

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Family"
#40274-178

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FINAL DRAFT

AUGUST 2, 1990

STAR TREK: "Family" - 8/2/90 - CAST

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Family"

CAST

PICARD	ROBERT PICARD
RIKER	MARIE PICARD
	RENE PICARD
BEVERLY	LOUIS
TROI	
GEORDI	JACK CRUSHER
WORF	SERGEY ROZHENKO
WESLEY	HELENA ROZHENKO
GUINAN	FEMALE COM VOICE
O'BRIEN	
COMPUTER VOICE	

Non-Speaking

2 STARFLEET TECHNICIANS
1 N.D. CREWMEMBER
SUPERNUMERARIES

STAR TREK: "Family" - 8/2/90 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Family"

SETS

INTERIORS

EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE

USS ENTERPRISE

CORRIDOR

SPACEDOCK

TRANSPORTER ROOM

TEN-FORWARD

LABARRE (MATTE)

HOLODECK

BEVERLY'S OFFICE

PICARD HOME

BEVERLY'S QUARTERS

VINYARD

PICARD'S QUARTERS

CEMETARY

RIKER'S QUARTERS

WORF'S QUARTERS

PICARD HOME

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Family"
TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - SPACEDOCK IN ORBIT (OPTICAL)

The Spacedock in orbit around Earth. As Picard records his log, there is a subtle hint of finality in his voice and tone... a feeling that he's wrapping things up here.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's Log: Stardate 44009.3

2 EXT. SPACEDOCK - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

Revealing the Enterprise being worked on at the dock.

PICARD (V.O.)
(continuing)
The Enterprise remains docked at McKinley Station, undergoing a major overhaul and refit. I am confident that the ship... and crew... will soon be ready to return to service.

CUT TO:

3 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE (OPTICAL)

RIKER is looking over a lot of reports and padds on the desk. The door CHIMES.

RIKER
Come in.

The door OPENS and WORF ENTERS.

WORF
Phaser upgrades are complete,
Commander...

RIKER
Already?

3 CONTINUED:

WORF

(acknowledges)

We have begun power supply calibration.

RIKER

You're just too damned efficient, Lieutenant...

WORF

Thank-you, sir.

RIKER

At this rate, the refit will be done a week early and you and I might even be forced to get in some R&R before we leave Earth...

Worf doesn't crack a smile... Riker gives it up..

RIKER

Proceed with the testing, Mister Worf...

(hands him a padd)

Here's the final schedule for shore leave and personnel transfers. By the way, I'm looking forward to meeting your parents.

WORF

Sir?

RIKER

They're on the visitors' list...

Worf looks over the padd, finds their names... it's a surprise and not a pleasant one.

RIKER

(continuing)

You didn't know?

WORF

No, sir.

(beat as he struggles with answer)

It is... inappropriate for a Klingon to receive his family while on duty. As humans, my parents do not understand.

3 CONTINUED: (2)

Riker looks at him, frowns, c'mon loosen up...

RIKER

Well, I'm not sure I would either,
Worf... since this isn't a Klingon
ship. If you don't want to see
your parents, that's your
business... but we don't get to
Earth all that often.

Worf frowns. Trying to help --

RIKER

I'm sure we can arrange for you
to have more off-duty time while
they're here.

WORF

(too quickly)
No... sir. That will not be
necessary.

RIKER

(a beat)
Dismissed.

Worf turns to leave... Riker has a second thought...
on a more personal level --

RIKER

Worf, if you're worried they might
learn about what happened on the
Klingon planet...

WORF

Not at all, sir. I have already
informed them in correspondence
of my discommendation. I do not
believe any human can truly
understand my dishonor.

Worf EXITS without waiting for a reaction. A beat as
Riker thinks about it... and

CUT TO:

4 INT. PICARD'S QUARTERS

PICARD, in civilian clothes, is putting a few
belongings into a small rucksack.

4 CONTINUED:

The bandages have been removed from his face and he looks fully recovered from his Borg experience. TROI is with him.

PICARD
(responding)
France. Labarre, my home
village...

TROI
Really...

PICARD
First time in almost twenty
years...

TROI
(beat)
Interesting.

Picard recognizes a therapeutic reaction when he hears it...

PICARD
(Don't...)
Counselor...

TROI
I just find it interesting...
that Captain Jean-Luc Picard...
the man who couldn't be pried out
of his seat for a vacation for
three years...

PICARD
It's Earth... it's home... do I
need another reason?

TROI
I don't know. What do you think?

PICARD
Counselor, your help has been
invaluable during my recovery.
I'm better... the injuries have
healed...

TROI
Those you can see in a mirror.

4 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

(insisting)

The nightmares have ended. All
I need is a little time to myself.

TROI

I agree. In fact, I'm delighted
you're going. But perhaps the
choice of where you're going could
stand some scrutiny.

PICARD

If you wish to believe my going
home is a direct result of
being held captive by the Borg,
be my guest...

TROI

Is that what you believe?

PICARD

I hate it when you do that.

TROI

(with great compassion)

Captain, you do need time. You
cannot achieve complete recovery
so quickly. Don't expect so much
of yourself. It is perfectly
normal, after what you've been
through, to spend a great deal
of time trying to find... yourself
again.

PICARD

(softly, finishing the
thought)

And what better place to find
oneself than on the streets of
one's home village.

TROI

(nods, smiles)

Interesting.

(beat)

Have a good trip.

4 CONTINUED: (3)

She EXITS. Picard picks up his rucksack and moves for the door. He pauses on the threshold and takes a long look around the cabin... could this be a last look?
Picard EXITS.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

5 EXT. SPACE DOCK (OPTICAL)

The Enterprise still docked.

CUT TO:

6 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

O'BRIEN is working on the console as Worf ENTERS.

WORF

They still have not signalled?

O'BRIEN

Nossir.

WORF

(growls)

My mother is never on time. It
is so... human... of her.

O'BRIEN

(grins)

Well, you know women.

And there's a moment as Worf stares at him a beat...
and this throwaway comment hangs in the air between
the odd couple of O'Brien and Worf who may each know
women but unlikely in the same way.

WORF

I am not looking forward to
this... I wish they would come
so it would begin and end sooner.

O'BRIEN

I know what you mean, Lieutenant.

WORF

Unlikely.

O'BRIEN

Last time my old man came on board
I found him chasing Nurse Stanton
around a biobed in Sickbay...

6 CONTINUED:

WORF

I am not concerned about my father chasing nurses.

O'BRIEN

Yeah, but it's always something with parents, isn't it, sir...

FEMALE COM VOICE

Enterprise, this is Earth Station Bobruisk. Two to transport aboard.

O'Brien glances at Worf...

WORF

What are you waiting for?

O'BRIEN

Acknowledged, Bobruisk. Energizing.

SERGEY & HELENA ROZHENKO MATERIALIZE on the platform. They are of Russian descent, and carry themselves with pride and dignity. Sergey is compact, barrel-chested... a retired Starfleet Chief growing old gracefully. His wife is short of stature and yet there is an underlying strength to her which belies her slight appearance.

7 ANGLE - WORF

sees them... and in this moment of reunion, there is nothing short of love in his face. Even he cannot suppress it... and there is even, god forbid, a smile that grows on his face.

WORF

Hello, mother... father.

They come off the platform and smile at the sight of Worf.

HELENA

Worf!...

Helena beams and unabashedly hugs him and reaches up to kiss his cheek... Worf stiffens, glances at O'Brien out of the corner of his eye... reluctantly leans down to accept the kiss...

7 CONTINUED:

SERGEY

You look good, son.

They shake hands.

SERGEY

Put on a little weight, didn't you?

WORF

No.

SERGEY

Sure you have. Looks good on you.
Still working out with those
Holodeck monsters I bet...

WORF

Let me take you to...

Sergey is already moving to O'Brien... friendly,
outgoing --

SERGEY

Always good to meet another chief
petty officer.

(sticks out hand)

Sergey Rozhenko, formerly of the
U.S.S. Intrepid.

O'BRIEN

Miles Edward O'Brien. Good to
meet you, sir.

SERGEY

Don't call me "sir", I used to
work for a living.

They both laugh at the old joke. Worf is getting
increasingly uncomfortable.

HELENA

He's joking. The proudest day
of his life was when Worf earned
his commission.

SERGEY

Chief, can you imagine an old
enlisted man like me raising a
boy to be an officer?

He laughs with O'Brien... Worf wants out.

7 CONTINUED: (2)

WORF

I'll show you to your quarters.

HELENA

Come on, Sergey... there's plenty
of time to chat with the "boys"...

(to Worf)

Your father's so been looking
forward to this...

She intimately takes Worf's arm in hers... he stiffens.
Exiting...

SERGEY

I want to see everything... the
whole ship... I've got all the
specs and diagrams of the Galaxy-
class starships at home...

WORF

We are in the midst of repair.
I will not be able to give you
a complete tour.

SERGEY

I'm sure if you asked the
Captain...

HELENA

You agreed not to embarrass him,
Sergey. Besides, we came to see
Worf. Not the ship.

SERGEY

Fine. Fine. Okay.

He leads the way out the door. The last thing we hear...

HELENA

(trying to be tactful)
Your hair's a little longer, isn't
it, Worf?

CUT TO:

8 OMITTED

9 EXT. PATH NEAR HOUSE - DAY

Picard walking up a dirt path, carrying the rucksack seen earlier as he passes by a vineyard. He is looking around, drinking in the sights, sounds, and smells of his home. He reacts as he hears movement in the adjoining field... he stops, looks... the sound stops too... he starts up again and the movement follows him. He cocks an eyebrow moves to the field...

PICARD

All right... whoever's there...
I can hear you...

The face of a seven year old boy (RENE) reveals itself from his hiding place. It is a face of pure innocence and freckles. A 24th century Opie.

PICARD

Good lord, a highwayman.

RENE

A what?

PICARD

A highwayman is a robber who attacks travelers, but to my knowledge, none have been reported in this vicinity for centuries.

RENE

I'm not a robber.

PICARD

I am much relieved, sir.

Walking together...

RENE

I know who you are.

PICARD

Then, you have the advantage.

9 CONTINUED:

RENE

You're my nephew, Jean-Luc. From the starship Enterprise.

PICARD

Then you must be my uncle Rene.

RENE

(laughs)

I'm not your uncle. It's the other way around.

PICARD

Too bad. I rather enjoyed the idea.

RENE

Why have you been away so long?

PICARD

Well, Starfleet keeps me very busy...

RENE

Father says you don't like it here.

PICARD

I'm sure you misunderstood...

RENE

No I didn't. He said so.

PICARD

Ah well, Robert and I... we...

(beat)

Perhaps it's time to change all that.

RENE

You don't seem so... so arrogant... arrogant... you know...

PICARD

Arrogant...

RENE

Yeah... arrogant... you don't seem that way to me. What does it mean anyway -- "arrogant son-of-a... "

9 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD
(overlapping)
Let's talk about it later, shall
we?

10 EXT. PICARD HOME - DAY

The house sits adjacent to a small vineyard. The house itself is made of stone and wood, and there is a noticeable lack of 24th-century design or devices in the building and its surroundings. There is an aged historical plaque on the side of the house. The setting is rural, and looks much like a farmhouse in the French countryside would have looked in the 19th century. Rene runs down the path, ahead of Picard...

RENE

He's here! He's here!

After a few seconds, MARIE PICARD comes out of the house. She is in her mid-forties, and is wearing a simple dress. Marie is very happy to see Picard and she quickly goes out to him.

MARIE

Jean-Luc!

PICARD

Marie...

She gives him a warm hug and kiss and then looks him over.

MARIE

It's so good to finally meet you.
How are you feeling?

PICARD

(nods)
Just fine.

That exchange comes with the slightest tension.

MARIE

Well, Robert and I are delighted
you've come to stay with us.

PICARD

I was just thinking that I really
might be imposing... I could
easily stay in the village...

MARIE

I won't hear of it. It's your
home. It will always be your
home.

Picard can't help glancing around at the house and grounds.

10 CONTINUED:

MARIE

Do things look that different?

PICARD

No. In fact, the amazing thing is how little it has changed. Everything is exactly as I remember it... the hills, the house, every rock and stone looks untouched by the passage of time.

MARIE

Robert's worked hard to keep it that way. It's very important to him.

PICARD

As it was to our father.

RENE

Someday I'm going to be a starship captain!

PICARD

(grins)

Even you, Uncle... you look so much like Robert when he was your age...

(and this is more to himself)

... I half expect to see myself as a boy run out the door to play...

MARIE

Robert can't wait to see you...

PICARD

(dry)

Yes. Rene already told me.

Marie reacts, glances at the boy worried what he might have said, but Picard makes it okay with an understanding grin...

PICARD

Where is he?

11 EXT. VINEYARD

ROBERT is between two rows of grapevines, on his hands and knees. He is about six to eight years older than Picard, and manages to appear dignified even as he scrabbles about in the dirt working on the vines with his hands. We can see that he devotes the same careful attention to detail in his work as his brother does on the bridge of his ship. Picard walks down the row and stops in front of him. Robert looks up and sees Picard, but remains on his knees. There is no animosity on his face, but no welcome either, just recognition.

ROBERT

So, you've arrived all right.
(beat)
Welcome home, Captain.

Picard tries very hard to be warm and brotherly and anything but arrogant.

PICARD

Hello, Robert.

ROBERT

Did you shuttle out from the village?

PICARD

No... I decided to walk.
(long beat)
I met Marie and Rene.

ROBERT

Good... good.

They've run out of things to say very quickly. Picard tries his best to take a forward step.

PICARD

It's... good to see you.

But it comes out as just another pleasantry.

ROBERT

(inclines head toward house)
Make yourself at home. You know where everything is... we eat at eight. I'll be in in a minute. I've got to save this poor, sick vine.

11 CONTINUED:

Picard nods as Robert returns to work and after a beat,
Picard heads back to the house.

12 NEW ANGLE (MATTE SHOT)

In the f.g. are fields of vineyards, punctuated by
small farmhouses that reflect the architecture and
design of the 19th century rather than that of the 24th
century. On the horizon is the actual village of
Labarre, a city whose roots stretch back for over a
millennium. There is a feeling of old and new living
side by side... the village itself is quite modern. On
Picard and Robert as the distance between them
grows...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

13 INT. BEVERLY'S QUARTERS

BEVERLY is getting a couple of drinks from the food replicator. Troi is sitting on the couch.

BEVERLY

Will you have a chance to get down to the surface?

TROI

Maybe. Will and I have been talking about going back to Angel Falls...

BEVERLY

Oh, Venezuela's beautiful...

Beverly is about to sit down when the door CHIMES.

BEVERLY

Come in.

A N.D. CREWMAN ENTERS carrying a large, old box.

BEVERLY

(continuing)

Oh great! I'll take that.

She takes the box and the crewman EXITS. Beverly puts the box on the table and Troi comes over.

TROI

Something from home?

BEVERLY

(nods and opens the box)

I left it here in storage a long time ago. After Jack died.

(takes out an old book)

Odds and ends mostly...

Troi picks up the book and reads the title with puzzlement.

TROI

"How to Advance Your Career through Marriage"?

13 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

(smiling at memory)

It's a joke. He sent me that while I was still in medical school. It was his way of proposing.

They share a small laugh. Beverly continues to dig through the box, taking out various small mementos and items. She takes out an old-style computer disk, reads the label, reacts... and sits down.

TROI

What is it?

BEVERLY

It's for Wesley... from Jack.

(beat)

I'd forgotten about it... maybe I was trying to forget about it.

TROI

Why?

BEVERLY

Jack recorded a holographic message to Wesley just after he was born... it was a gift for when he grew up. Jack was going to make more of them...

(beat)

He never got the chance.

TROI

Are you afraid of what it might say?

BEVERLY

No... I just don't know if it will do more harm than good. He's managed to finally deal with his father's death, but...

Troi's attitude is gentle, soothing... she's slipped easily from her role as friend into that of Counselor.

TROI

Wesley has a lot of questions about his father. Things that you can't answer for him.

(MORE)

13 CONTINUED: (2)

TROI (Cont'd)

Perhaps seeing this will help him
to understand the kind of man that
Jack Crusher really was.

PUSH IN on disk as Beverly thinks this over...

CUT TO:

14 INT. ENGINEERING

Several panels are open, some boxes sitting around...
this is a ship undergoing a major refit and it's a bit
of a mess right now. Worf stands uncomfortably as his
father tells a story to an enthralled Geordi...

SERGEY

... So we walk into the school...
and we don't know what to expect.
Is Worf hurt? Is he in some kind
of trouble? The door opens and
we see our little seven-year-
old... sitting in a chair... and
glaring across the room at five
teenage boys.

(beat)

All of them with bloody noses.

Geordi laughs.

HELENA

The principal looked up and said,
"Tell me he's an only child."

WORF

The older boys were...
disrespectful.

SERGEY

And that was only the beginning...
when he was ten...

WORF

We've taken enough of the
Commander's time...

GEORDI

No... no... no, we're way ahead
of schedule...

14 CONTINUED:

SERGEY

I just wanted to tell him the story about...

HELENA

Enough stories, Sergey...

SERGEY

Okay. Okay. Enough stories... Well, then how about giving me a look at the new engine core ... I used to be a warp field specialist on the old Excelsior class.

GEORDI

I'd be delighted...

HELENA

You two go ahead...

(to Worf)

Your father will be here for hours, why don't you show me the arboretum?

WORF

Commander La Forge, call me when you... when my father wishes to leave.

SERGEY

I can find my own way... Turbolift Four is just over there, right?

(to Geordi moving away)

I have all the specs and designs at home...

Worf and his mother EXIT...

15 ANGLE - SERGEY AND GEORDI

Sergey has noticed that Worf & Helena have left.

GEORDI

The theta-matrix composer makes the recrystallization process ten times more efficient than on the Excelsior-class ships.

15 CONTINUED:

SERGEY

Amazing.

(beat)

Commander, if you have a couple of minutes there's something else I'd like to ask you.

GEORDI

Sure, Chief.

SERGEY

It's about... my son.

CUT TO:

16 EXT. PICARD HOME/VINEYARD - NIGHT (OPTICAL)

Lights are on inside the house.

17 INT. PICARD DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The interior of the home should reflect the same preference for an earlier time and way of life as does the exterior. A single computer terminal is in evidence, along with one or two other hi-tech devices, but they should accent the fact that the house is a warm French country home from the early 19th century and just happens to exist in the 24th century. The small dining area is adjacent to the living room and there are doors to suggest other rooms. The dinner table has been set for a meal of onion soup, baguette, and wine. Picard, Robert, Marie, and Rene are just sitting down. The tone is deceptively cordial.

MARIE

And your friend Louis wants you to contact him as soon as you're settled...

Picard smiles at the name and the memories it brings...

PICARD

Is he still trying to raise the ocean floor?

MARIE

Oh yes, he's very excited about it... he's been made a supervisor now... as his wife is constantly reminding anyone who'll listen...

17 CONTINUED:

ROBERT

I don't see why Earth needs
another subcontinent.

PICARD

Oh, it's really quite exciting
actually... when you understand
the potential of exploring a new
world on our own planet...

ROBERT

(low key)

Well, I guess I just don't
understand that potential.

And Marie jumps in to move beyond the early tension...

MARIE

The Mayor wants to have a
parade...

PICARD

A parade... ?

MARIE

And give you the keys to the
city...

PICARD

No... no...

ROBERT

A little arm-twisting... a little
coaxing, that's what he wants,
Marie.

PICARD

(a little sharp)

No. I don't. I just want... to
rest and spend some time with my
family.

MARIE

I've already warned the Mayor not
to make any plans until we
talked.

PICARD

Thank-you.

Robert pours the wine.

17 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD
(sampling the wine)
Is this the forty-six?

ROBERT
Forty-seven.
(trying to joke)
Drinking all that artificial --
what do they call it? Synthehol?
-- It's spoiled you. You used
to have a very discriminating
palate.

But the remark slightly nettles Picard nevertheless.
He tries not to sound defensive, but it still comes
out that way.

PICARD
Not at all. I believe synthehol
heightens one's appreciation for
the genuine article.

They eat.

ROBERT
Delicious, Marie.

PICARD
Leave it to Robert to find the
best chef in France and marry
her...

ROBERT
Cooking is becoming a lost art...
thanks to your technology...

MARIE
Robert and I have had more than
a few discussions about getting
a replicator in the house...

PICARD
I can remember the same
"discussions" between mother and
father...

ROBERT
He understood the threat of losing
what is precious to us.

17 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD

I don't see that you have to lose anything... just by adding a convenience...

ROBERT

You wouldn't. I say life has become too convenient.

MARIE

And this sounds like a very old argument.

ROBERT

It is.

MARIE

(tongue-in-cheek)

Fortunately, Jean-Luc, being the "greatest chef" in France, I enjoy traditional cooking... so I don't mind losing the replicator argument... especially since I used it to get a sonic shower.

PICARD

I was astonished to see it here...

ROBERT

I don't use it. Never will.

Rene's been bursting to say something... and in a routine non-sequitur for a child --

RENE

I wrote a report on starships for school.

And Robert is aware of this... and isn't at all happy about it...

MARIE

And he won a ribbon for it, isn't that right, Rene...

RENE

The teacher said it was one of the best he'd ever heard

17 CONTINUED: (4)

PICARD

Good for you, uncle. You know what? I wrote a report about starships when I was about your age...

RENE

Did you win a ribbon too?

PICARD

I don't recall...

And now with the first true hostility in his eyes --

ROBERT

Your modesty is unconvincing, Captain. Of course you won the ribbon. You always did...

And Picard and Robert lock eyes as the boy continues...

RENE

Do you still have it?
(off Picard's look)
Your report.

PICARD

No, I don't think so.

RENE

I still have mine.

MARIE

Why don't you go get it, Rene...
and read it to your uncle?

Rene is out of his chair in a flash and EXITS. Robert looks hard at Picard and in a soft, dark voice --

ROBERT

It is hard enough to protect him from all that's out there without your encouragement.

MARIE

Robert...

PICARD

I am not encouraging anything... but if you weren't so narrow-minded, if you allowed him to see the real world...

17 CONTINUED: (6)

ROBERT
(bitter cold)
Raise your own sons as you would
wish.

Rene returns, running with a padd in his hand and
getting into his chair as the two brothers look coldly
at each other across the table...

RENE
(reading)
"Starships... by Rene Picard.
There are many kinds of starships
that fly through space... but the
biggest of them all is the Galaxy
class-starship... It has over
a thousand people on board... "

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

18 EXT. LABARRE - DAY (MATTE SHOT)

The town as seen before.

19 EXT. VINEYARD - DAY

Picard and LOUIS are walking along the vineyard. Louis is a large, gregarious man about Picard's age and should be very outgoing with a zest for life. Looking over the fields --

LOUIS

One man's idea of paradise.

PICARD

Two men. Robert's. And my father's.

LOUIS

Never did I know anyone less interested in grapes than you, Jean-Luc.

PICARD

No, I was interested, Louis. And I was proud that my family helped to preserve the traditions. But I did not feel bound by those traditions...

(beat)

... as they seemed to be.

LOUIS

You always reach for the future. Your brother for the past.

PICARD

There should be room for both in this life.

A thoughtful beat as they walk on...

PICARD

And you, old rascal, you've made quite a shift toward the future yourself...

19 CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Well, hydroponics turned out to be so dull...

PICARD

(laughs)

You should have listened to me from the beginning.

LOUIS

If I had listened to you I never would have gone on that cycling trip with the Bloom sisters...

PICARD

And broken your leg!

LOUIS

And got married. Twice.

They laugh.

PICARD

I hear you've been promoted to supervisor of the Atlantis project...

LOUIS

(modestly)

I'm one of two hundred supervisors... although my wife would have you believe I run the entire project.

PICARD

It's certainly exciting work. I've kept up with it in the journals...

LOUIS

Really?

PICARD

There's only one thing I don't understand...

(off Louis' reaction)

It's just that you were such a desperately poor swimmer... thinking of you working on the ocean floor...

19 CONTINUED: (2)

LOUIS

(grins)

I guess we all find a way to
confront our greatest fears.

PICARD

Seriously, how do you plan to
accelerate the buildup on the
underside of the mantle without
increasing stress on the tectonic
plates?

LOUIS

You really have kept up, haven't
you? The truth is... we don't
know yet...

PICARD

The Enterprise used harmonic
resonators to relieve tectonic
pressures on Drema Four... it's
obviously not exactly the same
problem but...

LOUIS

(interrupting)

You know, it's a shame...

(off Picard's look)

The government's been looking for
some one to take over the
project... a real leader who can
come in and get it moving...
They're looking for you, Jean-Luc.

(Picard reacts)

But I know you'd never leave
Starfleet.

PICARD

No, I'd never leave Starfleet.

And he said it, but the words come out hollow, without conviction. And no one is more surprised than Picard. The revelation is extremely disconcerting and Louis is sharp enough to catch the subtle shading in Picard's voice.

19 CONTINUED: (3)

LOUIS

That's what I thought.

(thinks for a second)

Hey, if nothing else, why don't I send over some of the internal studies of the tectonic problem... since you're interested... We could use any thoughts you might have...

PICARD

(beat)

All right.

Louis smiles as he realizes that the subject is still alive... and anything is possible. They continue walking in the vineyard.

CUT TO:

20 INT. TEN FORWARD

Fewer people around than normal, a feeling of being somewhere after normal hours. Worf, Sergey and Helena are sitting down at a table.

SERGEY

It's a great crew, Worf... and they think the world of you...

HELENA

They really do...

WORF

Mother, Father... I wish you would be a little more... reserved... while you're aboard.

HELENA

Oh, I know we go too far sometimes...

SERGEY

We're just excited to be here.

RIKER'S COM VOICE

Riker to Lieutenant Worf.

WORF

Go ahead.

20 CONTINUED:

RIKER'S COM VOICE

I need to talk to you about the
phaser test results...

WORF

(rising)

On my way, Commander.

(to his parents)

Have Guinan call me if you need
anything...

20 CONTINUED: (2)

He EXITS. Helena glances at Sergey -- what do you think? Sergey shrugs, worried, but doesn't know. (It's the shorthand communication of people who have been married a long time.)

SERGEY

Maybe we should just leave it alone.

HELENA

I can't leave it alone. I'm his mother.

They look out at the stars.

GUINAN (O.C.)

Sooner or later, everyone comes in here, stands by the windows... stares out into space for a long time.

21 ANGLE

to reveal Guinan. They look over and smile, hello.

GUINAN

(continuing)

They all look for that one star, the one they call home... doesn't matter how far away it is... everyone still looks.

(beat)

You're Worf's parents?

SERGEY

(standing)

Sergey... Helena Rozhenko

She motions for him to sit... joins them...

GUINAN

Guinan. I've been wanting to ask you something.

HELENA

(go ahead)

Please...

21 CONTINUED:

GUINAN

(off their looks)

How come you never gave him prune juice?

HELENA

I beg your pardon?

GUINAN

Worf... he never had prune juice until he came in here... now he can't get enough of it...

HELENA

(surprised)

Worf?

SERGEY

He didn't want any human foods growing up... everything had to be Klingon...

HELENA

I learned to cook rokeg blood pie...

SERGEY

We never quite learned how to eat it though.

HELENA

It was a difficult adolescence.

GUINAN

You ought to write a book.

SERGEY

We didn't do anything special.

GUINAN

You don't think so? Look at him now... I think that's pretty special...

HELENA

We knew it wouldn't be easy for him... without other Klingons to look to for guidance...

21 CONTINUED: (2)

SERGEY

We let him discover and explore
his heritage for himself... let
him find his own path...

GUINAN

A lot of parents could learn a
few things from the two of you...

Helena and Sergey exchange a loving glance.

HELENA

I'm afraid Worf thinks we don't
understand him...

SERGEY

Because we're human, you know,
not Klingon.

GUINAN

Maybe a part of him believes that.
But there's another part of him
I've seen... the part that drinks
prune juice... and comes here to
the window... when he looks out
for home, he doesn't look toward
the Klingon Empire. He's looking
toward you.

Off their reactions...

22 INT. PICARD LIVING ROOM - DAY

Picard is sitting at the table, lost in thought. The
lights are low. The table monitor is on with some
Okudagrams that Louis sent over about the underwater
project. He is staring through rather than at it.
Marie ENTERS carrying some jars and glasses.

MARIE

Jean-Luc?

22 CONTINUED:

Picard glances up.

MARIE

Are you all right?

PICARD

Actually... I seem to have made
a disturbing discovery...

She looks at him with concern...

PICARD

Louis mentioned the Atlantis
project needed a director... and
I actually found myself thinking
about it.

Her face brightens considerably...

MARIE

But that would be wonderful,
Jean-Luc...

PICARD

Do you think so?

MARIE

Having you back home... of
course...

PICARD

Marie, I spent my youth doing
everything I could to get away
from home...

MARIE

You've been as narrow-minded as
your brother... and it's time both
of you began to appreciate each
other's worlds...

PICARD

I can't argue with that.

MARIE

Given a little time, you might
even get to like one another.

Picard grins at her.

22 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

Well, I already like his choice of wives. I haven't thanked you for your correspondence, it made me feel like part of the family.

MARIE

You're not like part of the family. You are part of the family, Jean-Luc Picard.

He looks at her with appreciation. Robert ENTERS, drying his hands with a cloth, just as there is a knock at the door. Robert moves to open it... Louis ENTERS.

LOUIS

Robert...

ROBERT

Hello, Louis.

MARIE

Come in, Louis... I'll get you some wine...

(subtle encouragement)

The two of you can talk business...

ROBERT

Business?

PICARD

Well, there's really nothing to talk about...

LOUIS

I'm interested to know what you thought about our plans.

PICARD

I've just really had a chance to glance at them... I have a few ideas but...

Robert observes with curiosity...

LOUIS

Wonderful. We should discuss them with the board of governors... I've set up a meeting...

22 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD

A meeting... ?

LOUIS

Just a preliminary conversation...
tomorrow morning...

Picard begins a slow build... to contain his anger...

PICARD

Preliminary to what?

Louis takes a breath... okay, I'm going for it --

LOUIS

They want you. I mentioned your
interest in the project, that's
all. That's all I had to say.
They jumped at the prospect...

PICARD

I never said there was a
prospect...

LOUIS

At least, listen to them,
Jean-Luc.

Picard goes inside himself and turns away, shakes his
head, trying to contain whatever is trying to get
out... inside him is the anger and pain... feeling
pulled between two worlds again... defeated... he never
turns back to Louis as he says in his softest voice.

PICARD

Fine. Good. I'll listen to
them.

Marie - who misses the full import of this - smiles,
glances at Robert who is not smiling at all. He
studies his younger brother.

LOUIS

You won't regret it, Jean-Luc.
I promise you. I'll see you in
the morning...

Hold on Picard...

23 EXT. PICARD HOME - DAY

PULL BACK as Picard stands alone on the empty
grounds... a lost man. On his expression...

24

thru OMITTED

25

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

26 INT. BEVERLY'S OFFICE

WESLEY and Beverly sitting together. Beverly is keyed-up and trying not to let her feelings show too strongly. Beverly holds the disk in her hand, gripping it tightly. She is positive, trying to be cheerful, but there is an undertone of worry in her voice. Wesley is excited.

WESLEY

What kind of message?

BEVERLY

I don't know exactly. Your father made it a few weeks after you were born.

WESLEY

Why?

BEVERLY

(hesitates)

He thought it was important to say certain things... to make sure that he didn't forget to tell you later.

Wesley stares at the disk in Beverly's hand, eager to take it, but afraid to at the same time. He looks back at Beverly.

WESLEY

Do you know what it says?

BEVERLY

No.

(smiles and gives him
disk)

He wanted you to have this when you turned eighteen... and I want you to have it too.

Wesley looks at the disk in his hand for a few seconds, then stands up and gives his mother a brief hug before he EXITS. Hold on Beverly as she smiles...

CUT TO:

27 INT. Worf's Quarters

Worf's sash is sitting on a chair. He is looking in a mirror and examining the length of his hair. The door CHIMES.

Worf

Enter.

Sergey and Helena ENTER...

Sergey

Are we disturbing you?

Worf

No. I thought you were going to your quarters to sleep.

Helena

We just came by to tuck you in.

And Worf understands that they're not being literal... it's a way of saying "we care." Worf studies his parents, and drops his eyes as he feels more emotion than he'd care to admit.

Worf

When I heard you were on the visitors' list, I was... not sure I wanted you to come.

(he looks up)

I am glad you are here.

Helena

We had to come.

Sergey

Our boy was in trouble.

Worf reacts... surprised...

Sergey

(continuing)

After we read your letter... about your discommendation from the Klingons...

He shrugs -- "of course, we had to come."

27 CONTINUED:

HELENA

We don't exactly understand it
all...

SERGEY

We don't have to. We know what
kind of man you are...

HELENA

Whatever you did, we know it was
for a good reason.

WORF

My reasons can never be told.

SERGEY

Your crewmates... your friends...
they tell us you're... upset,
Worf.

WORF

I must bear my dishonor alone.

SERGEY

That's not true.

HELENA

I'm sorry if this is too human
of us... but whenever you are
suffering, you must remember...
we are with you.

SERGEY

And that we're proud of you, and
love you.

HELENA

You're our son.

Worf reaches out with his huge arms and embraces both
of them... and as they hold each other, as tight a
family unit as the world has ever known...

CUT TO:

28 INT. PICARD LIVING ROOM - DAY

Picard is sitting at the table, drinking wine... he
is as distressed as we've ever seen him... indeed, if
this has been a trip to "find himself" as Troi
suggested, then "he" seems only farther away than when
the trip started...

29 ANGLE - ROBERT

standing at the door, silhouetted by the light of fading day outside... studying his brother. He moves closer... as Picard pours himself some more wine from the half-empty bottle...

29 CONTINUED:

ROBERT

Careful... you're not used to
drinking the real thing.

Picard glances at him. Robert sits down... pours
himself some...

ROBERT

Your... synthenol... never leaves
you out of control, isn't that
so...

PICARD

That is so.

ROBERT

(re: the wine in his
glass)
This will.

He drinks. So does Picard.

ROBERT

Now there's something I'd like
to see.

PICARD

What's that?

ROBERT

Jean-Luc Picard out of control.

Picard looks away, not wanting to spar.

ROBERT

I venture you've probably never
been drunk in your entire life.

PICARD

I have nothing but pity for those
who abuse any substance.

ROBERT

As do I. And yet see how you fill
your glass

Picard puts down his glass. Stands and moves away from
the table and the wine... he is already a little
unsteady... Robert follows him...

ROBERT

Mind if I make an observation?

29 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

Yes.

ROBERT

I'll make it anyway. You've changed.

(off Picard's look)

What the devil happened to you up there?

PICARD

Is that "brotherly" concern?

ROBERT

No. I'm just curious what makes a man change so much... what did they do to you anyway?

PICARD

You know what happened.

ROBERT

Not everything... I gather you were hurt... humiliated... I always said you could use a little humiliation or was it humility, well, either one...

PICARD

I don't want to do this with you...

He EXITS through the back. Robert follows.

30 EXT. PICARD HOUSE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Robert trails Picard... Picard tries to control himself throughout the scene... Robert continues to dig at him...

ROBERT

Why walk away? That was never your style...

PICARD

I'm tired of fighting with you, Robert...

30 CONTINUED:

ROBERT
Pity. Tired...

PICARD
That's right.

ROBERT
Tired of the Enterprise too.

Picard doesn't respond.

ROBERT
Captain Picard, icon of Starfleet,
falls to Earth, ready to jump in
the water with Louis. This is
not the brother I remember...

Robert waits for a retort, gets none, pushes on...

ROBERT
It seemed the ideal situation for
you -- local boy makes good,
returns home after twenty years
for a hero's welcome.

PICARD
I am not a hero...

ROBERT
Certainly you are... you wouldn't
settle for anything less... admit
it, never could, and you never
did.

PICARD
That isn't true.

ROBERT
Of course it is. Turn down a
parade in your honor? You?

PICARD
I've never sought recognition...

ROBERT
Never? And what of the school
president, the valedictorian, the
athletic hero... arms raised in
victory...

30 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

Were you so jealous?

ROBERT

Dammit, I had a right to be.

PICARD

(scorn)

A right...

ROBERT

I was always your brother...
watching you get the cheers...
watching you break every one of
father's rules and getting away
with it...

PICARD

Why didn't you break a few rules?

ROBERT

I was the older one, the
responsible one. I had to look
after you...

PICARD

You were a bully...

ROBERT

It was such a pleasure to bully
you...

PICARD

Try it again.

ROBERT

Did you come back because you
need me to look after you
again... ?

That's about all Picard can take... the rage he's been carrying... everything he's felt about the Borg... about missions gone awry... about lost crewmen... everything he's ever bottled up explodes in the face of his brother's verbal assault. He grabs his brother by the lapels... and swings at Robert, connecting on his jaw... Robert goes flying backwards, crashing into the brush.

30A EXT. VINEYARD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Robert pulls himself out of the brush and grabs Picard and Picard grabs him and an awkward dance between two middle-aged men acting like children ensues... and slowly we may come to realize there's a slightly humorous edge to this. Robert pulls him to the wet ground and they roll over and over in the mud and as they make one final roll, they realize they're laughing... and the laughter consumes them as they lie side-by-side on the ground, as dirty as little kids, looking up at the sky.

PICARD

You were asking for it, you know.

ROBERT

Yes, but you needed it. You have been terribly hard on yourself.

Still with residual laughter, betraying the seriousness of the revelations...

PICARD

You don't know, Robert. You don't know. They took everything I was. They used me to kill and destroy. And I could not stop them. I should have been able to stop them.

And he still laughs as tears roll down his cheeks...

PICARD

I tried... I tried... so hard... but I just wasn't strong enough. Not good enough. I should have been able to stop them. I should have been able to...

30A CONTINUED:

His fist strikes the ground. A long beat.

ROBERT

So, Jean-Luc Picard is human
after all.

A beat. Picard sighs, knows it's true... it doesn't
seem to help.

ROBERT

(continuing)

This is going to be with you a
long time, Jean-Luc. A long time.
And you have to learn to live
with that. You have a simple
choice now -- living with it
below the sea with Louis or above
the clouds on your Enterprise.

Picard looks at his brother with new warmth... as they
crawl up to their feet, helping each other...

PICARD

You know, I think you were right.
(off Robert's look)
Maybe I did come back so you'd
look after me.

Robert smiles, puts his arm around his brother's
shoulder and as they walk back toward the house...

ROBERT

I still don't like you.

And as they walk away...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

31 INT. PICARD HOME - DAY

Marie enters the front door... reacts at what she sees
--

MARIE

What in the world... ?

32 ANGLE

to see Picard and Robert still covered with mud, eating
cheese and fruit at the table... they look up like
children caught with their hands in the cookie jar...

MARIE

What happened here?

And they follow her glance, as do we, to see a trail
of mud tracked into the house...

ROBERT

Ah...

PICARD

It's entirely my fault, Marie...

ROBERT

Yes, you see, he fell... and then
I fell...

PICARD

We both fell together...

Marie comes over and examines the bruise on Robert's
chin.

MARIE

Have you two been fighting?

ROBERT

Fighting? Oh, you mean this.
There's a perfectly good
explanation for this...

MARIE

Shame on you both. What would
your father say if he saw you like
this?

32 CONTINUED:

PICARD

He'd probably send us to bed
without our supper.

They laugh together. Marie smiles, shakes her head.

MARIE

Well, perhaps it was good to get
it out of your system.

PICARD

Perhaps it was, Marie. Perhaps
it was.

(beat)

I'll contact Louis and cancel the
meeting with the Board of
Governors. It's time for me to
be going...

MARIE

Already, Jean-Luc?

PICARD

The ship will be ready to leave
orbit soon... and I belong on
board.

(beat, then to Robert)

If I ever doubt that again... I
know where to come.

Robert smiles slightly and the brothers exchange a
look.

MARIE

You can't leave yet.

PICARD

I'm sorry. I must.

MARIE

You're not leaving until you clean
up this mess... both of you...

As they rise quickly...

ROBERT

What mess?

(off her expression)

Yes, ma'am...

CUT TO:

33 INT. CORRIDOR

Near the Holodeck doors. Wes steps back, stands in front of the doors. His expression is excited, expectant... but there is a trace of apprehension here too. He hesitates long enough for us to realize that this is a big moment in his life. He clears his throat, then in an artificially calm and steady voice...

WESLEY

Computer, load program, Crusher
One.

COMPUTER

Program loaded.

The doors OPEN and Wes walks inside.

34 INT. HOLODECK

Dark except for a brightly lit circle in the center of the room. Sitting on a chair in a limited set inside this circle of light is the frozen image of Jack Crusher. Not the towering figure of legend that Wesley (and we) expect to meet... Jack is of medium build, about Wesley's height, finely boned, and perhaps most shocking is that fact that Jack is about 24 years of age. He wears an older Starfleet uniform with lieutenant's insignia. His expression and attitude are cheerful, confident... a man with his entire future ahead of him.

35 ANGLE - CLOSER

Wesley studies him... this is not what he expected. Jack doesn't look much older than he does. The man who was his father is more like a peer than a parent. Wesley expected to be awed by what he remembered only as a very big man who played with him as a child. As Jack speaks, Wesley tries not only to pay attention to what is being said, but also to try and get a feeling for who he was and what kind of man he might have been.

WESLEY

(softly)
Run program.

The figure comes to life.

35 CONTINUED:

JACK

Hello, Wesley. As I make this recording, you're just ten weeks old.

(beat)

I want you to know who I am today. You see, this Jack Crusher won't exist by the time you're grown up... I'll be older, more experienced... hopefully a little wiser. But this person will be gone and I wanted you to know who I am now, who your father was when you came into this world.

(thoughtful)

I see you lying there in your crib... and I realize that I don't know the first thing about being a father. So let me just apologize for all the mistakes I'm about to make as you grow up.

(disturbed by the thought)

I hope you don't grow up... resenting the fact that I was gone so much. That comes with this uniform. Right now, I'm waiting for an assignment on the U.S.S. Stargazer. I don't know if I can explain why Starfleet is so important to me... maybe you'll understand when you get this... later on.

(re: uniform)

Maybe you'll even want to try one of these on.

(thinks, gives up, laughs a little)

You'll probably be a doctor like your mother.

(beat)

We named you after Richard Wesley Crusher, my grandfather, who gave me my first flying lesson as a boy. You come from a fine family... of scholars, explorers, artists... your great-great grandfather was a painter whose work once hung in the Prado...

(MORE)

35 CONTINUED: (2)

JACK (Cont'd)

We've had a skeleton or two in our closet... someday, I'll tell you about the Crusher who was a horse thief on Nimbus Three... but we also had our share of family heroes... a Crusher fought for the Confederacy at Bull Run. One died at Station Salem One. It's a proud heritage, Wesley... one for you to pass on to your children.

(MORE)

35 CONTINUED: (3)

JACK (Cont'd)

(smiles)

You're only a baby... but it's remarkable... I see in your face all the people I've loved in my lifetime... your mother... my father and mother... our family. I see me in you, too. I can feel that you're my son. I don't know how to describe it... There's this connection, this bond... I will always be a part of you, Wes...

(beat)

Well, I hope this made some sense to you... I'm not sure it does to me. Maybe I'll do better next time. I love you, Wesley.

He smiles, finished.

36 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

Wesley hesitates... then moves toward his father, but just as reaches out... Jack FADES AWAY. Wesley stands alone in the darkness.

WESLEY

(a hoarse whisper)

Good-bye, Dad.

CUT TO:

37 EXT. LABARRE - DAY (MATTE SHOT)

The town as seen before.

38 EXT. PICARD HOUSE - DAY

Picard, Robert, Marie, Rene standing outside. Picard is now in uniform, carrying the rucksack. Robert has a small package. Marie gives Picard a hug.

MARIE

Be careful, Jean-Luc. Come back to us again.

38 CONTINUED:

Picard smiles at her and then holds out his hand for Rene to shake. The boy stands tall, proud to be treated like an adult.

38 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD

Take care, Uncle.

RENE

Someday, I'll be leaving for my
ship too.

Picard glances at Robert, knows that this isn't his
brother's first choice.

PICARD

(gently)

There's plenty of time for that...
keep your mind open... you may
decide to do something else as
you get older.

(tinge of irony)

Try not to be so... narrow-minded.

Robert hands over the package to Picard.

ROBERT

Here, Jean-Luc. A little of the
fifty-one.

(beat)

Do not drink it all at once.
And try not to drink it alone.

Picard puts it in his sack. They shake hands... and
then Picard pulls him into a hug... they can bear the
intimacy for only a moment. Picard glances one more
time... and then walks back down the path he came.

39 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

40 INT. CORRIDOR

Worf, Sergey, and Helena walking to transporter room.
Worf is less stiff with them, more of a family feeling
here at last.

HELENA

Is there anything you want us to
send you from home?

WORF

No...

He glances around quickly to make sure no one is
listening.

40 CONTINUED:

WORF
(continuing)
Perhaps some of your rokeg blood
pie...

HELENA
(eyes twinkle)
It's been a while, but I think
I still remember how.

They are near the transporter room, the doors OPEN and
Picard ENTERS, still carrying his rucksack.

WORF
(surprised)
Captain... welcome back.

PICARD
Thank you, Lieutenant.

Picard looks at Worf's parents. Worf stands up
straight... talks with a pride that was missing when he
introduced them earlier.

WORF
Captain, these are my parents.
Sergey and Helena Rozhenko.

Picard smiles and shakes their hands.

PICARD
Delighted.

SERGEY
Quite a ship you have here,
Captain.

PICARD
You got the full tour, I trust...

SERGEY
Well, actually, there are still
a few areas because of the
repairs...

HELENA
Sergey, it's time to go...

40 CONTINUED: (2)

SERGEY

Yes. Yes. Okay.

(to Picard, as she
coaxes him away)

I have all the specs and diagrams
at home...

Picard watches them for a minute and then shakes his
head slightly and heads down the corridor.

CUT TO:

40A INT. PICARD HOUSE - NIGHT

Marie and Robert look out the window.

MARIE

He's still out there... dreaming
about starships and adventures.

She moves to go outside, but Robert gently stops her.

MARIE

It's getting late.

ROBERT

Yes... but let him dream.

Marie is a little surprised, but she smiles at this
change in Robert. They kiss and move away from the
window.

41 EXT. VINEYARD - NIGHT (OPTICAL)

Rene is lying on his back in the vineyard, looking up
at the night sky.

42

thru OMITTED

43

44 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

including the night sky as a shooting star streaks
across the heavens...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END