORDI

stunned.

15 CONTINUED:

RIKER

How many more Datas are there?

GEORDI

(looking around)

Looks like just these two...

(quickly apologetic)

I mean that and the real Data.

16 PANNING THE REAL DATA

and REVEALING the "DATA" HEAD as he bends to examine "himself."

17 INCLUDING RIKER AND GEORDI

as Data straightens up INTO THE SCENE with them.

DATA

Commander, can this be another me? Or perhaps my brother?

RIKER

I honestly don't know, Data.

DATA

He needs assembling.

RIKER

"He?" Data, we don't know that this could become "alive."

DATA

It is of great interest to me to find out, sir. I never believed it possible I might have a link with some form like my own.

RIKER

(beat; nods)

Understood. We'll take it back to the ship, of course.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

18 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE

Picard, Riker, Geordi, Tasha, Worf and Wesley at their regular positions. Tasha is receiving a subspace message, turns now toward Picard.

TASHA

Captain, I have a subspace reply to your request.

(turns to Picard)

Starfleet considers it vital we begin our ship's computer upgrade at Starbase Armus Nine on schedule.

PICARD

(annoyed)

Damn. Can anyone see why they've turned down a perfectly legitimate request to finish this investigation here?

WESLEY

(waits; then)

Sir... you asked for the kind of computer upgrade that only the Bynars can handle. And they're available only at this time.

Picard is at first annoyed at Wesley, then turns to Riker, snapping an order:

PICARD

Then, get us there on schedule, Number One.

(to Wesley; controlling self)

Thank you, Wesley. I'd completely forgotten that.

Wesley starts to say something more, but Riker quiets Wesley with a friendly warning gesture.

RIKER

Take us out of orbit, Mister La Forge.

19 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

We hold on our starship long enough to see it LEAVING orbit of Data's home planet.

PICARD (V. O.)

(continuing)

Captain's log, Stardate 41242.45.
Despite having only a few hours
in which to explore Data's home
planet...

20 INT. SICKBAY

Where Doctor Crusher and CHIEF ENGINEER ARGYLE work with Medical and Engineering Specialists at an advanced type operating table containing the various parts of the unassembled android which was discovered.

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

... we have discovered something
which may explain Data's
beginnings... if we can properly
assemble and communicate with what
we've found.

21 ANGLE EMPHASIZING DATA

An expression of hope and longing on his face as he watches the medical and engineering people at work on the unassembled android.

Doctor Beverly Crusher MOVES INTO SHOT with Data. She understands what the unassembled android means to him and her sympathy is obvious.

BEVERLY

Signal from the captain. They
need you at the debriefing.

Data nods as Chief Engineer Argyle MOVES INTO SHOT also, his sympathy obvious too.

DATA

I've been anxious to hear the
chief engineer's opinion, Mister
Argyle. Do you believe he can
be made to function?

21 CONTINUED:

ARGYLE

It appears to include all the components in your body. Not that we really understand your construction either...

BEVERLY

We'll have our top medical and engineering specialists working on its assembly, Mister Data.

The Doctor and Engineer appear to hesitate over something uncomfortable. Data nods at their previous statement, moves as if to leave.

ARGYLE

Just... one thing. Without disassembling you, of course, if we should need...

BEVERLY

... If we should need to compare this with the way... uh, with the way you're put together... ?

Data nods his answer, turns and EXITS.

22 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE (OPTICAL)

Outside, the passing stars reflect the fact our starship is at warp speed to make up for the delay at Data's planet. On the table, the child's drawing of a strange crystalline shape.

Present are Picard, Riker, and Geordi. As before, they will continue treating Data as a living person but at times they may try a bit too hard to make that feeling clear. For some, their first meeting with Data was many years ago and they have long thought of him simply as a fellow crewmember. Now, with the discovery of the disassembled android form, they've been suddenly reminded that their friend is also a machine. It brings their emotions into play because they're concerned for Data. How does he feel about this remarkable happening? What should they say to him -- what words should they now use or not use? Meanwhile, Picard is speaking to Riker:

22 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Bringing it up here was the right thing to do, of course, Number One.

Picard trails his words as Data ENTERS and seats himself. Despite themselves, everyone stiffens a bit.

PICARD

(continuing)

I was just saying, Data, that if it functions, it might answer a lot of questions for us.

Data feels the tension too. He's sharing their discomfort, merely nodding at the captain's comment. An uncomfortable beat, then:

RIKER

Does it appear to have all your... ah, parts?

DATA

Completely, sir.

GEORDI

(beat)

Will we know how to... to "turn it on?"

PICARD

All right, all right...

(stands; hesitates, then)

Legitimate questions about this need not be asked apologetically.

(to Data)

You're uncomfortable about aspects of your duplicate, Data... we're uncomfortable, too... and none of it for any logical reason. We know that you're as "alive" as any of the rest of us.

(to the others)

If you find it awkward to be reminded that Data is a "machine"... you might remember that the rest of you are merely a different variety of machine... in our case, electro-chemical in nature.

(MORE)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD (Cont'd)

(sits)

Let's begin handling this as we
would anything else.

A grin has come over Riker's face during this and he
TAPS his knuckles on the table approvingly. Geordi
looks up, SLAPS the table.

GEORDI

Agreed! Love that captain!

PICARD

(snaps)

My comments, Lieutenant, do not
require applause!

GEORDI

Yes, sir; sorry, sir.

But as the captain now turns toward the others, Riker
flashes Data a big wink. Data looks puzzled.

PICARD

Let's start with you, Data.

DATA

Well... a good starting point might
be, "Why was I given human form?"

GEORDI

To make it easy for humans to
relate to you. Had to be. But
your designer may have had
something else to prove also.

PICARD

(nods)

That human-shaped robots need not
be clumsy, limited things...

(turning)

You certainly operate as well as
we do, Data...

DATA

In some ways better, sir.

PICARD

Ah... yes! But the important
question now may be what happened
to the colonists.

22 CONTINUED: (3)

RIKER

Agreed.

(exhibits child's
drawing)

One of several exhibited in the
lab, by proud parents, no doubt.
This could be simply a child's
imagination. But then, several
children made similar drawings.

A COM SIGNAL, followed by:

BEVERLY'S COM VOICE

Doctor Crusher to Captain. At
this point, sir, we very much need
Mister Data's help.

Data is already coming to his feet as Picard gives him
a nod. As Data EXITS:

PICARD

He's on his way, Doctor.

23 INT. SICKBAY - DATA AND BEVERLY

standing well away from the medical and engineering
technicians, talking quietly. Data presses a finger
at the spot which on humans would be between the second
and third joint of his spinal column. He also checks
that none of the others are watching too closely.

DATA

There, Doctor. Press your fingers
there.

Beverly moves in and complies. Then a look of slight
surprise on her face.

24 INSERT - BEVERLY'S HAND

At the described spot on Data's back -- the fingers
pressing almost their full length through Data's
uniform fabric and into his back.

DATA (O. S.)

It operates somewhat like a
"switch," Doctor.

25 BACK TO SHOT

Beverly pressing further.

BEVERLY

And these small projections?

DATA

An android alarm clock, Doctor.

Is that amusing?

(sees it isn't)

It times how long I remain
unconscious.

Beverly sees someone APPROACHING, quickly drops her hand away. It is Chief Engineer Argyle who carries what we'll later see are "high temp heat molders" used to join together Data's "skin."

ARGYLE

Are you certain about us using
these heating devices, Data?

DATA

(nods)

I will feel nothing at all.

ARGYLE

(smiles)

Marvelous. It should all be a
lot simpler... once we can see how
your circuitry's connected.

Argyle MOVES OFF to discuss the molding devices with the Technicians. Beverly turns to Data who is watching her closely, expectantly. She nods:

BEVERLY

I'll mention it to no one. You
have my word.

DATA

If you had an off-switch
Doctor... would you not keep it
secret?

BEVERLY

I probably would.

26 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

traveling against a background of stars at warp speed.

27 INT. SICKBAY - WIDE ANGLE

Two Data-like forms on two operating tables next to each other. Neither of the Data look-alikes is moving, and the torso of each is all but hidden by the medical scanners over the tables. At one of the tables, the mixed engineering and medical team is gathered. Argyle and Beverly are reaching in, intent on what they are seeing and doing.

28 CLOSER ANGLE AT THE BUSY TABLE

We're unable to tell whether this is Data or the look-alike. Whichever, it is unmoving as Beverly and Argyle lean in to peer closely at what is under the sensor hood.

ARGYLE

Yes, notice the micro-circuitry here... and here.

29 CLOSE UNDER SENSOR HOOD (OPTICAL)

Revealing some of a Data-like torso in which a flap has been cut open TO REVEAL a bit of complex android body interior in which WE SEE low-level PURPLE AND GREEN FLICKERING. Argyle's hand is pointing a finger at something.

ARGYLE (O.S.)

Then another fibroid-like connection here.

30 ANGLE ON BEVERLY AND ARGYLE

As he withdraws his hand, looks to her for confirmation. Beverly nods, reaches for one of the heat molding instruments.

BEVERLY

Let's close up.

She reaches the heat molding instrument in under the sensor hood.

31 CLOSE UNDER SENSOR HOOD (SPECIAL EFFECTS)

as Beverly's hand presses the "skin" flap shut, applies the heat molder against it. A HISSING SOUND, SMOKE... and when the heat molder is removed, the "skin" flap has been sealed closed without a mark left.

32 INT. CORRIDOR

Picard and Riker striding toward Sickbay.

33 INT. SICKBAY - CLOSE ON DATA

A slightly groggy Data at one of the operating tables, finishes slipping into his uniform. Beverly moves INTO SHOT, looks at the other android form, speaking quietly.

BEVERLY

If I've done it right, he'll
switch on in a minute.

34 WIDER ANGLE

as Picard and Riker ENTER Sickbay. Chief Engineer Argyle is closest and gets a questioning look from Picard.

ARGYLE

It seemed to go well...
(indicates)
... thanks to a look inside Mister
Data. But there have been no
signs of consciousness, yet...

Picard and Riker CROSS TOWARD the operating table which holds the unmoving android Form. Data and Beverly CROSS IN too.

35 ANGLE INCLUDING ANDROID, PICARD AND RIKER

The Data-like Android. Picard and Riker STEP IN, look down at it.

RIKER

Certainly a perfect match for
Data, sir.

PICARD

(uncertain)
Do you think so, really?
(leans in; inspects)
I wonder which of them was made
first?

The LORE android opens its eyes.

35 CONTINUED:

LORE

He was. But they found him
imperfect and I was made to
replace him.

36 ANOTHER ANGLE

Data SURGING IN, surprised. Lore looks up at him, then
back to Picard. Its face twitches once -- a nervous
tic we'll see again.

LORE

You may call me Lore.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

37 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

traveling at warp eight against a star background.

38 INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

Picard and Data considering the Lore happening.

PICARD

I'm also a bit troubled by it describing you as "imperfect."

DATA

Human language gives me difficulties too, sir. "Imperfect" could mean I lack abilities that he possesses.

PICARD

I wonder. But the point of this is whether you and it have approximately the same capabilities.

DATA

We do, sir, and your referring to him as an "it"... suggests I too fit into the category of a "thing."

It is a fair shot at Picard and he recognizes it, nodding sincerely.

PICARD

I see your point, Commander. My sincere apologies.

DATA

Gladly accepted, sir. As for Lore's abilities, his use of syntax and grammar suggests he was given human memories similar to mine.

PICARD

You both have about equal physical strength and mental ability?

38 CONTINUED:

DATA

I believe so, sir.

PICARD

(troubled)

Which requires I now ask you... a very serious question. Since the two of you are closely related to each other...

DATA

The answer, sir, is that my loyalty is to you and Starfleet. Completely.

PICARD

(beat; small smile)

Thank you, Commander. I was certain of that.

39 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Lore is now wearing a plain-colored utility uniform without rank or insignia. It includes pocket-pouches and a turtle-necked kind of undergarment beneath. His only other difference from Data is in the fact he often smiles (perhaps with a suggestion of insincerity), plus his occasional facial "tic" or twitch. He is now seated in Wesley's position at the Helm next to Geordi who is pointing out various controls. Wesley, standing behind that position, and Riker at Command, seem a bit uncertain of this android. The other regulars watch approvingly.

GEORDI

And Helm control are here, with the ship's heading given in measurements, we call them "degrees"...

(indicating)

... with three hundred-sixty of them in a full circle this way.

LORE

... Then you say "mark"...

40 EMPHASIZING DATA (OPTICAL)

who has left the Ready Room and CROSSES IN, stopping to watch and listen.

40 CONTINUED:

GEORDI

On the nose!

WESLEY

Which separates it from another three hundred-sixty degree full circle like this... on a right angle to that one.

LORE

(demonstrating)

So by ordering a heading so many degrees this way, and so many this way, the ship can travel in any direction. All three dimensions.

RIKER

And the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle...

LORE

Is equal to the sum of the square of its other two...

(stops; covering)

... its two "somethings"... which I once heard but never understood.

Riker and Wesley exchange a look at this juncture. Data has stopped to watch this exchange with interest also. Now, he moves toward Lore with a friendly tone.

DATA

All of which you can learn more about, when the captain has approved your being on the bridge.

LORE

(surprise and contrition)

Have I committed an offense?

WESLEY

(pleasantly)

You'll find as I have that starships are loaded with rules which have to be learned.

But Wesley's expression also indicates he has begun to have some doubts about Lore -- especially now when he hears:

40 CONTINUED: (2)

LORE

You're very clever, Wesley.

(to Data)

I now have duties to perform.

Correct?

Except for Riker and Wesley, the rest of the bridge crew is enjoying Lore.

WORF

Were you ever this anxious to please, Data?

DATA

Never. I judge Lore to be superior in that desire as well.

LORE

Because I was designed to be so human, my brother, I enjoy pleasing humans.

GEORDI

"My brother." That has a nice sound, Data.

DATA

(to Lore)

And you consider it important to please humans?

LORE

It's not important?

DATA

(beat)

There are many things of importance... some more so than others.

Data indicates the turbolift, guides Lore in that direction. Lore seems eager to cooperate as they EXIT into the turbolift.

41 INT. TURBOLIFT

Data speaks toward the panel.

DATA

My quarters.

41 CONTINUED:

At which, the turbolift HUMS into life and powers downward.

LORE

Is my brother that important?
It knows you?

DATA

It can identify any of the crew.
(eyes Lore)
Just as I can identify flattery,
brother.

LORE

I used it only to please you, my
brother. Is that forbidden too?

DATA

It is best used when it reflects
genuine feelings.

LORE

Then, I used it properly with you.

41A INT. CORRIDOR

as Data and Lore ENTER from the turbolift, move down
the corridor.

DATA

(beat)

Do you realize Commander Riker's
hypotenuse question tricked you
into showing your knowledge was
much greater than you were
indicating?

LORE

He didn't seem that clever. I'll
be more careful.

DATA

You tend to underestimate humans,
my brother. The way you praised
young Wesley at the Helm, for
example...

LORE

A child!

41A CONTINUED:

DATA

He has a child's body, but we have found him to be much more than that.

LORE

Thank you for that information, too.

(beat; eyeing Data)

You do care about how I perform. I pledge to be worthy of your teaching, my brother.

Data looks at Lore for a long moment as they walk.

42 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS (OPTICAL)

A plain, almost unfurnished interior. The door from the corridor slides OPEN and Data ENTERS with Lore who takes a moment to examine the quarters. They include mainly a large computer, but little more.

LORE

How would they describe this? "Spartan?"

DATA

I have no need for places to sit or sleep. Do you?

LORE

Do I appear that weak?

During which, Data has gone to his computer controls, punched in an information request. The word DICTIONARY COMES ONTO the viewer. Data touches the computer controls again and CAMERA ZOOMS IN to show JEALOUSY defined as "INTOLERANCE OF RIVALRY, OR HOSTILITY TOWARD A RIVAL OR ONE BELIEVED TO HOLD AN ADVANTAGE." CAMERA ZOOMS BACK to an expressionless Data.

LORE

What information are you requesting?

DATA

Everything available on a Doctor Noonien Soong.

Information on Soong is COMING UP on the computer. Lore moves in as Data studies it as he continues talking with Lore who nods at the last statement.

42 CONTINUED:

LORE

Good old "Often-Wrong Soong."
(sees Data's puzzlement)
A joke, brother. Actually, he
was a genius by human standards.

DATA

(reading computer
viewer)

But had destroyed his own
reputation by making what seemed
wild promises about his positronic
brain design... almost all of which
failed.

LORE

Promises he later proved to be
true...

(taps his head)

Which made you and I possible.
Our beloved "father."

(touches Data's uniform)

Will I soon have a uniform like
that, my brother?

The casual mention of "father" and the fast switch to
uniforms bothers Data. His reply contains some
annoyance.

DATA

If you get one the way I did,
Lore, it means four years at the
Academy, another three as ensign,
ten or twelve on varied space duty
in the lieutenant grades...

LORE

(interrupting)

... A system designed to compensate
for limited human abilities.
But you, my brother, have begun
thinking as humans do. You and
I are completely different from
them. Are you truly satisfied
with the memories and knowledge
of just a few hundred human
colonists? Suppose it could
reflect thousands... or a
million... or the knowledge of
hundreds of millions of life forms
of every kind?

42 CONTINUED: (2)

They look at each other for a long beat. Lore's facial "tic" happens again. Then:

DATA

How?

Oddly enough, Lore's face twitches again at that, too.

LORE

We will discuss it in time.

DATA

And will we also discuss which of us was constructed first?

LORE

(surprised)

It would be foolish to underestimate you, my brother.

(nods)

Yes, I lied when I said you were made first. With good reason. Doctor Soong made me perfect on his first attempt. But he made me so completely human that the colonists became envious of me.

DATA

You lived with the colonists?

LORE

(nods)

Until they petitioned Soong to design a more comfortable, less perfect android. In other words, you, my brother.

Data and Lore sit looking at each other, until:

LORE

(continuing)

For example, haven't you noticed how easily I handle human speech? I use their contractions... such as isn't or can't. You say...

(mimicking formality)

... is not or cannot.

(MORE)

42 CONTINUED: (3)

LORE (Cont'd)

(half singing it)

I say tomato, you say tomahto;
I say potato, you say potahto...
(amused)

A very old joke, but you also
have trouble with their humor,
too. Am I right?

DATA

(considers it; nods)

Quite true. I keep trying to be
more human... and keep failing.

LORE

Do you realize, my brother, that
I can help you become more human?

DATA

And... do you realize... Lore,
that I am obligated to report all
of this to our ship's captain?

LORE

I assumed as much when I began
studying you.

(moves to computer)

May I use this to learn more of
this vessel and its customs?

DATA

(nods)

Use it also to describe for the
captain the time you spent with
the colonists. Including all
you know about what happened to
them.

LORE

I promise a report with great
detail and accuracy.

DATA

Thank you, Lore. And now, I
have duties to perform, unless
you need something more.

LORE

I have more than I dreamed
possible, my brother.

Data EXITS.

43 ANGLE ON LORE AT COMPUTER

beginning to punch in information requests more rapidly... then still more rapidly.

44 ANGLE ON VIEWER (OPTICAL)

providing starship information so rapidly now that the viewer IMAGES ARE A BLUR.

45 CLOSE ON LORE

He seems to absorb this flood of information easily.
He is very pleased with himself.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

46 EXT SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

still traveling at high warp speed.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, stardate 41242.5.
We now have the full story of the
micro-engineering achievement
which produced Data... and Lore...

47 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - SCIENCE STATION (OPTICAL)

Intent upon the Science Station Viewer are Picard,
Riker and Beverly. Geordi, Wesley, Tasha and Worf are
on duty at their bridge stations.

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

... and of the tragedy which
deprived humanity of the
remarkable minds behind that.
Our first clue was a child's
drawing which showed a great,
complex crystal shape...

48 CLOSE INSERT ON VIEWER (OPTICAL)

as needed. The IMAGE there IS LORE'S REPORT which
includes a look at the child's drawing..

PICARD (V.O.)

(continuing)

... confirmed by Lore's report to
be an unknown kind of creature,
capable of stripping all life from
an entire world... insatiably
ravenous for the life force found
in intelligent forms like
us... which Lore explains it stored
in new crystal patterns... for
purposes which are unknown.

49 BACK TO SHOT OF MAIN BRIDGE

TASHA

But how did Data escape that thing? Or Lore?

RIKER

Lore had been disassembled. He explains it as jealousy from the colonists. And Data wasn't yet "alive" at that time.

PICARD

Which explains why Data could be left outside in no danger from the creature. Whatever happened to the colonists, he would be found by any Starfleet team that responded to the signal being transmitted.

TASHA

By which Doctor Soong left proof behind that his experiment did work.

RIKER

Captain, how believable do you find that crystal thing?

PICARD

Having explored so little of just our galaxy, I find anything possible.

TASHA

(overlapping; puzzled
by readings)

Data, are you expecting Lore to come up here? He left your quarters some time ago.

49 CONTINUED:

DATA

To go... ?

TASHA

My Turbo-sensors say he went to
Deck One...

(turning to Worf)

Worf?

WORF

... where he examined some
microminiature work tools, then
some...

(squints at her Viewer)

... fine grind quadratanium... ?

DATA

Which is used in our construction.

(to Picard)

That particular compound is no
more suspicious, sir, than a human
looking for an antiseptic or an
ointment. Nevertheless, I should
check it out.

BEVERLY

You're watching everything he
does, Data? Is that the act of
a brother?

PICARD

The act of a Starfleet officer
obeying his captain, Doctor.Tasha watches Data stand and EXIT the bridge. Then
she turns toward Picard.

TASHA

Speaking strictly as security
chief, Captain... how much can you
trust Data now?

The idea shocks some of the bridge crew.

PICARD

I trust him completely,
Lieutenant!

(then softer)

But everyone should also realize
you just asked a necessary and
legitimate security question.

TASHA

Thank you for explaining that,
sir.

50 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS (OPTICAL)

where Lore has set out a champagne bottle from which he fills stemmed glasses. Then, he pours silver metal bits into one of the glasses, causing the champagne momentarily to FIZZ WITH A SHRILL SOUND. It has hardly settled down when the sliding door OPENS and Data ENTERS. Lore manages to slip the vial into a pouch in his utility uniform as he turns, smiling.

LORE

Lesson one in becoming more human,
my brother. You must observe all
human customs.

Data is surprised to see the champagne that Lore is pointing out.

DATA

Champagne?

LORE

An ancient ritual, still practiced
when they celebrate events of
importance.

(picking up undoctored
glass)

My brother... I toast our
discovery of each other. May it
fill our lives with new meaning.

Data is surprised at this ritual being suggested. But Lore is holding his glass in toast position and Data sees no reason not to indulge Lore in this. He picks up his own glass. Lore drinks the full glass; Data takes a couple of sips, sets the glass down and looks up.

DATA

I have some doubts about the value
of human... customs in this...my...
brother...

Data reels, begins slumping toward the floor as Lore watches, pleased.

LORE

And let us toast also...

DATA

(thickly)
Brother... help me...

50 CONTINUED:

LORE

... also Doctor Soong who gave me
the full richness of human needs
and ambitions... a perfect match
for my mind, my body...

Data is slumping prone now, becoming unable to fight
the effects of the compound given him. Lore squats
to keep his face near to him.

LORE

(continuing)

And let us toast also the great
Crystal Entity... with which I
learned to communicate. Before
Doctor Soong disassembled me, I
earned its gratitude by revealing
the way to the colonists.

Data is close to being completely unconscious now.

LORE

(continuing)

Can you image its gratitude when
I give it the life on this
vessel... and when my cleverness
lets it safely feed upon crowded
worlds in the galaxy... ?

Satisfied with what he sees now, Lore begins stripping
down to the turtleneck undershirt beneath his utility
uniform.

51 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Only Riker, Geordi, Wesley and Worf on duty now. Worf
gets a reading which causes him to look toward Riker.

WORF

This is strange, sir. I show
Mister Data transmitting on a
subspace channel.

RIKER

He's been doing considerable
research on Doctor Soong's
background... but let's be sure.

(turns)

Wesley, can you look in on him
discreetly?

51 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

(coming to his feet
instantly)

Yes sir!

bridge crew watches Wesley EXIT, enjoying his youthful eagerness.

52 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS

where Data's android form now wears the utility uniform, lying unconscious on the floor neatly parallel to a cabin wall. Wearing Data's uniform and rank insignia is Lore, now speaking into the computer.

LORE

... and upon arriving here you can identify me as the machine named "Data."

Any doubts as to the true identity of this Android are resolved at the sight of Lore's facial "tic" or twitch. WE HEAR the door CHIME.

LORE

(continuing)

End of message.

(turning computer off)

Come in, please.

Wesley ENTERS, stops in surprise at the sight of an android in utility uniform lying unconscious on the floor.

LORE

(continuing)

Glad you are here, Wesley. Lore suddenly attacked me and I had to turn him off.

WESLEY

Why did he do that, Data?

LORE

He discovered we have been using sensors to follow what he does.

Lore's facial twitch happens. Wesley REGISTERS SURPRISE at this happening.

52 CONTINUED:

LORE

(continuing)

I practiced his facial "tic."
Do I have it right?

WESLEY

I'd suggest you forget imitating
him...

(smiles)

... because if you had said "We've
been using the sensors," instead
if "we have," I might have
suspected you were Lore.

LORE

Yes. I do use language more
formally than Lore. Please
inform the captain I will come
up to the bridge...

(indicating unconscious
Form)

... and report on this.

WESLEY

Aye, sir.

CAMERA HOLDS ON LORE as Wesley EXITS. Then the facial
"tic" happens again and Lore turns to a cabinet and
extracts several hand devices, selects a heavy one.

53 CLOSE ON LORE

as he lifts the device to his face, touches a control
making it WHINE into power. Then another control which
causes it to BATHE THE FACIAL "TIC" AREA WITH
ELECTRONIC DISCHARGES WHICH APPEAR AS MINIATURE
"LIGHTNING BOLTS." He keeps at this "treatment" until
that part of his face BEGINS TO GLOW. Then he lowers
the device and as the GLOW FADES, then works his facial
muscles, testing them.

54 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

still traveling at high warp against a star background.

55 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Any angles on the Main Viewer SHOW the same high warp speed. The full bridge crew we saw earlier is on duty, Wesley back at the Helm position, Beverly seated in the Command Area again. Data hasn't returned, of course. Picard ENTERS from his Ready Room, reflecting annoyance as he speaks to Wesley.

PICARD

You're certain he said he'll be right up?

WESLEY

He indicated that, sir.

TASHA

Sensors show Data just now entering a turbolift, sir.

BEVERLY

(to Wesley)

Wes, tell me again how Data said he immobilized Lore.

WESLEY

He said he "turned him off," Mom...
(quick correction)
... uh, Doctor.

Lore, in Data's uniform, ENTERS by turbolift. Beverly eyes him, puzzled.

BEVERLY

(quietly)

Question, Mister Data... did you or did you not swear me to secrecy about your "off switch?"

LORE

(a slight hesitation)

A change of mind, Doctor. If I cannot trust the bridge crew, whom can I... ?

GEORDI

(interrupting; to Picard)

Sir! I'm picking up a "bogey" coming in on a five o'clock tangent.

55 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

Confirm! And so fast it makes
our warp eight look like we're
standing still!

TASHA

It's transmitting no ID signal,
Captain...

RIKER

Set Main Viewer on that tangent.

Main Viewer SWITCHES to the indicated REAR ANGLE,
changing the relative star movement accordingly. As
the view magnifies, WE CAN SEE A TINY BRIGHT SPOT WHICH
STEADILY GROWS LARGER.

PICARD

Shields up; go to Yellow Alert!
Transmit friendly greetings, all
languages, all frequencies.

RIKER

I can't believe anything
overtaking us this fast.

LORE

Beautiful, isn't it?

Wesley pivots, EXPRESSING SURPRISE at this. The rest
of the bridge crew is too busy at their readings and
controls to notice.

RIKER

I recognize it, Captain... it's
similar to that child's drawing...

WE CAN NOW SEE that the IMAGE (computer generated?)
IS SHAPED LIKE THE CRYSTAL COMPLEX.

BEVERLY

My God, it's big!

55A EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND CRYSTAL ENTITY (OPTICAL)

MOVING IN to float close to our starship, the
SHIMMERING CRYSTAL COMPLEXITY is very obvious. It
looks both very lovely and terribly powerful at the
same time.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

56 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND CRYSTAL ENTITY (OPTICAL)

The huge crystal form, two or three times the size of the starship, SLOWLY SPINNING, pictorially dominating the starship as it floats next to it.

57 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The complex crystal IMAGE on Main Viewer, still SHIMMERING as it SLOWLY TURNS. Watching it are Picard, Riker, Wesley, Tasha, Worf and "Lore."

TASHA

Still no ID transmitted, sir.
Also, no answer to our inquiries.

Geordi ENTERS hurriedly.

PICARD

Did you have a direct look at it?

GEORDI

It's like a snowflake crystal, sir. But much more complex... the entire electromagnetic spectrum seems to play about inside it...
(seeing Picard's look)
I haven't the slightest idea what it is, sir.

PICARD

Data, anything else Lore can tell us about it may be important. Can you control Lore enough to question him?

LORE

(rising; moving to
turbolift)
I'll have to examine him to know, sir.

Wesley, who has reacted uncomfortably to all this, comes to his feet.

57 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

Captain, recommend you do not
let...

(hesitates)

... him move around the ship alone.

PICARD

Ensign... !

LORE

(interrupting;
chuckling)

Wesley is only trying to show
himself alert and responsible,
sir.

(to Wesley)

Something to encourage. Come,
you can watch everything I do.

WESLEY

Not if I have a choice.

PICARD

That is quite enough, Ensign!
When addressing a senior
officer...

RIKER

(interrupting)

I've guided his training; I'm the
one at fault, sir.

(to Wesley)

You will show proper courtesy,
and I'm taking you down there to
make certain of it!

(to Picard)

With your approval, of course,
sir.

Picard gives a wave of approval to Riker and a look
of annoyance to Wesley.

58 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS

as last seen, with Data unconscious on the floor. The
door opens with Lore very cleverly managing to block
Riker's and Wesley's view as he takes a precautionary
look inside.

58 CONTINUED:

LORE
Careful of Lore...
(steps aside)
Good, he is still unconscious.

Wesley ENTERS with Riker.

LORE
(continuing; to Wesley)
The captain refused to listen to
you but you were right... Lore
can be extremely dangerous.

Lore has knelt with an arm going behind Data,
pretending to lift his head more upright to examine his
face. Then, even though unconscious, Data's face
twitches.

LORE
(continuing)
Notice? The same twitch, even
when he's unconscious... I suspect
that...

59 REVERSE CLOSE ANGLE

On Data's back where Lore's hand, hidden from view,
probes fingers toward the "switch" deep in Data's back.

LORE (O.S.)
... something went seriously wrong
during Lore's construction.

60 BACK TO SHOT

LORE
Stay back. We could have a
problem if he senses someone else
is near.
(bringing android
closer)
Lore, I have some questions to
ask you...

Data's eyes flicker open, rolling about.

61 REVERSE ANGLE

Again on Data's back -- Lore's fingers jabbing
viciously at the "switch" area.

62 BACK TO SHOT

Data's head begins to jerk about, then begins doing it more and more violently and he begins making PAINED SOUNDS -- then struggles as if to sit up, Lore pretending to hold him down.

LORE

Lore, it is Data. I have a few easy questions for you...

(pretending to control

Data)

He senses you!

(Data begins flailing)

I'm sorry, I can't control him if you stay.

Wesley is still uncertain, but Riker feels obliged to obey Picard's orders. He moves Wesley toward the door. Data is beginning to flail rather wildly.

LORE

Please! I'll record anything he says!

RIKER

And bring it to the bridge. Immediately!

The cabin door IS OPENED as Riker GUIDES Wesley OUT. Then the doors CLOSE. Then, Lore releases Data who falls back prone and unconscious again.

63 ANOTHER ANGLE

Lore still turned toward the door area, an ugly expression now on Lore's face.

LORE

And you want to be as stupid as them... ?

Lore suddenly KICKS HARD at Data's head, knocking it violently aside.

LORE

(continuing)

... dear brother!

He kicks again. Then again.

64 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

where Riker and Wesley are moving back to their positions.

PICARD

Well, Number One?

RIKER

Sir, it's Lore... with the same facial twitch we've all seen... lying unconscious exactly as Data described. But he became violent, apparently sensing that Wesley and I were present...

WESLEY

(interrupting)

Or is it Lore pretending to be Data, and faking it all?

PICARD

I asked for Commander Riker's report, "Acting Ensign" Crusher. And since it is now clear you are unable to function here within the limits of that appointment...

Wesley has come to his feet expecting the worst but all is now interrupted:

GEORDI

Captain!

Picard whirls at the sound of alarm in Geordi's voice... and sees that the huge crystal shape is rapidly MOVING IN toward the Enterprise. Reaching the deflector shields area, it is deflected back somewhat, but the smaller Enterprise is JOLTED MORE, SHAKING THE BRIDGE CREW ABOUT.

TASHA

Deflector shields holding, sir.

PICARD

(keeping voice calm)

Bring photon torpedoes to ready;
main phasers to ready...

A flurry of activity from Tasha and Worf. Wesley has quickly seated himself again, checking his controls as the immense crystal shape now COMES AT THE ENTERPRISE HARDER. The SHAKING this time is HEAVIER, and WE BEGIN TO HEAR the SOUND OF STRUCTURAL STRAIN. Beverly COMES OUT of a turbolift, concerned.

64 CONTINUED:

PICARD
(continuing: to Riker)
Go to Red Alert, please.

Riker hits a control and the ALERT SIGNAL begins HONKING, the RED LIGHTS begin FLASHING. And Lore, still in Data's uniform, COMES OUT of a turbolift on the run.

WORF
(raising voice over it)
Weapons now ready, sir!

LORE
No, Captain, let me talk to it...

PICARD
(interrupting)
Why didn't you say you could?

Interrupted by the CRYSTAL SHAPE COMING at the Enterprise still HARDER, with STRUCTURAL STRAIN HEARD MUCH LOUDER this time. The shaking makes Lore grab support as:

PICARD
(continuing)
Affirmative! Talk to it!

LORE
(whirling to Tasha)
Open hailing frequencies!
(as she hits switch)
Crystal Form, I identify myself as "Data," advising you to stop your attack. The humans here are powerful, capable of injuring or even destroying you. They can be changed only in other ways.

The crystal shape stops, begins to BACK OFF from the Enterprise, taking its earlier position.

GEORDI
Now I call that communicating.

WORF
But he mentioned "changing us,"
Captain. What does that mean?

Wesley looks back toward Worf thankfully.

64 CONTINUED: (2)

LORE

It has many meanings, as any human language dictionary could inform you.

(to Picard)

Suggest moving fast to confirm what I told it, sir. Permission to use the large transporter in Cargo Room Three? There I can beam out some living pattern, perhaps a large tree...

RIKER

Which you'll beam over next to the entity...

LORE

You are correct, Riker.

(to Picard)

Our ship's phasers will then blast and disintegrate it... proving we're dangerous.

PICARD

Make it so!

LORE

Sir?

Which brings a slight change of expression onto Picard's features.

PICARD

Do it!

Lore EXITS via turbolift. Wesley has come to his feet, protesting.

WESLEY

Sir, I know this may finish me as an acting ensign, but...

PICARD

Shut up, Wesley.

(turning)

Lieutenant Yar, pick a good security team, let me know what he does.

Yar turns to Worf, silently requesting him to handle it. Worf gives a brisk "Aye, sir," EXITING via turbolift.

Beverly has been watching Picard, troubled.

64 CONTINUED: (3)

BEVERLY

"Shut up, Wesley?"

PICARD

Stay out of this, Madam...

WESLEY

Since I am finished here, Captain,
may I point out... ?

BEVERLY

Shut up, Wesley!

WESLEY

(still to Picard)

... that what I've said would have
been listened to if it came from
an adult officer. Request
permission to return to my
quarters, sir.

PICARD

Granted, if you take your mother
with you.

BEVERLY

(flaring)

You're putting me off the bridge?

PICARD

I'm asking that you keep an eye
on your son during this, Doctor.

WESLEY

Please, Mom. Let's go.

A hesitant Beverly lets Wesley accompany her to a
turbolift.

65 INT. CORRIDOR

where Worf and two Security People hurry toward a
turbolift door there. It OPENS... REVEALING Lore
waiting there. Worf REACTS, quickly steps toward Lore.

LORE

Emergency close!

Causing the turbolift doors to CLOSE in the face of
the Security People.

66 INT. TURBOLIFT

Worf, alone with Lore in the small cab, whirls toward the android.

LORE

(continuing)

Now show me your warrior
fierceness.

Worf draws his small phaser fast... and Lore chops it from his hand even faster. Worf pivots, his fist striking powerfully at Lore who moves very fast, deflects it and chops again at Worf, bringing a look of surprised pain to Worf's face. Like a windmill, Lore chops at Worf with one hand, then the next, then again with the other -- and WE SEE Worf's knees beginning to buckle.

67 OMITTED

68 INT. DATA'S QUARTERS

with Data crumpled in a heap on the floor. No blood or bruises appear on an android, but the epidermal covering of his head is damaged, with pieces of it hanging down.

WE HEAR a CHIME. Then a wait, then a MECHANICAL SOUND AT THE DOOR which slides open TO REVEAL Wesley there with Beverly who now has a major phaser on her belt.

BEVERLY

I'll look, but I should never
have let you talk me into this...

But Wesley presses ON INTO the room... then REACTS at what he finds.

WESLEY

It's Data, Mom. He's been hurt!

Beverly COMES IN too, kneels at the utility-clad Form there. Then the facial twitch happens. Beverly looks up at Wesley, alarmed.

WESLEY

It's Data! For once will you
trust me about something?

Beverly looks questioningly at the unconscious android form.

68 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

(continuing)

You must know how much Starfleet means to me. But I'm finished unless you can help me.

(touches her arm)

I heard you know how to turn them on. Please?

Beverly pulls away, starts to rise.

BEVERLY

No, this is very serious...

WESLEY

I know, Mom. So tell me again to "shut up, Wesley," and I will.

BEVERLY

You're being very unfair, Wesley...

But Beverly still reaches to Data's back... then Data opens his eyes and sits upright, examining Beverly and Wesley.

WESLEY

Data, the Crystal Thing is outside close to the ship... and Lore is loose somewhere inside.

Data comes to his feet. A loose piece of epidermal covering FLUTTERS to the floor, causing him to run a hand over his facial damage.

BEVERLY

How badly are you hurt... Data?

DATA

I will function sufficiently to stop Lore, Doctor...

Wesley is already OUT the door. Beverly and Data hurry to FOLLOW.

69 INT. CORRIDOR TO CARGO THREE

Data, Beverly, Wesley hurry to a small door marked "TRANSPORTER TECHNICIANS ONLY."

69 CONTINUED:

DATA

Whatever happens, it is important
that you two stay away from him.
Do not try to help me.

Both Wesley and Beverly nod agreement. Data tries the door, it doesn't budge. Data gives an "I thought so" nod, turns to a panel next to the door, punches in a code... then easily pushes the door open.

70 INT. CARGO THREE TRANSPORTER ROOM

The small door has led to the Transporter Control Area. Beyond past the large Transporter Platform are large cargo doors used for bringing bulky cargo items in and out. As Data, Beverly and Wesley ENTER, they stop, freeze as they hear:

LORE (O.S.)

Good, you understand perfectly
so far. Next, I'll signal I'm
about to transport something
out...

Data is now moving in quietly, motioning Doctor and son to stay back.

71 ANOTHER ANGLE

Lore standing at a computer where Data can see him now.

LORE

(continuing)

... at which time the deflector
shields will turn off for a
moment, and if you move in at
that time...

Lore suddenly stops in mid-sentence, turns and looks directly at Data. Then, as if sensing someone else there, Lore steps unexpectedly to one side... sees Wesley and Beverly there.

DATA

How sad, dear brother. You have
made me wish I were an only child.

71 CONTINUED:

LORE

(raising phaser)

Then why this marvelous gift, my brother? The troublesome little man-child.

(circling; to Wesley)

Are you prepared for the kind of death you've earned, little man?

This is too much for Beverly. She draws her major phaser, aiming it at Lore.

BEVERLY

If you take one step toward my son...

Startled, Data takes his eyes off Lore for just a fraction of a second... enough for Lore to send Data spinning to where he blocks Beverly's aim. Wesley tries to move in to help but Lore has already chopped again at Data, spinning into Beverly, easily taking the phaser away from her. He makes a quick setting on it. Data is coming to his feet to attack Lore.

LORE

Ah, motherhood!

(aims phaser at Wesley)

Back off or I'll turn your little man into a torch!

Frightened for Wesley, Beverly backs off. Lore makes another quick setting, holding phaser on Wesley.

LORE

I promise him exquisite pain unless you obey me too, dear brother.

BEVERLY

Move away, Data, please!

Data backs off a few steps.

LORE

Do you see now the advantages of being completely human?

(to Beverly)

It includes kindness. I give you your life, Doctor. Go, quickly and I may not injure your son at all.

71 CONTINUED: (2)

Beverly is willing to die if it helps her son. But leaving him this way?

DATA

I will stay with Wesley, Doctor.

LORE

Go! Or he'll be shrieking on the count of five. One... two...

72 ANOTHER ANGLE (OPTICAL & SPECIAL EFFECTS)

Beverly panics, hurries toward the small door where they had entered.

BEVERLY

I'll bring help, Wesley.

LORE

Thank you for my human quality,
Doctor Soong.

(aiming phaser)

Now a small payment for your son's
misdeeds.

LORE PHASERS BEVERLY, a BEAM which strikes her left arm in a FLASH OF FIRE.

WESLEY

Mom!

Wesley turns, rushing at Lore... but Data reaches out, stopping Wesley and holding him immobile. Meanwhile, the PHASER BEAM has IGNITED Beverly's MEDICAL COAT which she must now tear away one-handed, opening the door the same way. As the EXITS, the door CLOSES but with Lore distracted with the door, Data leaps at him fast, shoving Wesley tumbling to safety. It is a vicious android battle, both using incredible speed and power. It SURGES OUT into the open room, toward the big transporter platform.

73

thru OMITTED

74

75 ANGLE ON WESLEY

coming to his feet, alert to anything he can do to help Data. He moves toward the conflict.

75 CONTINUED:

DATA

Stay back, Wesley! Help me some
other way!

Wesley backs off. Data and Lore in action that now
SURGES toward the transporter platform. Wesley,
desperately seeking some way to help, sees their
direction of movement... turns quickly toward the
transporter controls. Can this be it?

76 EMPHASIZING DATA AND LORE

at the edge of the transporter platform. Data now sees
where Wesley is standing -- he pretends to stumble,
faking Lore in over him -- then surges up to his full
height, tossing Lore onto the platform.

DATA

Wesley... now!

77 ANGLE ON WESLEY

already moving the controls.

78 ANGLE EMPHASIZING LORE (OPTICAL)

as he is beamed out into oblivion.

79 ANGLE ON SMALL DOOR

as it is FORCED OPEN, Picard, Riker, Tasha, with an
injured Beverly RUSH IN. Wesley rushes to his mother,
worried about her injuries.

WESLEY

(to Picard)

Lore's gone, sir, permanently!

PICARD

(to Beverly)

Now that your son's safe, Doctor,
report immediately to Sickbay.

Riker has noticed something happening on the computer
view screen.

RIKER

Captain... The crystal thing has
begun to move away.

79A EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE AND CRYSTAL SHAPE (OPTICAL)

as the crystal thing MOVES AWAY from the starship,
accelerating, DISAPPEARING quickly into the distance.

79B INT. CARGO THREE TRANSPORTER ROOM

as a figure, clothed like Lore, MOVES IN toward the
Captain. As Picard looks him over, its face twitches.

PICARD

(continuing; beat;
eyeing him)

Data, get rid of that damned
twitch! And put on a correct
uniform.

79B CONTINUED:

DATA

Yes, Captain.

Data EXITS.

PICARD

And Ensign Crusher...

(as Wesley HURRIES IN)

... are you able to return to duty now?

WESLEY

Yes, sir!

PICARD

Then do so! Let the bridge know all is well down here.

Wesley HURRIES OFF too. Riker turns from another look at at the view screen.

RIKER

It's gone, sir. Without Lore, it had no way to reach us.

PICARD

(nods)

And we're overdue for our computer refit.

(beat)

Number One, have you ever considered whether Data is more human, or less human than we want?

RIKER

(grins)

I only wish we were as well balanced, sir.

PICARD

(beat; nods)

Agreed!

The two of them begin to EXIT.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE
THE END