

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"The Icarus Factor"

#40272-140

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2ND REV. FINAL DRAFT

FEBRUARY 2, 1989

STAR TREK: "The Icarus Factor" - REV. 2/8/89 - CAST

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"The Icarus Factor"

CAST

PICARD	KYLE RIKER
PIKER	
DATA	
PULASKI	Non-Speaking
TROI	STARBASE TECHNICIANS
GEORDI	EIGHT KLINGON WARRIORS
WORF	
WESLEY	
O'BRIEN	
ENSIGN HERBERT	
Non-Speaking	
CREWMEMBERS	
BOLISKA	
GRAHAM	
Voice-Over	
COMPUTER VOICE	

STAR TREK: "The Icarus Factor" - 2/2/89 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"The Icarus Factor"

SETS

INTERIORS

EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE

USS ENTERPRISE

MAIN ENGINEERING

ENGINE ROOM

STARBASE MONTGOMERY

MAIN BRIDGE

TRANSPORTER ROOM

CORRIDORS

OUTSIDE RIKER'S QUARTERS

OUTSIDE HOLODECK

OUTSIDE GYMNASIUM

TEN-FORWARD

OBSERVATION LOUNGE

RIKER'S QUARTERS

SICKBAY

PULASKI'S OFFICE

HOLODECK

RITE OF ASCENSION CHAMBER

TROI'S OFFICE

GYMNASIUM

CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

STAR TREK: "The Icarus Factor" - REV. 2/6/89 - PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"The Icarus Factor"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

NASRELDINE	NAZ-rul-deen
TRYPTOPHAN-LYSINE	TRIP-toe-fane LIE-zeen
MEGANUNDUN	MEG-uh-NUN-dun
DRAD ZINE KRYZUND	DRAD ZINE KER-zund
BRO TAH MAG PLONDARE SEPLICK	BRO TAH MAG PLAWN-dair SEP-lick
DAEDALUS	DAY-duh-lus
MATTA	MOT-ta
HACHIDAN KIRITSU	HAH-chee-dawn Kee-RIT-soo
ANBO-JYUTSU	AN-bo JUT-su
YOROSHIKU-ONEIGAISHIMASU	Yo-ROW-shku O-neh-GOSH-u-mas

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"The Icarus Factor"
TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

cruises at warp speed as we hear:

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, Stardate 42686.4.
We are en route to Starbase
Montgomery for engineering
consultations prompted by minor
readout anomalies...

2 INT. MAIN ENGINE ROOM - RIKER, DATA, AND GEORDI

turn from a console station to observe the
matter/antimatter blender.

DATA
I would consider them
insignificant.

RIKER
What if you're wrong?

Data looks at Riker.

RIKER
(continuing)
Sorry.
(then)
But what if it's more than a mere
discrepancy?

PICARD ENTERS.

GEORDI
Then I'd say we have a problem.

PICARD
Agreed. We'll have Starbase
Montgomery give us an independent
reading.

2 CONTINUED:

DATA

Even if the molecular level controls failed, we could recrystallize the dilithium without outside help.

GEORDI

Data, don't worry. My ego isn't at stake here.

DATA

Perhaps we could reprogram the system to correct the readout variables --

PICARD

That's certainly an option, but since we're stopping at Starbase Montgomery anyway, we'll let them do the analysis.

RIKER

Sir? I don't recall Starbase Montgomery on our mission itinerary --

PICARD

I think we could all use a twelve-hour layover. Besides, I've just received some personnel transfer directives. Priority matters --

RIKER

Boarding or disembarking?

2 CONTINUED: (2)

WESLEY'S COM VOICE

Captain Picard, we're within
hailing range of Starbase
Montgomery --

PICARD

Reduce to impulse power --
(then, to Riker)
Meet me in the Observation Lounge
when you're done here.

With that, Picard EXITS via the turbolift and we:

GO TO:

2A INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE - PICARD

is gazing out the viewports as Riker ENTERS.

RIKER

Captain...

PICARD

Number One, I find myself
recollecting the arrival of a new
first officer to the Enterprise
and a manual docking very
confidently achieved. I suspect
that I was somewhat miserly in
offering congratulations then,
so let me make up for it now.
Congratulations. The captain of
the Starship Ares is retiring.
You've been selected as his
replacement.

RIKER

The Ares... she is in Vega-Omicron
sector.

2A CONTINUED:

PICARD

And she's picked up indications
of an intelligent life-form...
but nothing conclusive.

RIKER

Starfleet will want to know
more.

PICARD

That's why they're asking you,
Number One. Not for your military
proficiency, but for your skill
as an explorer and diplomat.

RIKER

Vega-Omicron. It'll take months
at high warp just to get there.

PICARD

With no guarantee of finding
anything once you arrive. Well,
you have twelve hours to think
it over. And maybe it's premature,
but congratulations, "Captain."

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

3 EXT. STARBASE MONTGOMERY - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

moves into position above a well-established planetary outpost while:

4 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - PICARD

sits in his Command Chair, Data at Ops, WORF at Tactical, WESLEY at Conn, as Riker ENTERS.

PICARD

Establish synchronous orbit.

WESLEY

Aye, sir.

Picard turns to Riker as he approaches:

PICARD

Starbase Montgomery is sending a civilian advisor aboard to brief you on the Ares's mission.

RIKER

A personal briefing?

PICARD

Yes. Strategic attache with specialized knowledge of the frontier regions. I think you'll find the briefing... very interesting.

RIKER

I hope it's complete. Much of my decision will be based on it.

HERBERT'S COM VOICE

Commander Riker to the Transporter Room.

Riker heads for the turbolift.

4 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Enjoy...

Riker steps into the turbolift and we:

GO TO:

5 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - RIKER

ENTERS, steps up to ENSIGN HERBERT, who is monitoring his console.

RIKER

Ensign --

HERBERT

Ah, you're right on time,
Commander. He's on his way now...

Herbert works his magic on the console and now he and Riker look up at:

6 THE TRANSPORTER PAD (OPTICAL)

where the FORM OF A MAN MATERIALIZES, and as it starts to be more clearly defined:

7 RIKER

realizes.

RIKER

Dad... ?

8 KYLE RIKER

steps down from the Transporter Pad, walks right up to Riker, studies him just as Riker studies his father. Kyle's a jut-jawed, extremely fit, silver-haired civilian in his fifties. As they eyeball each other:

9 RIKER

assumes Academy courtesy: Polite, detached,
unemotional.

RIKER

You're the civilian advisor? The
strategic attache?

KYLE

I asked Captain Picard to keep
it quiet. I didn't want you to
get nervous... excited.

RIKER

It's been fifteen years.
Excitement is hardly the
appropriate emotion.

Kyle purses his lips, considers that, then counters:

KYLE

You've done well. First officer
on the Enterprise is quite a
feather in your cap.

RIKER

I've worked hard.

KYLE

Of course. I'm proud of you,
Will --

RIKER

If you'll excuse me, I've got my
duties to attend to. After you've
settled in, we'll complete the
briefing.

(then, to Herbert)

Have security send an escort for
this gentleman.

With that, Riker about-faces and EXITS, leaving Kyle to
share an awkward moment with Ensign Herbert as we:

GO TO:

10 INT. CORRIDOR - WESLEY

turns a corner, catches up with Worf and walks beside
him as:

10 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

Did you hear about Commander
Riker's promotion?

Worf barely acknowledges Wesley, obviously upset by something.

WORF

Yes.

WESLEY

He didn't even know his father
was coming. It was a complete
surprise --

Worf stops in mid-stride, turning toward Wesley grimly.

WORF

So?

WESLEY

Well, can you imagine if it was
your father?

WORF

I never knew my father.

WESLEY

And I didn't have one long
enough --

WORF

It is a waste of time to think
about such things.

WESLEY

I'm not thinking about it, really,
but everybody needs somebody,
don't you think -- ?

Worf glares at Wesley, fairly barking:

WORF

Enough!

Worf drills Wesley with his intensity, then marches off, leaving Wesley a bit shaken as we:

GO TO:

11 INT. MAIN ENGINE ROOM - GEORDI

weaves through a TRIO OF STARBASE MONTGOMERY TECHS and a TRIO OF ENTERPRISE TECHS as they run their analysis.

GEORDI

Starbase Montgomery really didn't have to send me all this help, because we've already checked the entire dilithium spectrum for anomalous frequencies, so don't waste your time on that --

Just then, Wesley ENTERS, ashen faced.

GEORDI

(continuing)

Wes... you okay?

WESLEY

I was just talking to Worf.
(then)
He's somewhat eccentric at times.

GEORDI

That's one word for it.

WESLEY

But he was so upset -- I must've said something wrong.

GEORDI

Maybe Worf's not too thrilled with the idea of losing Commander Riker to a new assignment. I'm sure not --

WESLEY

Neither am I... But I think it's something else with Worf... something's really bothering him.

Geordi considers that, exchanging a look of concern with Wesley now as we:

GO TO:

12 INT. TEN-FORWARD - PULASKI

sits at the bar with a couple of n.d. MEDICAL CREW STAFF, enjoying some down time.

PULL BACK to reveal:

13 RIKER

at a corner table with Chief O'Brien, with a cup of steaming tea. He sips the tea.

O'BRIEN

Female?

Riker does not reply.

O'BRIEN

(continuing)

Career?

RIKER

Family.

O'BRIEN

That is trouble. You choose your friends... you choose your enemies... But family... that's in the stars.

RIKER

So I've heard.

As he sips:

14 KYLE RIKER

ENTERS and immediately spots some people he knows.

KYLE

Boliska! What in the name of the Federation are you doing here -- ?

He goes over and shakes hands with BOLISKA who is with a couple of other old n.d. friends, then spots:

15 PULASKI

who visibly reacts at the sight of Kyle. She slowly rises, turning to her tablemates:

PULASKI

Excuse me...

She crosses the room; he does the same, and as they come within whispering range:

PULASKI

(continuing)

This is more than a surprise...
it's total shock.

KYLE

You mean you didn't bake me a
cake?

PULASKI

You're actually here.

KYLE

That makes two of us.
(then, re an empty
table)
How about a drink?

PULASKI

How about a kiss?

He smiles at that, kisses her lightly and then they exchange a warmly mutual embrace while:

16 RIKER

turns to O'Brien with:

RIKER

They know each other...

O'BRIEN

I know her too, but we don't do
that.

And as they both react to Kyle's familiarity with Pulaski, we:

GO TO:

17 INT. MAIN ENGINE ROOM - GEORDI, DATA, AND WESLEY

move around the dilithium chamber, watching the starbase crew go about their analysis while:

DATA

And it has nothing to do with Commander Riker's new assignment?

WESLEY

No. His reaction to that was just the opposite of mine: Completely unaffected.

GEORDI

You see? With all that's going on, you might be overreacting.

WESLEY

Really? You try talking to Worf. I'm telling you, he's not... normal... for Worf.

DATA

There is, of course, a genetic predisposition toward hostility among all Klingons, although Worf does seem unusually out of sorts.

GEORDI

He's never been much on charm --

WESLEY

Well, whatever troubles him, we should try to help. He is our friend.

GEORDI

And I'd like to keep him friendly.

(then)

Any suggestions?

DATA

Empirical study. Monitor the subject.

WESLEY

Right. We'll watch for any signs of unusual behavior --

GEORDI

That shouldn't be difficult --

17 CONTINUED:

DATA

Within the norms of Klingon
patterns, of course.

(then)

Discretion will be required.

WESLEY

Fine. Where do we start?

GEORDI

(re himself and Data)

We... will assist you as needed.

(then)

You found the problem...

DATA

And you must solve it.

With that, Data and Geordi walk off, leaving Wesley
wondering what he's gotten himself into now, as we:

GO TO:

18 INT. TEN-FORWARD - RIKER

downs the last of his tea, looks across the room at:

19 PULASKI AND KYLE

who sit together at the bar, obviously enjoying each
other's company.

KYLE

... and after working out the
Fuurinkazan battle strategies
at the Tokyo Base, I was asked
to go to work for Starfleet as
a tactical advisor.

PULASKI

I'm surprised you stayed away from
the action as long as you did --

Just then, Riker steps up, having overheard that last
line.

PULASKI

Hi, Will -- join us? Your father
and I were just catching up --

19 CONTINUED:

RIKER
(ignoring that; to
Pulaski)
You never told me you knew him.

PULASKI
Well... it wasn't exactly a
secret... but it never really came
up --

Kyle looks up smiling, offering:

KYLE
Pull up a stool, son --

RIKER
I'm ready for your briefing
whenever you are, sir.

And as he EXITS, Kyle looks after him, his concern
growing, as we:

20 OMITTED

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

A21 INT. CORRIDOR - DATA AND GEORDI

are approaching the doors to Ten-Forward.

GEORDI

You think Worf is going to appreciate being observed like some laboratory specimen?

DATA

You are correct. He is not insensitive... particularly at this stage of his development.

GEORDI

Just remember, this is Wesley's operation, okay?

DATA

Wesley is quite competent.

Just as they approach Ten-Forward, Wesley steps up, agitated.

WESLEY

You guys aren't going to believe this...

GEORDI

Believe what?

WESLEY

Commander Riker just caught me coming out of the turbolift.

GEORDI

So? This area isn't off limits to you.

WESLEY

I know, but I've been working on Paracelsian computations as part of my studies and he wants them right away.

GEORDI

What about Worf?

A21 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

When Commander Riker says right
away he means right away.

DATA

Indeed.

WESLEY

(re Ten-Forward)

You guys can cover for me, can't
you?

GEORDI

Wait a minute. This whole
thing --

WESLEY

I've got to get my computations
done.

GEORDI

You don't expect us to --

WESLEY

Oh, come on. What are friends
for?

(to Data)

Right?

Data reacts, very much put on the spot; then:

DATA

Go ahead. Finish your work and
We shall study Worf.

WESLEY

I knew I could count on you guys!

With that, Wesley heads off down the corridor, leaving
Data to face Geordi, as we:

GO TO:

21 INT. TEN-FORWARD - PULASKI AND KYLE

are at the bar, Kyle just shaking hands with an old
acquaintance as Geordi and Data find a table in the
b.g.

KYLE

... good seeing you too, Graham --

As GRAHAM heads off, Pulaski smiles.

21 CONTINUED:

PULASKI

You wouldn't be running for mayor,
would you?

KYLE

Do pick-up work for the Federation
long enough and it'll happen to
you, too.

(then)

I thought about you a lot.

PULASKI

Kyle... I don't need to hear what
you don't need to say.

KYLE

We could've been great together.

PULASKI

Possibly.

KYLE

Is it true you got married?

PULASKI

Again... and again.

KYLE

Doesn't that make you three for
three?

PULASKI

I'm not complaining. They were
each good men... and we're all
still good friends.

21 CONTINUED:

KYLE

Like us?

PULASKI

Close... but different.

(then)

They were all a little more...
in touch with themselves.

KYLE

Ouch.

PULASKI

Kyle, face facts. You're
crusty. A reputation for being
hard as nails and getting the
job done. But underneath all
that, you're not so bad. Some
of us even love you.

(then)

And then there's Will.

KYLE

And then there's Will.

And as he considers his feelings for his son, we:

FOCUS ON:

22 Worf (OPTICAL)

standing at the large viewport, staring out at the
galaxy, very much alone with his thoughts.

23 GEORDI AND DATA

study Worf from their vantage point in the b.g.

GEORDI

Wesley really should be doing this
on his own --

DATA

But he needs his study time --

GEORDI

I can't believe you fell for that.

(then, re Worf)

I don't know... he looks pretty
normal to me.

23 CONTINUED:

DATA

In solitude there is nothing to
trigger unusual behavior.

GEORDI

(shrugs)

Good point. Let's not tamper with
the status quo...

DATA

That would defeat the opportunity
for our behavioral research.

(then)

The probabilities are that he's
simply lonely. We can relieve
his anxieties through
socialization --

GEORDI

(re Worf)

Be my guest.

Data approaches Worf from the rear.

DATA

Excuse me, Lieutenant --

Worf doesn't turn around or make the slightest reply.
Data presses on.

DATA

(continuing)

You seem to have lost the will
to communicate with others.

Still no response from Worf. Data persists.

DATA

(continuing)

You have friends here. We care
about you. Why, just awhile ago,
Wesley, Geordi and I were saying
how --

Worf suddenly wheels around, glaring down at Data with
Klingon ferocity as he bellows in his deepest baritone:

WORF

Sir... with all due respect...
BE GONE!

23 CONTINUED: (2)

Data backs away and returns to Geordi's side.

DATA

He seems quite sincere in his
desire for solitude.

GEORDI

(smugly, the pun
intentional)
Seeing is believing, huh?

With that, Geordi and Data beat a hasty retreat, as we:

GO TO:

24 INT. RIKER'S QUARTERS - RIKER (OPTICAL)

stands at a viewing console, tapping the touchpad
occasionally as he goes through a series of childhood
"photos." A TONE is heard.

RIKER

Come in.

The door slides open and Worf ENTERS.

RIKER

Yes, Worf?

WORF

May I have a moment, sir?

RIKER

What is it?

WORF

It is difficult to say... words
are not always easy for me...

(then, distracted by
the pictures)

Is that Earth?

RIKER

Yes. Alaska... I was nine
there...

WORF

(intrigued; re the
picture)

That is a big fish you are
holding.

Riker considers that, then admits:

24 CONTINUED:

RIKER

(re the picture)

I didn't even catch that fish.

WORF

You were holding it like --

RIKER

I hooked it... but my father took
the pole... wouldn't even let me
reel it in... he said I might lose
it.

WORF

You do not have good feelings
for your father?

RIKER

I'm... not sure how I feel right
now...

WORF

You have much on your mind.

RIKER

Yes.

(then)

What is on yours?

24 CONTINUED: (2

WORF

The Enterprise has been good to me...

RIKER

To all of us.

WORF

It has been my home... but still, I am alone here.

RIKER

Not true. You have many friends here, just as I have --

WORF

Then why do you make ready to leave the Enterprise?

RIKER

I've been offered my own command, something I've trained for...

WORF

And what of your friends?

RIKER

Friendship is something we carry in our hearts... We can feel it wherever we are.

WORF

Yes. On Kling we say, "Tez mrot weilz konpadam": One is always of his tribe.

(then)

I would like to join you on the Ares.

RIKER

Thank you, Worf. But I haven't accepted the assignment yet --

WORF

But sir... it could be a dangerous mission. There may be the potential for combat.

RIKER

That's not the purpose of the mission.

24 CONTINUED: (3)

WORF

Still -- to die a true hero --

Riker raises his hand.

RIKER

Worf. Your point is made.

WORF

Then I know you will do the right
thing, sir.

With that, Worf EXITS, as we:

GO TO:

25 OMITTED

26 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE - LATER - KYLE (OPTICAL)

turns to face Riker who ENTERS:

26 CONTINUED:

KYLE

Finally. We're alone. Maybe --

RIKER

I'm here for the briefing, sir.

Kyle reacts, sees that Riker is all business. Kyle hands him a message disk.

KYLE

All you need to know is here.

RIKER

The mission details could've been transmitted --

KYLE

I've been hearing good things about you.

RIKER

Why didn't I ever hear from you?

Kyle reacts to that, studies the floor for a beat; then:

KYLE

I know. Keeping in touch isn't my strong suit.

(then)

Funny thing about being a parent. There aren't any tech manuals, no quick readouts to get you to the next set of variables. You just kind of wing it from day to day... Will, when your mother died --

RIKER

Excuse me, sir, but I need to study this briefing material...

KYLE

Will. I came to the Enterprise because... look, considering where you might be going, I wanted to...

(then)

I'm here with my hand out, son --

26 CONTINUED: (2)

With that, Riker studies his father for a beat, then steps around his father and strides away. Kyle watches him go with mounting concern, as we:

27 OMITTED

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

28 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

establishing the great ship maintaining synchronous orbit over Starbase Montgomery.

29 INT. SICKBAY - PULASKI

turns from comforting an isolated patient, and we PULL BACK to reveal:

30 KYLE

watching her. She EXITS into his area.

PULASKI

(re the patient)

Poor guy. Picked up a flu virus on our last stop at Nasreldine.

KYLE

Sounds nasty. What's the therapy?

PULASKI

Tryptophan-lysine distillates with generous doses of PCS.

KYLE

PCS?

PULASKI

"Pulaski's Chicken Soup."

Kyle shares a laugh at her joke, then:

KYLE

(re the patient)

You've still got the touch, haven't you?

Just then, TROI ENTERS in the b.g., overhearing.

PULASKI

I like to help. When they hurt, I hurt.

30 CONTINUED:

Troi steps up to them with:

TROI

Commander Pulaski's greatest
medical skill is her empathy.

(then, to Kyle)

You must be Commander Riker's
father.

He reacts, smiles, a bit nonplussed.

KYLE

Yes, but how --

TROI

We've all heard about you.

(then)

And I've felt certain things.

Kyle reacts, glances at Pulaski, who smiles at his
discomfort, then explains by way of introduction:

PULASKI

This is Deanna Troi, ship's
counselor.

KYLE

(nods warily)

Kyle Riker.

PULASKI

I thought you two should meet.

(then)

Troi's job is to keep us from
deluding ourselves.

KYLE

(re Troi)

Let me guess: Betazoid?

TROI

At your service.

Pulaski smiles at that, makes her exit.

PULASKI

I've got some lab work to do, so
if you'll excuse me...

30 CONTINUED: (2)

Pulaski makes her EXIT, leaving Kyle to face Troi now,
as she begins to "read" him.

KYLE

Why do I get the feeling this is
a set-up?

TROI

Because you are intelligent,
wise... and quite correct.

KYLE

(re Troi;
appreciatively)
I've been set up with worse,
that's for sure --

TROI

You're also anxious about
something. It's your son, isn't
it? You're not as close to him
as you'd like to be...

KYLE

(wryly)
Oh, I don't know. Wouldn't you
say we both have pretty good taste
in women?

TROI

I'd like to help if I can. If
you allow me.

KYLE

Fine. What do you want from me?
I came here to bury the hatchet
with Will and I find out the
ground is frozen solid.

TROI

You're not the kind of man who
gives up so easily.

KYLE

I didn't say I was giving up.
It would just be nice to get a
little something from him.

TROI

What is it you want from him?

30 CONTINUED: (3)

KYLE

I don't know. Acknowledgement,
maybe... or --

TROI

Respect is earned, not bestowed.

KYLE

Respect? I don't need that from
him.

TROI

Perhaps you want him to be proud
of you, for you carry great pride
in his accomplishments --

KYLE

Absolutely! Look at him! First
officer on the Enterprise, just
offered his first command --

TROI

Yet... You covet his success --

KYLE

Please. He'd be lucky to have
the career I've had!

TROI

True. You are well respected in
your field.

30 CONTINUED: (4)

KYLE

I may have something of a
reputation for excellence --

TROI

And false humility.

Kyle reacts to that with a smile. Then:

KYLE

My guess is that Will finds you
pretty fascinating. Candor seems
to be a trait he admires.

TROI

Honesty is the trait he admires.

(then)

You're very competitive with him,
aren't you?

He reacts to that, considers it, then dismisses it.

KYLE

Maybe... in the past. But I'm
here to help Will prepare for his
first mission as captain.

TROI

Are you sure he'll accept such
a dangerous assignment?

KYLE

(concerned)

He'll take it just because it is
so dangerous.

TROI

How can you be so sure?

KYLE

Because I would. And we aren't
so different, Will and I...

GO TO:

31 INT. RIKER'S QUARTERS - PICARD

stands to one side, watching Riker.

PICARD

I've seen your mission briefing.

31 CONTINUED:

RIKER

Yes, sir.

PICARD

Any questions?

RIKER

No sir.

(then)

Other than a mention of the Ares's first officer.

PICARD

His name is Flaherty, as I recall.

RIKER

That's right. The briefing said something about uncanny linguistic skills.

PICARD

Correct. The last time I saw him, Commander Flaherty spoke over forty languages. Klingon, Romulan, Giamon, and Stroyerian were among the more colorful, as I recall...

RIKER

He speaks alien dialects?

PICARD

He has the unique ability of instantaneously interpreting, collating, and extrapolating any verbal communication he hears.

(then)

You should find him helpful in Sector Vega-Omicron.

RIKER

I'm sure I will.

31 CONTINUED: (2)

Suddenly, they're both distracted by the DOOR CHIME.

RIKER

Enter.

Kyle ENTERS, all smiles as he greets Picard.

KYLE

Captain Picard. At last.

(re Riker)

I'd like to thank you for all the
help you've been to my son --

31 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD

My only regret is that your
reunion will mark Will's farewell.

KYLE

(re Riker)

He's ready for this command.

PICARD

I have no doubt --

KYLE

Captain? May I have a word with
my son?

PICARD

Of course... excuse me,
gentlemen...

Picard EXITS; Riker turns to face his father.

RIKER

I won't be pushed into this.

KYLE

(smiling)

Oh, come on, Willy. Don't you
think you're ready for the
Ares -- ?

RIKER

Starfleet does.

KYLE

Of course. You're the best
candidate for this job. But I
want you to know I'm here if you
need me...

RIKER

I've been on my own since I was
fifteen. I can take care of
myself.

Kyle reacts, begins to bristle.

31 CONTINUED: (4)

KYLE

Please! Spare me the "pain" of your childhood. I hung in there for thirteen years. If that wasn't enough, then that's just too bad.

With that, Kyle turns to the door. It opens. He EXITS. The door closes, as we:

GO TO:

32 INT. MAIN ENGINE ROOM - GEORDI AND DATA

are observing the Starbase Montgomery crew as they continue their analysis of the situation. Geordi is beginning to feel the pressure.

GEORDI

Maybe I missed something --

DATA

The ship's computer would have corrected immediately --

GEORDI

My inputs could have been in error --

Just then, Wesley ENTERS with a sense of urgency.

WESLEY

Geordi! Data! I figured out Worf's problem --

GEORDI

You spoke to him?

WESLEY

No, no. I accessed the complete Klingon cultural database. It took some time, but --

GEORDI

Okay, Wesley. What is the problem?

32 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

It's the tenth anniversary of
Worf's Age of Ascension.

GEORDI

His what?

WESLEY

The Age of Ascension is a
Klingon ritual of great
significance. A rite of
initiation, marking a new level
of Klingon spiritual attainment.

DATA

Of what significance is the
anniversary of this event?

WESLEY

It's a day of ritual and
celebration with one's fellow
Klingons... and he doesn't have
any Klingon friends.

GEORDI

But we're his friends --

WESLEY

But we don't practice Klingon
tradition. And we're not
Klingons.

(then)

Worf's feeling socially...
culturally isolated.

GEORDI

Well, what do you suggest? I'm
not sure I'd like to invite a
bunch of Klingons on board --

DATA

We can program the ship's computer
to provide us with simulations
on the Holodeck --

GEORDI

Holographic Klingons? Sure. Why
not?

32 CONTINUED: (2)

DATA

We need only to program the
computer with details of the
specific ceremony...

WESLEY

The cultural database said the
initiate's family must be
present --

32 CONTINUED: (3)

GEORDI

So? We're his family. We'll go.

(then)

I just wonder what kind of party
the Klingons had in mind...

And as they all react to that consideration, we:

GO TO:

33 INT. PULASKI'S OFFICE - PULASKI

is working as Riker ENTERS.

RIKER

Do you have a minute?

PULASKI

Sure...

RIKER

I wanted to apologize for my
remarks in Ten-Forward. Your past
is none of my business.

PULASKI

Even if it involves your father?

RIKER

Yes. Even if it involves my
father.

Pulaski sits quietly for a moment, then asks:

PULASKI

Did he ever tell you why he never
remarried?

RIKER

What woman would have him? With
an ego like his --

33 CONTINUED:

PULASKI

I would have. In a cold minute.

(then)

Twelve years ago, Kyle Riker was a civilian strategist advising Starfleet in its conflict with the Tholians. The starbase he was working from was attacked. None of the base crew was expected to live. And they all died... All except your father.

(then, quietly)

Your father alone had the will to endure, to face the pain, to live.

RIKER

I never knew that about him.

PULASKI

I never saw a man fight so hard in my life.

RIKER

And you fell in love?

PULASKI

Yes. And so did he.

(then)

But marriage was out of the question. He had other priorities...

RIKER

His career.

She considers that, then offers:

PULASKI

You know, if I were you... going out on the Ares, I'd jettison the emotional baggage you're still carrying around.

33 CONTINUED: (2)

Pulaski EXITS and we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

34 INT. ENGINEERING - DATA, WESLEY, AND GEORDI

stand near Geordi's engineering station, the Starbase Montgomery techs working in the b.g.

WESLEY

Now the Klingon cultural database was very specific on the setting.

GEORDI

Let me guess: A twenty-piece orchestra in a magnificent ballroom. Everybody in formal wear --

WESLEY

There's an unusual test of inner strength involved --

DATA

I believe that will entail the use of Klingon "painstiks."

GEORDI

"Painstiks"? Sounds lovely --

DATA

Enduring physical suffering is considered a Klingon spiritual test.

GEORDI

You mean... for Worf to celebrate the anniversary of his Ascension... he has to be hurt? And we have to witness this?

34 CONTINUED:

DATA

We are his family.

And as Geordi reacts to that, we:

GO TO:

35 INT. CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM - PICARD

is at his desk console. The CHIME SOUNDS.

PICARD

Come.

The door slides open. Riker ENTERS.

PICARD

(continuing)

Everything in order, Number One?

RIKER

I'd be a fool to turn this
promotion down, wouldn't I?

35 CONTINUED:

PICARD

I don't know, and if you're asking me what I think you should do, I don't know that either. But I can spell out, albeit crudely, what you are choosing between.

(a beat)

Your present position as first officer of the Enterprise brings you prestige, distinction, even glamour of a kind. You are the second in command of Starfleet's flagship -- but still, second in command. Your promotion will transfer you to a relatively insignificant ship in an obscure corner of the galaxy, but it will be your ship. Being who you are, that ship will vibrate with your authority, your style, your vision. There is no substitute for being in the center of the stage -- any stage.

RIKER

I'll need a little more time before I'll have a decision.

PICARD

Granted.

Riker reacts to that, as we:

GO TO:

36 INT. ENGINEERING - DATA AND GEORDI

stand on the platform above the Starbase Montgomery team, watching them go through their painstaking analysis as O'Brien steps up.

O'BRIEN

They find anything yet?

GEORDI

Not yet...

DATA

There is nothing to find.

36 CONTINUED:

O'BRIEN

No harm in checking, I guess.

GEORDI

Really? How would you like them giving your transporter operation a little once-over?

O'BRIEN

No problem. We're totally ship-shape.

GEORDI

You miss the point. It's just the idea that they even suspect a malfunction.

DATA

Geordi, let them look.

36 CONTINUED: (2)

Wesley approaches, stepping up to O'Brien with:

WESLEY

Chief, will you be able to attend
a little party for Worf at
seventeen hundred hours?

O'BRIEN

A party for Worf? That sounds
intriguing. I'd be delighted --

GEORDI

It's a surprise, okay?

O'BRIEN

My lips are sealed.

Data, Geordi, and Wesley respond enthusiastically to
that, as we:

GO TO:

37 OMITTED

38 INT. TROI'S OFFICE - RIKER

has just entered.

RIKER

I didn't want to leave without
saying good-bye.

TROI

I don't like good-byes. How about
"until next time"?

RIKER

Until next time.

She rises, trying to be tough, to keep this
professional.

TROI

It's been a pleasure serving with
you, Commander.

RIKER

That's mutual, Counselor.

38 CONTINUED:

She stands there, biting her lip for a beat, then admits, almost embarrassed:

38 CONTINUED: (2)

TROI

I'm supposed to know how everyone
feels... but I... I can't read
you right now.

He takes a tentative step toward her, suggesting:

RIKER

Maybe your own feelings are
getting in the way --

TROI

My job is to help others sort
out their emotions. My own
feelings are beside the point --

RIKER

Not to me. Feelings are what
make us human --

TROI

(then, hopefully)
Are you feeling sadness?

RIKER

Yes.

She looks at him, a tear slipping down her cheek now.

TROI

So am I.

He takes the final step toward her, pulling her into a
firm, caring embrace, as we:

GO TO:

39 OMITTED

40 KYLE

waiting outside Riker's doorway. Riker approaches.
Their eyes meet.

KYLE

I'll be leaving at twenty-one
hundred hours. May I have a
minute?

40 CONTINUED:

Riker considers that, then steps into his quarters.
Kyle follows, as we:

GO TO:

41 INT. RIKER'S QUARTERS - RIKER

turns to face his father.

RIKER

Look, I've been giving you my best
Academy courtesy -- but it's
really time for you to go.

KYLE

It's time for us to talk, so lower
your shields and --

RIKER

I'm asking you to leave, or I'll --

KYLE

You'll what?

(then, cocky)

Y'know, it's really a shame
there's no anbo-jyutsu ring nearby,
because you need to be put in your
place.

RIKER

Really? There is. Deck Twelve.
The gymnasium.

KYLE

Why don't we clear the air once
and for all -- ?

RIKER

You're on.

Kyle and Riker eyeball each other, as we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

STAR TREK: "... Icarus..." - REV. 2/8/89 - ACT FIVE 40-40A.

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

42 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

establishing the great starship in its synchronous orbit.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, Stardate 42686.9.
(TO BE DETERMINED)

43 OMITTED

43A INT. PULASKI'S OFFICE (OR SICKBAY)

looks up from her work as Kyle ENTERS.

KYLE

Ship's scuttlebutt has it that
you wanted to see me.

PULASKI

That's right...
(then)
I thought I knew you, Kyle.

KYLE

You do. About as well as
anyone --

PULASKI

Then what's this about an
anbo-jyutsu match with Will?

KYLE

(suppressing a smile)
You heard.

PULASKI

Haven't we grown beyond the point
where we resolve our problems
through physical conflict?

KYLE

I think you're overreacting --

PULASKI

I'm overreacting. You're the one
who's going to fight his own son!

KYLE

It's not a fight, Kate. Think
of it as more of a... "contest."

PULASKI

And suppose one of you is injured?

He smiles, reaches out and tweaks her cheek playfully.

KYLE

I know where to find a good
doctor.

43A CONTINUED:

PULASKI

Don't patronize me, Kyle.

KYLE

Look. Will and I started playing anbo-jyutsu when he was eight. He knows how to handle himself... and so do I.

PULASKI

(considers that; then)

Well, don't take this the wrong way, but Will's in his prime, and --

KYLE

-- And I'm no spring chicken, I know.

(then, with a wink)

Don't worry. He's never been able to beat me.

With that, Kyle EXITS, as we:

GO TO:

44 INT. HOLODECK - DATA, GEORDI, AND WESLEY (OPTICAL)

stand before O'Brien and Pulaski, all of them reacting to the frightening sight in front of them: A true Klingon Rite of Ascension Chamber. It's a large, eerily-lighted room. The walls and floors are surfaced in polished stainless steel.

44 CONTINUED:

In the middle of the room is a wide stainless-steel trough that runs into a drain, on either side of which are long raised platforms. Data steps forward, filled with trepidation, while the others all study the room with silent awe.

DATA

Computer... Is this it?

COMPUTER VOICE

Correct. Klingon Rite of
Ascension Chamber.

Data looks to Geordi, who wonders:

GEORDI

Is this really necessary?

WESLEY

If we're going to get Worf through
his problem, it is.

Data steps back. Then:

DATA

Computer... may we please have
Klingon personnel appropriate for
this event?

Suddenly, EIGHT FORMIDABLE KLINGONS appear along the sides of the trough. They each hold an exotic, cattle-prod-like "painstik." Everyone reacts to the sudden appearance of the Klingons.

DATA

These images are specifically
programmed for Ascension rites.

GEORDI

Cute bunch.

Wesley takes a step forward, studying them and the painstiks.

WESLEY

And they use those?

44 CONTINUED: (2)

O'Brien reacts with caution.

O'BRIEN

Those are Klingon painstiks. I
once saw one of them used against
a two-ton Rectyne Monopod. Poor
creature jumped five meters at
the slightest touch. Finally died
from excessive cephalic pressures --

44 CONTINUED: (3)

GEORDI
(wincing at that)
You don't mean... ?

O'BRIEN
(nodding affirmatively)
That's right. The animal's head
exploded just like --

PULASKI
I think that's enough, Chief
O'Brien.

DATA
Are we ready?

And as they all react, we:

GO TO:

45 INT. CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE HOLODECK - WORF

approaches impatiently, Troi at his side, reassuring
him.

WORF
I do not enjoy riddles,
Counselor.

TROI
You will enjoy this one.

WORF
I am in no mood for trifling or
games! Not today!

TROI
I know what an important day this
is for you: The anniversary of
your Rite of Ascension.

WORF
You know about that?

TROI
Yes. All your friends on board
do.

45 CONTINUED:

WORF

That is impossible. The Rite of Ascension is a secret known only to Klingons --

TROI

-- And certain resourceful young Ensigns...

WORF

Wesley? What does he know about it -- ?

TROI

Enough. Now just bear with me.

WORF

Where are we going?

TROI

The Holodeck.

WORF

This truly tries my patience, Counselor.

As they approach the entrance to the Holodeck, Worf stops, reacts.

45 CONTINUED: (2)

TROI

I think you will approve.

WORF

You are not going in?

TROI

No.

She heads off. He turns to the door, suddenly curious.

WORF

Open.

The Holodeck doors open. Worf reacts, sucking his breath in with great glee as he sees:

46 INT. HOLODECK - THE RITE OF ASCENSION CHAMBER

populated now by his Enterprise comrades who all stand off to one side, the eight Klingon holographs standing along the trough, forming a rather forbidding gauntlet as they hold their painstiks at the ready. Worf ENTERS, almost teary-eyed as he regards Data, Wesley, Pulaski, Geordi, and O'Brien.

WORF

An Ascension ceremony? For me?

GEORDI

Happy anniversary, Worf.

WORF

Thank you... oh, thank you!

DATA

Shall we begin?

WORF

Oh, yes. Please!

47 Worf

moves to the head of the trough, looks at his audience,
then intones:

Worf

DaHjaj Suvwi''e' jIH. tIgwIj
Sa'angNIS. 'Iw bIQtIqDaq jIjaH.
Today I am a Warrior. I must
show you my heart. I travel the
river of blood.

Data leans over to Wesley and Geordi.

47 CONTINUED:

DATA

The true test of Klingon strength
is to admit one's most profound
feelings... while under extreme
duress.

Geordi and Wesley nod, impressed as they turn now to see Worf step down into the trough. At a processional pace, he begins the walk down the channel, coming between two of the Klingons. He looks at them with great sincerity.

WORF

jIbechrup may' vIlos.

Whereupon the first two Klingons jab painstiks at Worf, sparks flying off the end as Worf writhes in absolute, breathtaking agony. After a moment, they pull the painstiks from Worf. Worf's voice is weak as he growls:

WORF

(continuing)

The battle is mine. I crave only
the blood of the enemy.

Worf staggers down the trough, stopping in front of the next pair of Klingons.

WORF

(continuing)

HIHlvqa'.

The Klingons strike out with the painstiks; and, as contact is made, sparks fly and Worf's body contorts in wretched agony. They break contact with the painstiks now and Worf fights for equilibrium, shuddering with the pain of this as he utters hoarsely:

47 CONTINUED: (2)

WORF

(continuing)

The bile of the vanquished flows
over my hands.

Then he steps down to the next pair of Klingons with:

WORF

(continuing)

may'pequ' moH.

Pulaski looks over to Data, who finds this difficult, reacting with a start as the Klingons nail Worf with their painstiks; he falls to his knees, twitching violently, and, as Worf fights for control, they remove the painstiks. Worf collapses at the end of the trough, rolls over, and... smiles at them all, whispering:

WORF

(continuing)

Thank you, my friends. Thank
you... You have my respect. My
admiration. My eternal gratitude --

There is applause from them all now, as we:

GO TO:

47A INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE - TROI

Pulaski ENTERS.

TROI

Is Worf all right?

PULASKI

He's never been happier.

TROI

Then it was a good ceremony?

PULASKI

Let's just say I wasn't about to
stay for the refreshments.

TROI

Klingon culture is not to your
taste?

47A CONTINUED:

PULASKI

I'm just glad humans have progressed beyond the need for such barbaric displays.

TROI

Have they? Commander Riker and his father are up on the Holodeck about to engage in barbarism of their own.

PULASKI

Don't remind me. It's not something of which I approve --

TROI

In spite of human evolution, there seem to be certain traits endemic to gender.

PULASKI

You think they're going to knock each other's brains out just because... they're men?

TROI

Males are certainly unique. In adulthood, fathers continue to regard their sons as children... and sons continue to chafe against what they perceive as their fathers' expectations of them.

Pulaski considers that for a beat; then:

PULASKI

It's almost as if they never really grow up at all, isn't it?

TROI

Perhaps that's why men remain so attractive.

PULASKI

Particularly men like Commander Riker?

Troi reacts with a blush, but responds in kind.

TROI

(touche)

As well as his father, I'm sure...

47A CONTINUED: (2)

Pulaski smiles, acknowledging that; then, concerned:

PULASKI
(re the Holodeck)
I just hope they don't hurt each
other up there...

They each consider that grave possibility, as we:

GO TO:

48 OMITTED

49 INT. GYMNASIUM - RIKER AND KYLE (OPTICAL)

approach an exotic combat arena, wearing anbo-jyutsu gear which consists of snug face shield and helmet, abdomen shield, and slender pads on all other vital areas. They carry anbo-jyutsu staffs, tapered on one end, padded on the other, with a reostat twist-shaft in the center grip. The arena itself is a ring fourteen feet in diameter.

KYLE

Anbo-jyutsu. The ultimate evolution of the martial arts.

RIKER

I remember my early lessons.

KYLE

You could never get used to the sightless factor... or to losing.

RIKER

True. But I've had fifteen years of practice.

KYLE

Then let's see if you've learned anything...

Riker considers that, accepts the challenge formally as he stiffens, then bows quickly and flips the blind-shield down in front of his face. Kyle does the same, as they shout in unison:

RIKER

Yoroshiku-onegaishimasu!

KYLE

Yoroshiku-onegaishimasu!

And the battle begins as each man stalks the other with the tapered end of his staff. The closer the staff's tip comes to the opponent, the louder a series of BEEPS which are emitted. Kyle finds Riker's leg, swiftly swings his staff at Riker, but as he does, of course, the BEEPS cease as the tapered end moves away from the target, allowing Riker to dodge the blow.

49 CONTINUED:

(Silence from the opponent's staff means that he's taking a swing and cues a defensive move.) As Kyle recovers from the missed blow, Riker suddenly reverses direction, swings, and knocks Kyle's feet out from under him and, as he tumbles to the mat outside the ring, the POINT BUZZER SOUNDS.

Both men flip up their blind-shields as Kyle regains his feet and re-enters the ring.

KYLE

You have been practicing.

RIKER

And remembering.

(then)

You never should've let her die.

Riker flips his blind-shield down, quickly bowing, shouting:

RIKER

Yoroshiku-onegaishimasu.

Kyle reacts, pleased; then:

KYLE

Good. Get it all out!

Now Kyle flips his blind-shield down again, quickly bowing, shouting:

KYLE

Yoroshiku-onegaishimasu.

They stalk one another again. Riker makes a brilliant move, but somehow Kyle artfully avoids his son's blow. Riker reacts, frustrated and amazed as he shouts:

RIKER

Matta!

The action stops. They each flip up their blind-shields, Riker furrowing his brow curiously.

RIKER

I had you.

KYLE

Will, listen. You were too young to understand -- and I was too hurt to explain.

49 CONTINUED: (2)

RIKER

You've never been hurt by anything.

KYLE

She was your mother, but she was my wife -- and when she died... all that kept me going was you.

RIKER

You had a strange way of showing it.

KYLE

Damnit, Will -- you were barely out of diapers. You hardly knew her. I loved her. Of course you've had the pain... and so have I. I should have tried to explain all of this long ago, but it hurt too much. Then a wall went up between us... and living there, just you and me... the wall got bigger.

RIKER

Why didn't we move away? Start over?

KYLE

I promised her. It was the life she wanted for you... so...

(shrugs it off)

I came here thinking we could talk this out. But maybe you're right. Maybe I'm no father at all... and you're no son. Maybe this... this fight is all we have left.

Kyle flips his blind-shield down again; Riker hesitates, studying his father for a long beat. Then they bow and face off once again, as Riker calls upon all his stamina to avoid his father's clever blows, summoning an inner reserve of will and determination as he deftly parries Kyle's offensive move, suddenly freezing in his tracks with:

RIKER

Matta!

49 CONTINUED: (3)

They both flip up their blind-shields, Kyle looking confident, Riker appearing frustrated.

KYLE

What is it now?

RIKER

You can't do that!

KYLE

(feigning innocence)

What?

RIKER

Hachidan kiritsu! That's
illegal --

KYLE

You're kidding.

Riker studies his father for a long beat, his eyes suddenly twinkling with the realization.

RIKER

All those years... That's why I
could never win... you were
cheating!

Kyle smiles guiltily, a bit embarrassed, as he removes his helmet and shrugs.

KYLE

Hey, it worked. Kept you coming
back for more.

Riker can't help himself as an incredible wave of relief washes over him and removes his helmet as he starts laughing with:

RIKER

I always hated that... and you
were just cheating! Incredible!
How'd you get away with it?

KYLE

You were just a kid.
(then, admitting)
Once you were twelve, I knew I
couldn't take you... but I had
to keep you interested...
challenged... didn't I?
(MORE)

49 CONTINUED: (4)

KYLE (Cont'd)

(a pause, then)

Y'know, I can talk to a roomful
of admirals about anything in
the galaxy... but why can't I talk
to you about how I feel?

RIKER

How do you feel?

KYLE

How do you think, Will?

(then)

I love you, son.

Riker is rocked by Kyle's candor, his facade crumbling.

RIKER

Really?

KYLE

Really.

Now Riker and Kyle embrace in a gripping, passionately
courageous and manful hug. There may or may not be
tears; there is certainly mutual love, as Kyle looks
his son squarely in the eye.

KYLE

(continuing)

I've got to get back to Starbase
Montgomery...

RIKER

I know.

(then)

I'm glad you came.

KYLE

You be careful, okay?

With that, Kyle EXITS the gym, Riker watching his
father go, as we:

GO TO:

50
thru OMITTED
54

55 OMITTED

56 OMITTED

57 INT. MAIN BRIDGE - THE BRIDGE CREW

is in place with the exception of Riker, who is absent. Troi is at Picard's left, Wesley at Conn, Data at Ops, Worf at Tactical, Geordi at Engineering as Worf turns to Picard with:

WORF

Starbase Montgomery briefing specialist and analytical team have beamed down, sir.

PICARD

(to Geordi)

What were the analytical team's findings?

57 CONTINUED:

GEORDI

They suggested we reprogram the system to correct the readout variables.

PICARD

Precisely what Data recommended, as I recall. But it did give Commander Riker the time he needed to consider his promotion. Now that he's accepted it, we can leave him at Starbase Montgomery.

57 CONTINUED: (2)

He's distracted as:

58 THE TURBOLIFT DOORS

open and Riker steps out onto the bridge.

PICARD
Number One?

RIKER
Captain... with your permission,
I've decided to remain on the
Enterprise.

PICARD
... granted.

RIKER
Thank you, sir.

As Riker crosses and takes his seat:

RIKER
(continuing)
Take us out of orbit,
Mister Crusher.

WESLEY
Terminating synchronous orbit.

Riker takes his position next to Picard.

RIKER
Set course for Beta Kupsic...
That is still our next
destination?

Picard responds with an affirmative nod.

RIKER
(continuing)
... Velocity - warp factor five.

WESLEY
Course and speed set.

PICARD
(there is a pause)
Any particular reason for this
change of heart?

58 CONTINUED:

RIKER

Motivated self-interest. Right
now the best place for me to be
is right here.

Off Picard's reaction:

PICARD

(then to Conn)
Engage.

59 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

achieves warp speed and flashes past us into the galaxy
and we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END