

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Remember Me"
#40274-179

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FINAL DRAFT

AUGUST 9, 1990

STAR TREK: "Remember Me" - REV. 8/14/90 - CAST

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Remember Me"

CAST

PICARD	DOCTOR DALEN QUAICE
RIKER	TRAVELER
DATA	CARA HILL
BEVERLY	
TROI	
GEORDI	
WORF	
WESLEY	
O'BRIEN	
NURSE	
COMPUTER VOICE	

Non-Speaking

N.D. DOCTORS, NURSES & PATIENTS
SECURITY OFFICER
SUPERNUMERARIES

STAR TREK: "Remember Me" - 8/9/90 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Remember Me"

SETS

INTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE
MAIN BRIDGE
CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM
OBSERVATION LOUNGE
CORRIDORS
TRANSPORTER ROOM
MAIN ENGINEERING
SICKBAY
TURBOLIFT
TROI'S OFFICE
DR. QUAICE'S QUARTERS
WESLEY'S QUARTERS
CREW QUARTERS

EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE
STARBASE 133

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Remember Me"
TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. STARBASE 133 - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

is docked at this starbase on the edge of a planetary system. A planet is clearly visible.

BEVERLY (V.O.)
Chief Medical Officer's log,
Stardate 44161.2. We are docked
at Starbase One-Three-Three for
scheduled crew rotation. I look
forward to welcoming aboard my
mentor, and dear friend, Doctor
Dalen Quaice, who will be
traveling with us to his home
planet, Kenda Two.

2 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

BEVERLY stands waiting patiently. O'BRIEN is at the console. A quite elderly man in a Starfleet uniform MATERIALIZES on the Transporter pad: DALEN QUAICE. He carries a small bag. As he steps slowly off the pad, Beverly moves to embrace him.

BEVERLY
Dalen!

QUAICE
It's good to see you again,
Beverly.

BEVERLY
You look wonderful.

QUAICE
(smiles)
A lie I can live with. It's kind
of your captain to ferry me home.

BEVERLY
It's on our way.
(to O'Brien)
Thank you, Chief.

2 CONTINUED:

O'BRIEN
My pleasure, Doctor.

Beverly and Quaice EXIT.

3 INT. CORRIDOR

As Beverly and Quaice walk along.

BEVERLY
Dalen, I was sorry to hear about
Patricia.

QUAICE
She'd been ill for some time.

BEVERLY
Is her death the reason you're
giving up your post here?

QUAICE
(nods)
We had a lifetime together, doing
all the things we'd ever dreamed.
And more. But when she was gone,
I couldn't continue to work in
that office, sleep in that bed
without her... the absence of
her was too... distracting...
(shakes his head)
I'm not sure I'm making any sense.

BEVERLY
Jack and I didn't have a lifetime,
only a few short years. But I
understand. When you realize
someone you love is lost
forever...

She shakes her head.

QUAICE
You know what the worst part of
growing old is? So many of the
people you've known all your
life are gone... and you realize
you didn't take the time to
appreciate them while you still
could...

(MORE)

3 CONTINUED:

QUAICE (Cont'd)
(beat)
I'm sorry. There was no reason
to heap all this emotional baggage
on you.
(indicates bag)
I usually travel light.

She puts her arm through his, comforting him, as they walk on. Her face is reflective as she thinks about what he said.

4 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

WESLEY is immersed in work at a computer as GEORDI and a couple of SUPERNUMERARIES make final preparations for departure.

GEORDI
Wes, time for the experiment is over... I want my warp engines back. Now.

Beverly ENTERS, stands near the warp drive, watching Wesley in silence, Quaice's words still fresh in her mind.

WESLEY
(working furiously)
Almost done, Commander.

On his computer screen is the CAD representation of his experiment: the warp drive and a network of shifting lines of energy forming a distinctively-shaped bubble within it.

GEORDI
Almost isn't good enough. You want to explain when the Captain says "Engage," and we just sit here?

WESLEY
Just a couple more minutes! I'm ready to try the new warp field!
(sees Beverly)
Mom?

BEVERLY
(pensive)
Don't let me interrupt.

4 CONTINUED:

WESLEY
(on the fly)
Hi!

GEORDI
Wes!

4A EXCLUDE BEVERLY (OPTICAL)

WESLEY
Right! Okay!

His fingers dance across the console. On the computer screen the bubble suddenly flares larger. There's an odd flash of light, almost subliminal, but everybody notices it.

GEORDI
Computer, level two diagnostic
on warp drive systems.

COMPUTER VOICE
Antimatter containment positive.
Warp drive within normal
parameters.

Geordi hurries over to Wesley.

GEORDI
Talk to me.

WESLEY
(stunned)
That shouldn't have happened.

GEORDI
Ensign Crusher --

WESLEY
Why would there be any visible
phenomena outside the drive?

RIKER'S COM VOICE
Umbilical disconnect.

GEORDI
Are you done?

WESLEY
Uh, yeah...

4A CONTINUED:

Geordi quickly returns to his station. Wesley saves his work, shuts down the experiment, looks around for his mother.

4B ANGLE - FAVORING WESLEY'S P.O.V.

Beverly has gone.

4C BACK TO SCENE

RIKER'S COM VOICE
Clear all moorings. Engineering,
aft thrusters.

Geordi stabs at his console, his team working quickly, but methodically around him.

GEORDI
Aft thrusters, aye. Impulse power
to the helm.

Wesley starts to go, stops, shoots a last concerned look around Engineering.

5 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

moves away from the starbase.

6 OMITTED

7 INT. CORRIDOR - THE NEXT MORNING

Beverly steps off a turbolift, heads for the door to some guest quarters, activates the door chimes. There is no acknowledgement. She tries again, then causes the door to open.

8 INT. QUAICE'S QUARTERS

Beverly ENTERS, looks around the room. Nothing looks disturbed.

BEVERLY
Dalen?
(no reply)
Dalen, it's Beverly.

8 CONTINUED:

She keys her communicator.

BEVERLY
Computer, current location of
Doctor Dalen Quaice.

COMPUTER VOICE
There is no Doctor Dalen Quaice
aboard the Enterprise.

As Beverly reacts, we:

9 OMITTED

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

10 INT. QUAICE'S QUARTERS

Beverly is waiting when the door opens. WORF ENTERS.

WORF

Doctor?

BEVERLY

Lieutenant Worf, yesterday, before we left starbase an old friend of mine came onboard: Doctor Dalen Quaice. I requested quarters for him. He was assigned here.

WORF

I was not aware of this passenger.

BEVERLY

I'm sorry. I thought it was standard procedure for you to be notified once Captain Picard approved passage.

WORF

It is. Please proceed.

BEVERLY

We were to meet for breakfast. But I can't seem to find him... or any of his things...

WORF

Computer, where is Doctor Dalen Quaice?

COMPUTER VOICE

There is no Doctor Dalen Quaice aboard the Enterprise.

BEVERLY

Lieutenant, Doctor Quaice is very old, and rather frail. If he fell somewhere... if his communicator were damaged...

WORF

I will order a search immediately.

10 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
Thank you.

Worf pauses in the doorway, turns to look at Beverly.

WORF
Even if Doctor Quaice had been
injured... why would his
belongings be missing?

She answers him with an equally puzzled look. Worf
nods, EXITS, leaving Beverly alone in the empty room.

11 INT. READY ROOM

PICARD is seated at his desk. Facing him are DATA,
Worf and Beverly.

WORF
Sir, I have several teams
conducting a deck-by-deck search.
It is not yet complete.

DATA
I have scanned the entire ship,
Captain. Other than the
Enterprise's regular complement,
I can find no one else onboard.

BEVERLY
(fearing the worst)
Your sensors wouldn't detect
him... if he were dead...

DATA
That is correct, Doctor.

PICARD
(to Beverly)
Could your friend have returned
to the starbase without telling
you? An emergency of some sort?

11 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

There were a lot of people going back and forth between the ship and the starbase yesterday.

DATA

We can easily check the transporter I.D. traces.

PICARD

By all means check the trace log. But even if the results are negative, contact Starbase Command. We should leave nothing to chance.

DATA

Yes, sir.

Picard nods, dismissed. Worf and Data EXIT. Beverly starts to go.

PICARD

Doctor, one moment please.
(she turns back)
I'm sure you are aware of procedures involving passengers.

BEVERLY

Of course. I don't know why Lieutenant Worf wasn't told about Doctor Quaice.

PICARD

I was not informed either.

BEVERLY

(startled)
But I sent in a request weeks ago.

PICARD

I never received it.

BEVERLY

I'm sure I had a confirmation.

Picard studies her for a moment, then:

PICARD

Computer, search passenger requests. Doctor Dalen Quaice.
(MORE)

11 CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD (Cont'd)
Point of embarkation: Starbase
One-Three-Three.

COMPUTER VOICE
No listing.

Picard looks at Beverly.

BEVERLY
Captain, I sent in that request.
And it was approved.

PICARD
Then it must have been intercepted
before it reached me.

BEVERLY
And someone else sent the
approval? Why?

PICARD
Doctor Quaice had been stationed
at the starbase for some time?

BEVERLY
Six years.

PICARD
It might be prudent to find out
if he'd acquired any enemies
there.

He stands, follows Beverly out.

12 INT. BRIDGE

Wesley is at the helm. Riker nods as Beverly and Picard emerge from the Ready Room.

RIKER
On course for Durenia Four, sir.

PICARD
Very good, Number One. Mister
Data?

12 CONTINUED:

DATA

Sir, Starbase One-Three-Three has no record at all of a Doctor Dalen Quaice.

Picard exchanges a look with Beverly.

PICARD

I thought he was stationed there for six years.

DATA

Not according to their computer. I have also accessed Starfleet records. There is no doctor currently serving in Starfleet named Quaice. In fact I cannot find any service record whatsoever. There are no birth records with that name. I find no --

BEVERLY

Data, I interned with him on Delos Four. I've known him for fifteen years.

DATA

I do not doubt you, Doctor. However I have tried one hundred seventy-three phonetic variations of the name, and --

BEVERLY

His name is Dalen Quaice. Q-U-A-I-C-E. Whatever the records say, they're wrong.

Turbolift doors open. Worf appears.

PICARD

Mister Worf?

WORF

Captain, we have completed our search. We cannot locate Doctor Quaice.

RIKER

You're not alone.

12A ANGLE - TO INCLUDE WESLEY

as he begins to realize a terrible possibility.

BEVERLY

He was onboard. I met him in
Transporter Room Three myself.

PICARD

Then it appears, for reasons
unknown, someone has gone to great
pains to erase all traces of this
man.

RIKER

(to Beverly)

Who was on transporter duty when
he came aboard?

HARD CUT TO:

13 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM - O'BRIEN

overseeing an N.D. CREWMAN working at an exposed panel.
PULL BACK to see Riker and Beverly with him.

O'BRIEN

(reacting)

Doctor Quaice? Was he part of
the regular crew rotation?

RIKER

No. He's a friend of Doctor
Crusher's.

13 CONTINUED:

O'BRIEN
When did he arrive?

BEVERLY
Sixteen hundred hours yesterday.

O'BRIEN
(startled)
That was my watch. I beamed this
man onboard?

BEVERLY
Yes. I was here to greet him.
An elderly man? Not in the best
of health?

O'BRIEN
I'm sorry. I do remember you were
here for a short while. But you
were alone.

Beverly stares at him.

BEVERLY
Was he invisible? Did I carry
on a conversation with thin air?

O'Brien looks at her as if she's doing that right now.

O'BRIEN
No, Doctor. As far as I can
recall, you came in, looked around
for a few moments... I asked you
if I could help you with
anything... All you said was
"Thank you." I said "My
pleasure," or something. That
was the end of it. There was no
one else here.

Beverly is stunned. She exchanges a glance with an
equally astonished Riker.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

14 INT. TURBOLIFT

Beverly and Riker on their way to the Bridge.

BEVERLY

I can't accept that Chief O'Brien
might be lying...

RIKER

He believes what he says. And
there is no trace imprint for
Doctor Quaice.

BEVERLY

Will, I didn't conjure up one of
my best friends from a test tube.

RIKER

If the ship's records have been
tampered with, then the
transporter records could have
been changed as well.

BEVERLY

And with everybody coming and
going yesterday, maybe O'Brien
just doesn't remember, or...

RIKER

Or?

BEVERLY

It might be a good idea to run
a diagnostic on him.

RIKER

To make sure he hasn't been
tampered with?

BEVERLY

What do you think?

RIKER

It's worth a try.

The door opens at the Bridge.

14 CONTINUED:

RIKER
I'll check the replicator activity logs -- eighteen hours is a long time to go without food. Or without someone seeing him.

He EXITS.

15 INT. SICKBAY

O'Brien is waiting when she arrives.

BEVERLY
Chief, this examination should only take a few minutes.

O'BRIEN
But I feel fine.

Only TWO NURSES are in sight. Beverly glances around, puzzled.

BEVERLY
(to Nurse)
Things are awfully quiet around here. Is everybody really that healthy?

NURSE
(smiles)
I'm not complaining.

BEVERLY
We should still have a full staff on duty.

She turns back to O'Brien, not noticing the odd look the Nurse gives her.

BEVERLY
Sit down, over here...

15 CONTINUED:

O'BRIEN

Doctor, it won't do any good to check my eyesight. I didn't see your friend.

BEVERLY

(indicates examination table)

I'll be a little more comprehensive than that, Chief.

(keys communicator)

Crusher to Doctor Hill.

(nothing)

Respond please. Doctor Selar, what is your present location?

(silence)

Computer, current whereabouts of Doctors Hill and Selar.

COMPUTER VOICE

There is no Doctor Hill or Doctor Selar aboard the Enterprise.

Beverly reacts.

15A INT. CREW QUARTERS (FORMERLY SCENE 19)

A middle-aged woman, CARA HILL, frowns at Beverly.

CARA

I'm afraid I don't understand.

BEVERLY

Your husband: Doctor Richard Hill...

CARA

With all due respect, you're mistaken. I'm not married.

Beverly stares at her.

BEVERLY

Of course you are. Your husband is my staff osteopath. You came onboard together six months ago.

CARA

I did report for duty six months ago. But I was alone.

(MORE)

15A CONTINUED:

CARA (Cont'd)
I am not married. I've never
been married --
(a wry smile)
-- except perhaps to exobiology.

This shakes Beverly.

16 INT. READY ROOM

Picard listens as Beverly explains.

BEVERLY
Doctors Hill and Selar, and four
other members of my medical staff
have all vanished. All record
of their ever having been on the
Enterprise has been excised from
the computer's memory.

PICARD
Did they come aboard with Doctor
Quaice?

BEVERLY
(shakes her head)
No. They've been here for months.
But the two duty nurses don't
remember them. Their families
don't even remember them...

PICARD
As O'Brien didn't remember Doctor
Quaice... ?

BEVERLY
(nods)
I checked O'Brien thoroughly.
I found no physiological
abnormalities.

WESLEY'S COM VOICE
Crusher to Captain Picard.

PICARD
Go ahead, Ensign.

16A INT. ENGINEERING

Wesley and Geordi are at a computer.

16A CONTINUED:

WESLEY

I'm in Engineering, sir. I think
there's something here you'd
better see. It might be
connected to Doctor Quaice's
disappearance.

PICARD'S COM VOICE

On my way.

Wes exchanges a glance with Geordi.

17 INT. BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

As Beverly and Picard ENTER from the Ready Room, Riker is in his chair, Data at Ops, Worf at Tactical. On the move...

PICARD
(to Riker)
Number One, any progress?

RIKER
(shakes his head)
No one's seen him. The replicator in his quarters hasn't been used.

PICARD
(to Worf)
Check shield and hull integrity for any sign of intruders...

WORF
Yessir... but I have been closely monitoring onboard sensors... there has been no indication...

PICARD
(interrupting)
Then give me a Level One diagnostic of all onboard sensors, and run a manual sweep for any anomalous airborne or electromagnetic readings. I want some answers.

Picard and Beverly get on the turbolift.

18 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Wesley and Geordi are at a computer. PULL BACK to find Beverly and Picard behind them.

WESLEY
I've been experimenting with Kosinski's warp field equations... Trying to find a way to improve engine efficiency.

PICARD
(nods)
I've read your reports.

18 CONTINUED:

GEORDI
We did a test run while we were
at the starbase.

Geordi indicates the terminal where we can see the CAD
diagram as before.

GEORDI
(continuing)
Here's what the computer recorded.

18A THE MONITOR - OKUDAGRAM (OPTICAL)

It is a very distinctive, twisting shape... unique
enough to be recognized later.

WESLEY
This is the static warp field
we created inside the warp drive.
The experiment was designed to
see if we could keep a bubble like
this intact.

GEORDI
As you'll see in a moment, we
couldn't.

On the screen the bubble expands, then contracts again
in the blink of an eye.

18B RESUME SCENE

GEORDI
There was a momentary flash of
light. It was all over the
spectrum.

BEVERLY
I remember that.

PICARD
Are you suggesting this bubble
could have made Doctor Quaice
disappear?

WESLEY
If he were caught in it...
yessir, it would seem to us like
he'd disappeared.

18B CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
Where would he go?

GEORDI
(sighs)
Who knows... he could even end
up outside our space-time
continuum...

PICARD
Was Doctor Quaice in Engineering
during your experiment?

GEORDI
No, sir.

PICARD
And this bubble never expanded
beyond Engineering?

WESLEY
Nossir.

PICARD
Then how could it have trapped
Doctor Quaice or the others?

WESLEY
Other people are missing?

BEVERLY
Yes, and they weren't anywhere
near Engineering either.

WESLEY
(shakes his head)
It doesn't make sense.

PICARD
And I doubt warp bubbles could
alter computer records, or erase
memories.
(beat)
Keep at it, Ensign, Mister La
Forge. It's the only working
theory we have for now.

They acknowledge. Picard and Beverly EXIT...

19 OMITTED

20 INT. SICKBAY

Beverly ENTERS. Sickbay is totally deserted. She stands frozen in the middle of the room, fighting off a rising panic. She turns and hurries out.

21 INT. BRIDGE

Beverly ENTERS from the turbolift. Data is at Ops, Picard and Riker looking over his shoulder. Worf is at Tactical, a SUPERNUMERARY at Conn. There are no other crew members present.

PICARD

Has something else happened?

BEVERLY

Sickbay is totally empty.
Apparently I no longer have any staff.

Picard, Data and Riker exchange glances.

RIKER

And that surprises you, Doctor?

BEVERLY

(stares at him)
Surprises me? I'll say it
surprises me! There should be
at least four members of my staff
on duty at all times.

DATA

I am afraid the ship's records
do not concur.

BEVERLY

What are you talking about?

DATA

You do not have a staff.

Again the panic begins to rise. Again Beverly fights it off.

21 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

You're telling me I'm the sole medical officer on a ship with over a thousand people on board?!

DATA

Excuse me, Doctor, but the entire ship's complement is two hundred thirty.

Beverly fights her emotions, trying to digest this.

BEVERLY

No. That's wrong! Whatever is happening is affecting your memories, too.

Picard studies her...

PICARD

Doctor, may I see you in my Ready Room?

Beverly looks at the others... who look at her... and follows Picard into the Ready Room.

21A INT. READY ROOM

As they enter, sit. Picard takes a long beat. The tone is low-key...

PICARD

Beverly, you're saying this ship has lost nearly eight hundred of its personnel... ?

BEVERLY

I know how it must sound...

PICARD

None of the scans reveal any anomalies... there is no sign of an intruder... Wesley's experiment clearly did not have the scope to affect an entire starship...

BEVERLY

The Enterprise is in serious danger. You must believe me...

21A CONTINUED:

PICARD

I have no choice but to believe you. The safety of my crew is at stake. But I want to be sure...

BEVERLY

That I haven't lost my mind?

They look at each other in a very personal way.

BEVERLY

I just examined myself... being the only doctor on board, I had to do it myself... there is no sign of dysfunction... yes, there's an elevation of adrenalin which I think is understandable...

A beat, she collects herself...

PICARD

Did you find anything that might suggest why you're apparently the only one among us unaffected by this... phenomenon?

BEVERLY

No.

(meets his eyes)
I'll talk to Troi.

PICARD

It wouldn't do any harm.

They exchange a glance in which Picard reveals a deeper personal caring for her.

BEVERLY

Jean-Luc, please... return to Starbase One-Three-Three for a full diagnostic. I realize you have only my word to convince you...

21A CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD
(keys insignia)
Mister Riker, set a course to
return to Starbase One-Three-Three
immediately.

RIKER'S COM VOICE
Aye, sir.

She looks at him gratefully

PICARD
Your word has always been good
enough for me.

On her reaction...

22

thru OMITTED

23

23A INT. BEVERLY'S OFFICE

Beverly ENTERS. We TRACK with her. Suddenly she stops dead, her eyes trying to focus on something she sees before her.

24 BEVERLY'S POV (OPTICAL)

Something is forming in the air: a swirling vortex of color and sound, spiraling larger, the sound a roar of white noise, growing in intensity.

25 BACK TO SCENE (OPTICAL)

As the vortex grows, its wind begins to buffet her. She finds herself being drawn by its force. She braces herself against the wall. But the pull grows stronger and stronger. Before she knows it she's caught up in a whirling, blinding maelstrom. She grabs on to something as she finds herself being inexorably pulled into the vortex... Beverly screams.

There's a blinding flash of light. The vortex is gone in a wink. She falls to the floor, and lies there, trying to catch her breath.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

26
thru OMITTED
29

30 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE

Picard, Troi, Geordi, Riker and Beverly are present.

GEORDI

I've had a team in Sickbay for two hours. We've run the mass spectrometer on all particulates... we've scanned the EM spectrum in case a wave guide was somehow leaking radiation... we've even crawled into the life support ductwork... Captain, I don't know what this vortex was that Doctor Crusher saw...

BEVERLY

I didn't just see it. I felt it. I barely got away from it!

And she realizes how paranoid this sounds... and the others look at her.

GEORDI

Well, there's nothing there now. And no sign there ever was.

A silence. Picard frowns.

PICARD

Is there any possible connection to Mister Crusher's experiment... could this warp bubble be... floating around the ship perhaps...

GEORDI

No, sir. The bubble was definitely contained in Engineering. There's no way it could affect something up on Deck Twelve.

30 CONTINUED:

Data ENTERS.

DATA

Sir, I have completed level-1 computer diagnostics. There are no malfunctions.

RIKER

Any other ships respond to our queries, Data?

DATA

The Wellington is the only Federation vessel in this sector... it reports normal operations. A Ferengi ship within communications range also reports nothing unusual.

RIKER

Have external sensors detected anything out of the ordinary?

DATA

The interstellar medium in this sector is slightly denser than average. However, all readings are well within normal parameters.

Picard mulls this over. Beverly asks the big question

--

BEVERLY

Are all members of the crew accounted for?

DATA

Yes, doctor.

BEVERLY

How many are there?

DATA

There are one hundred fourteen people on the Enterprise.

Everyone turns to look at Beverly.

30 CONTINUED: (2)

DATA

That is the exact number there
should be.

BEVERLY

(shakes her head)

There are now close to nine
hundred missing.

The others exchange glances... Picard's eyes stare at
the table top.

BEVERLY

(explodes)

Deck after deck of this ship is
now deserted. How do you explain
all the empty rooms? If only a
hundred fourteen people are
supposed to be on board, why all
the extra space?

DATA

(rattling off logical
explanations)

Transportation of colonists...
diplomatic missions... emergency
evacuations...

PICARD

(enough)

Thank you, Mister Data.

He looks up for the first time. Calmly --

PICARD

Have security confine all nonessential
personnel to their
quarters. Computer, Red Alert.

The Red Alert lights begin to flash.

BEVERLY

Sir, I'd like Lieutenant Worf
to program onboard sensors to
monitor all personnel... if we
can catch the exact moment someone
disappears...

This is met with absolute silence. She sees their
reactions.

30 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD
(gives her a blank
stare)
Whom did you say?

BEVERLY
Worf... chief of security... the
big guy who never smiles...
Klingon?

On Beverly as she looks at them, the Red Alert lights
continue to flash and...

30A INT. CORRIDOR

Troi moves down the hall. Beverly, trying to contain
her frustration, hurries after her...

BEVERLY
Deanna?

Troi stops, waits for Beverly.

BEVERLY
I need you to tell me if I've gone
completely mad.

TROI
(smiles)
If you can ask the question, I'd
say no.

BEVERLY
Don't evade the question.

TROI
(sympathetically)
Then ask me one I can answer.

A beat. Moving...

BEVERLY
Deanna, I've delivered babies who
no longer exist! No one else
remembers them. But I can close
my eyes, and see their faces as
clearly as I can see yours! What
if it isn't some huge conspiracy?!
What if it's just me?!

30A CONTINUED:

TROI
What if it is just you?

BEVERLY
Then, I've delayed a mission,
scared a lot of people...
including me...

TROI
So what?
(beat)
Beverly, you've acted in the best
interests of your ship and crew.
What more could you ask of
yourself? If it turns out to be
a... mistake... we'll be a little
late to Durenia Four... that's
all.

BEVERLY
It's not a mistake... I wish it
were...

TROI
When we reach Starbase, I'll order
a complete workup: both physical
and psychological.

BEVERLY
If we reach Starbase.
(beat)
Wesley... where's Wesley... ?

She doesn't finish, just turns and goes. On Troi's
concerned reaction...

31 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Only one supernumerary is working when Beverly rushes
in. She goes to the computer station he was working at
before. The same distinctive Okudagram is on the
monitors, graphically illustrating the warp field
bubble. But Wesley's not there. Red Alert continues.

BEVERLY
Wesley!!

31 CONTINUED:

Wes comes out from behind the drive.

WESLEY
Mom? You all right?

Beverly brings herself under control.

BEVERLY
No.
(beat)
We may have very little time
left...

Wesley looks at her with concern...

BEVERLY
You don't believe me...

WESLEY
I don't know, Mom...

BEVERLY
I don't have time to convince you.
Hundreds of people are gone and
your experiment is the only
possible explanation we have to
work on right now...

He indicates the monitor where we again see the CAD representation of the distinctively-shaped bubble.

WESLEY
There it is. I don't know what
else to do...

BEVERLY
Then find someone who does...
someone who knows more about...
about warp bubbles...

WESLEY
(overlapping)
I've already talked to Kosinski
on subspace... he can't explain
it either and it's all based on
his equations. There is someone
who might be able to help us, but
I can't reach him.

BEVERLY
Who?

31 CONTINUED: (2)

WESLEY

He was Kosinski's assistant...
an alien from Tau Alpha C... He
said he was a "Traveler"...
somehow he combined warp
technology with the energy of his
own thoughts...

BEVERLY

(thoughtful)

Yes, I remember... he took us
where thoughts and reality became
indistinguishable...

(beat)

Wesley, is it possible you've
accidentally re-created something
he did? Something that could
alter reality?

WESLEY

I don't see how. But he's the
only one who could tell us...
I've sent a message by subspace,
but Tau Alpha C is so far away,
it'll take days to get there.

BEVERLY

(pulling him along)

Maybe the Captain can help us...
We've got to find him. Come on...

WESLEY

I don't even know if he's still
alive. He was sick.

BEVERLY

Wesley, it's a chance, we have
to...

They turn a corner.

31A NEW ANGLE

When Beverly comes around the corner, Wesley is gone.
No optical. No sound effect. Just: no Wesley.

BEVERLY

(continuing)

-- try it...

She reacts as she realizes Wesley is gone.

31B WIDE

to show her completely alone in Engineering.

BEVERLY

Noooooo... !

32

thru OMITTED

33

34 INT. BRIDGE

Red Alert continues. Picard is in his chair. When Beverly gets off the turbolift, she sees there's no one else with Picard.

BEVERLY

(calm)

They're all gone... ?

Picard looks at her.

BEVERLY

(continuing)

Riker, Troi, Data... let me guess
-- you've never heard of any of
them.

PICARD

(anger growing)

Doctor, I believe I have been
more than fair. I have done
everything I can to substantiate
your... your perceptions --

34 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
Will Riker! Your First Officer.
He's very good at poker, likes
to cook, listen to jazz, plays
the trombone...

PICARD
I cannot find any evidence...

BEVERLY
(not to be interrupted)
... Commander Data, the android
who sits here at Ops, dreams of
being human, never gets the punch
line to a joke... ?

PICARD
... Beverly, we'll be arriving at
Starbase One-Three-Three in a few
hours...

BEVERLY
... Deanna Troi, you ship's
counselor, half-Betazoid, loves
chocolate, the arrival of her
mother makes you shudder? And
Geordi, O'Brien, Worf... Wesley,
my son -- They have been the
living, breathing heart of this
crew for over three years. They
deserve better than to be shrugged
off... brushed aside... to be
pinched out of existence like
this!

(a deep breath)
They all do. All nine hundred.
They deserve so much more...

35
thru OMITTED
38

39 ANGLE - PICARD AND BEVERLY

Picard goes to Beverly, touches her gently on the arm.

PICARD
Perhaps you should confine
yourself to Sickbay until we
arrive...

39 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
It's perfectly logical to you.
The two of us roaming about the
galaxy in the flagship of the
Federation. No crew at all.

PICARD
We've never needed a crew before.

She sits beside him.

BEVERLY
I don't suppose you remember an
alien from Tau Alpha C who was
once onboard... called himself
a Traveler... ?

Picard gives her a look of concern and sadness.

BEVERLY
Jean-Luc, I don't know how, but
you and I must find this Traveler
or another from his race... if
anyone can help us...

PICARD
You have my word... as soon as
we return to the starbase, I'll
make every effort to find him.

BEVERLY
This isn't a delusion. It isn't
a dream. There is a physical,
measurable phenomenon at work.
(beat, an idea)
Maybe you can help me identify
it...

PICARD
How?

BEVERLY
I'd like to use the ship's
computer to monitor your life
functions.

PICARD
Until I disappear.

39 CONTINUED: (2)

BEVERLY
It will happen.

PICARD
Very well. Computer, continuous scan: Captain Jean-Luc Picard vital signs. Audible readout. Begin now.

The computer begins a low volume recitation of Picard's vital signs. There are electronic EEG sounds and:

COMPUTER VOICE
One ten over seventy. One ten over seventy.

The readouts run continuously in the b.g.

BEVERLY
I promise you I'll continue to do whatever I can to figure out what's happening, and to bring you all back.
(beat)
I'm sorry I lost my temper.
You do remember that?

PICARD
Vividly. But if I have forgotten my closest friends and comrades, as you say, I deserved every word.

BEVERLY
For quite awhile now there's something I've been meaning to say to you. I may not get another chance. Jean-Luc, you and I --

The computer readout is gone in a wink. She is talking to empty air. She looks around the bridge, shakes her head.

BEVERLY
I won't forget. I won't forget any of you!

She hears a faint roaring noise, rapidly growing in intensity. She turns.

40 INCLUDE (OPTICAL)

the vortex forming again in front of the viewscreen. She begins to feel herself being dragged towards it. She grabs on to Tactical, holds on for dear life, as the vortex tries to claim her. It pulls her horizontal to the floor. But she is successfully fighting it. As her struggle continues, the camera pans across the vortex, as it begins to collapse. It fills the screen and

DISSOLVE TO:

40A THE VORTEX STILL FILLING THE SCREEN (OPTICAL)

The pan continuing. The screaming heart of the maelstrom. Another place can be discerned in the distance. A VOICE becoming more distinct.

VOICE (WESLEY)
I'm losing it... The link isn't holding, Commander!

41 OMITTED

42 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

We are on the other side of the vortex. Wesley and Geordi sit at computers, rapidly executing commands. No Red Alert. The vortex is swiftly contracting.

GEORDI
I'll try the secondary equations!

WESLEY
No, it's too late. Look.

The vortex contracts until only a minute point of energy hangs in space near the drive. Then this point, too, is gone.

WESLEY
I've lost it.

GEORDI
I'm sorry, Wesley.

WESLEY
It's over. We'll never get her back.

42 CONTINUED:

A beat.

TRAVELER (O.C.)
It's not over, Wesley.

Wesley and Geordi turn in surprise.

43 WIDER ANGLE (OPTICAL)

The Traveler phases in.

TRAVELER
(continuing)
There's still a way.

On their reactions...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

44 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

Moving at impulse speed against a backdrop of stars.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, Stardate 44162.5.
Two attempts to retrieve Doctor
Crusher have failed. And now the
Traveler, a mysterious visitor
from our past, has reappeared.

45 INT. OBSERVATION LOUNGE

Picard, Riker, Wesley, Geordi, Troi, Worf and the
Traveler. He is friendly and wants to be helpful,
at the same time he is a clearly superior being and is
a bit smug in this knowledge.

WESLEY
And then I sent a message by
subspace to Tau Alpha C asking
for help... but I didn't think
it would reach there for days...

TRAVELER
Actually, it didn't reach me...
not by subspace...

GEORDI
Then how did you know about the
warp bubble?

The Traveler looks at him with a vaguely patronizing
smile... a beat...

TRAVELER
It would take too long to
explain...

PICARD
(impatient)
Is she alive?

TRAVELER
(reassuring,
authoritative)
As long as she thinks she is
alive, she is alive.

45 CONTINUED:

RIKER

What the hell does that mean?

TRAVELER

(sighs with controlled
frustration)

Your species have very narrow
perceptions of time and space and
thought.

(beat, trying to make
it simple)

When Beverly Crusher was caught
in the static warp bubble, she
created her own reality. Her
thoughts at the precise moment
she was trapped determined its
shape and form.

TROI

Can you go in and get her back?

TRAVELER

No, it is her reality. I cannot
enter it... any more than I can
enter her thoughts.

WESLEY

But you said there's still a way.

The Traveler moves to Wesley - and there's an
intensity between them... Clearly, in Wesley, the
Traveler sees a being who can begin to reach beyond
his limitations and is excited by that possibility.

TRAVELER

I can help, but I can't do it
myself. Wesley, there is a power
within each of us that most people
haven't begun to realize... you
have, or I would not have known
to come here now...

(beat, dramatically)

Together, we may be able to open
a gateway for her. But she must
choose to walk through it.

Off reactions...

45A INT. SICKBAY

Red Alert continuing. Beverly walks slowly everywhere, examining everything, looking for something out of place, any clue that might help her... she's been doing a lot of thinking... takes a deep breath... (and there's a thread of gallows humor in all this for her now) ...

BEVERLY

Computer, we're going to apply precise diagnostic methodology. Once we've cataloged the symptoms, we'll proceed to determine the illness, and find a cure.
(considers)
We'll start with the assumption that I'm not crazy... if I am, it won't matter one way or the other...

She thinks about that a beat. Then...

BEVERLY

Computer, read the entire crew roster for the Enterprise.

COMPUTER VOICE

Doctor Beverly Crusher.

BEVERLY

Have I always been the only member of the crew on the Starship Enterprise?

COMPUTER VOICE

Affirmative.

BEVERLY

(not serious)
If this was a bad dream, would you tell me?

COMPUTER VOICE

(beat)
That information is not available.

She walks into --

45B INT. CORRIDOR

Opening doors as she walks down the deserted hallway... glancing inside...

45B CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
What date did I report on board?

COMPUTER VOICE
Stardate 41154. Fourteen hundred
hours, three minutes.

BEVERLY
That sounds about right.
(beat)
Computer, is there more than one
U.S.S. Enterprise?

COMPUTER VOICE
This vessel is the fifth starship
to bear the name U.S.S.
Enterprise. It is currently the
only one in service.

BEVERLY
What is the primary mission of
the Starship Enterprise?

COMPUTER VOICE
To explore the galaxy.

BEVERLY
Do I have the necessary skills
to complete that mission alone?

COMPUTER VOICE
Negative.

BEVERLY
Then why am I the only crew
member?
(a beat)
Aha, gotcha there...

COMPUTER VOICE
That information is not available.

She frowns. Enters a turbolift...

45C INT. BRIDGE

Red Alert continuing. As she ENTERS from the turbolift...

BEVERLY

Computer, are you familiar with the inhabitants of Tau Alpha C?

COMPUTER VOICE

Affirmative.

BEVERLY

Are any presently located on a starbase or vessel within communication range?

Beverly sits in the Captain's chair...

COMPUTER VOICE

Negative.

BEVERLY

Estimated time to Tau Alpha C at warp nine-point-five...

COMPUTER VOICE

One hundred twenty-three days.

BEVERLY

(beat, deciding)

Lay in a new course for Tau Alpha C. And send them a subspace message advising our arrival.

COMPUTER VOICE

Acknowledged.

BEVERLY

Engage.

Nothing happens. She reacts.

45C CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
Computer, did you change course?

COMPUTER VOICE
State new destination or
coordinates.

BEVERLY
I stated it, dammit... Tau Alpha
C...

COMPUTER VOICE
There is no Tau Alpha C listed
on current star maps...

On her reaction...

45D EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

At impulse.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, stardate 44162.8.
At the direction of the Traveler,
the Enterprise is returning to
Starbase One-Three-Three and the
precise position where the subspace
bubble was formed.

46 OMITTED

47 INT. ENGINEERING

Wes and the Traveler moving to the pool table. Geordi
works in the b.g. Wesley is very task-oriented here...
the Traveler patient, calm...

TRAVELER
Our goal will be to create a
stable gateway between our reality
and your mother's reality...

WESLEY
We've tried to stabilize it. The
link won't hold.

47 CONTINUED:

TRAVELER

Of course not. The equations are
only the first step. We will be
going beyond mathematics.

WESLEY

Just tell me what I have to do.

The Traveler studies him...

47 CONTINUED: (2)

TRAVELER

It's nothing I can tell you,
Wesley...

WESLEY

(frustrated)

Then how am I supposed to do it?
(off the Traveler's
even stare)
You said you'd help.

TRAVELER

You must allow me to help.

WESLEY

I don't know how.

The Traveler takes a long look at the distressed boy... puts an arm on his shoulder. He motions for Wesley sit down at the pool table in front of a panel display...

TRAVELER

Begin by letting go of your guilt,
Wesley.

WESLEY

It was my fault. I should never have tried...

TRAVELER

(interrupting)

Focus on the present. You will have to be here... completely... to help her back. You must open yourself to time and space and the intricate threads that bind them.

The Traveler sits opposite him at another station.

TRAVELER
Begin entering your warp field
equations...

Wesley begins to enter data into the panel, eyes watching his hands, smoothly professional, determined to do it right... the Traveler begins to enter data at the same time, eyes on Wesley...

TRAVELER
Close your eyes.

Wesley glances up curiously at the Traveler who nods encouragement... Wes closes his eyes...

TRAVELER
Continue to enter the equations...

WESLEY
I don't have any more equations.

TRAVELER
See past the numbers. Trust
yourself...

Wesley tries but he cannot go on... he opens his eyes... groans with frustration.

WESLEY
I can't. I can't do it.

The Traveler looks calmly at him, supportive.

TRAVELER
When the time comes, you will,
Wesley. You will. Now, begin
again...

Wesley is not convinced... but he takes a deep breath, begins to enter the equations.

48 OMITTED

49 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Beverly is at Tactical. Red Alert still on.

49 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
Starbase One-Three-Three, this
is the Enterprise.
(no response)
Starbase One-Three-Three, this
is the Enterprise. Please
acknowledge.
(beat)
Viewscreen on.

There is nothing on the viewscreen but a gray, misty void.

BEVERLY
It's not just people...
Everything is disappearing!

She continues to stare at the viewscreen, trying to put it together.

BEVERLY
Computer, what is that... mist...
I'm seeing?

COMPUTER VOICE
Sensors indicate it to be a mass-energy field seven hundred and five meters in diameter.

BEVERLY
It surrounds the ship?

COMPUTER VOICE
Affirmative.

BEVERLY
(to herself)
If there isn't anything wrong with me... maybe there's something wrong with the universe...
Computer, what is beyond the mass-energy field?

COMPUTER VOICE
Sensors cannot penetrate the field.

49 CONTINUED: (2)

BEVERLY

Computer, here's a question you
shouldn't be able to answer...
What is the nature of the
universe?

COMPUTER VOICE

(without hesitation)

The universe is a spherical region
seven hundred and five meters in
diameter.

Beverly stares at the gray mist on the viewscreen in
shock.

50 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

nears Starbase One-Three-Three.

50A INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard, Riker, Data, Worf.

DATA

Approaching Starbase One-Three-
Three, Captain...

PICARD

Slow to ten meters per second.

RIKER

Mister La Forge, prepare for
precision station-keeping.

51 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Geordi at a console... A couple of SUPERNUMERARIES work in the b.g.

GEORDI

Acknowledged. Readying thrusters.

Moving to find Wesley and the Traveler still at the pool table... Wesley is shaky as the moment approaches. The Traveler works his panel alone... closes his eyes...

TRAVELER

There... there it is...

On the monitors, a moving graphic of the warp bubble appears... Wesley reacts... the Traveler opens his eyes...

TRAVELER

We're moving into phase now
(tech)... there's your warp
bubble, Wesley...

But his eyes narrow as he takes a close look... and even his calm exterior shows some concern now...

WESLEY

What? What's wrong.

TRAVELER

It's collapsing.

On Wesley's reaction...

52

thru OMITTED

56

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

57
thru OMITTED
59

60 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Beverly paces, trying to put the pieces of the puzzle together, moves to a Science Station.

BEVERLY

Computer, give me a graphic representation of the universe.

On a monitor a CAD diagram looks hauntingly familiar: the same distinctive shape as Wesley's CAD diagram. Pushing in on her as she recognizes it...

BEVERLY

(reacts)

I've seen that before...

(beat)

Wesley's experiment... the bubble.
Of course... But that would mean
I'm the one trapped in the
bubble...

As she considers the implications, the ship suddenly shakes.

BEVERLY

Computer, what's happening?

COMPUTER VOICE

Explosive decompression: Decks Five through Fourteen. Sealing off forward sections.

BEVERLY

Cause?

COMPUTER VOICE

A flaw in the ship's design.

BEVERLY

(this is a new one)

Show me.

60 CONTINUED:

The image on the monitor switches to a cross section of the Enterprise showing a part of the ship simply missing, the section where more of the ship should be is outlined in flashing red.

BEVERLY
Analysis... ?

60 CONTINUED: (2)

COMPUTER VOICE

No ship's structures exist forward
of Bulkhead Three-Four-Two.

BEVERLY

Superimpose the previous image
over this one. Same scale. And
continue to monitor.

On the monitor the bubble now appears around the Enterprise. The ship shakes again. On the monitor the bubble contracts, and at its edge more sections of the ship are missing.

BEVERLY

(realizing)

It's collapsing...

COMPUTER VOICE

(continuing)

Hull integrity now compromised
on Decks Three through Fifteen.

BEVERLY

How long can life support be
maintained?

COMPUTER VOICE

Four minutes, seventeen seconds.

Again the ship shakes. On the monitor the bubble contracts, and another section is gone.

60A INT. BRIDGE

Picard, Riker, Troi, Worf and Data.

DATA

Sir, we have reestablished the
exact coordinates and attitude.

60A CONTINUED:

RIKER
(to com)
Geordi, we're in position... your status?

61 INT. ENGINEERING

Geordi examining the bubble on a monitor...

GEORDI
The warp bubble is contracting at a rate of fifteen meters per second... we'll lose it in about four minutes...

He glances toward the pool table... the Traveler acknowledges, turns to Wesley...

TRAVELER
(calm)
It's time, Wesley.

Wesley swallows hard... sits back at his position... as the Traveler sits opposite him...

GEORDI
(to com)
We're ready, Commander.

61A INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Riker glances at Picard who nods, begins to move toward the Turbolift...

RIKER
Proceed.

PICARD
I'll be in Engineering.

61B INT. ENGINEERING

As before the Traveler and Wesley punch equations into their computers. The Traveler never watches the computer, only Wesley... Wesley is concentrating, trying too hard...

TRAVELER

Let it go, Wesley... let go of
the anticipation... the
expectations... the demands upon
yourself... let it all go...
leave it behind.

Wesley breathes deeply... lets go off tension in his face...

TRAVELER

Yes. The ability is there...
inside you... you don't need to
look for it...

As Wesley closes his eyes, continuing to punch in equations...

62 INT. BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The Red Alert continues. Beverly is pacing, stops to stare at the diagram again as the ship shakes, then resumes pacing.

COMPUTER VOICE

Three minutes thirty seconds to
life support failure.

BEVERLY

(to herself, quick pace,
pressing herself to
complete equation)

The Traveler used his thoughts
to alter warp fields... and
thoughts became reality... Now
I'm in a warp field...

(beat)

Could my thoughts have changed
this reality?

She's still not quite there, gives herself a pep talk:

62 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
(continuing)
Come on, Beverly! What's the next step?!
(an idea)
What was I thinking at the moment Wesley's bubble formed?
Dalen Quaice... He said... all the people he'd known were gone...
I thought of Jack... I went to see Wesley... the flash in Engineering... And that's when it started... when I started losing everybody!
(lightbulb)
My thoughts created this universe.
Can they get me out of it again?

COMPUTER
That information is not available.

BEVERLY
I'm not talking to you.
(beat)
Click my heels together three times and I'm back in Kansas?
Can it be that simple?

She takes a deep breath and closes her eyes... PUSH IN to her face as she concentrates... a beat later, she opens her eyes. Nothing.

BEVERLY
(continuing; frowns)
No, it can't be that simple.

62A INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

No Red Alert. Picard ENTERS. Geordi and supernumeraries are nearby. Wesley's relaxing into the task... still entering equations with his eyes closed. The Traveler, satisfied, closes his eyes... after a beat, he begins to phase...

63 INT. BRIDGE
The Red Alert continues.

63 CONTINUED:

COMPUTER VOICE
Two minutes thirty seconds to life
support failure.

BEVERLY
Computer, hypothetical
situation... a person is trapped
inside a static warp bubble.
Determine a means of escape...

COMPUTER VOICE
Escape would theoretically depend
on establishing a stable threshold
between the warp field and the
outer environment.

BEVERLY
Can you describe this threshold?

COMPUTER VOICE
Negative. There are no known
practical applications of this
theory.

BEVERLY
Extrapolate from theoretical
database. How might it manifest
itself?

COMPUTER VOICE
A dynamic atmospheric disturbance
of great intensity.

BEVERLY
Disturbance? The vortex! They
must have been trying to reach
me! But how do I find it... ?
Wesley, where do I go? Help me...

63A INT. ENGINEERING

Close on Wesley... as he goes deeper and deeper inside
himself... using his extraordinary mental abilities,
trying to reach out for his mother...

63B INT. BRIDGE

Red Alert continuing.

63B CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

Stable threshold... They've
been trying to create a stable
threshold. Where are they trying
to do it?

(the final piece of the
puzzle)

Where did they do it the first
time? Engineering!

She bolts for the turbolift...

COMPUTER VOICE

One minute thirty seconds to life
support failure.

64
thru OMITTED
70

70A INT. TURBOLIFT

Beverly waits. Suddenly the turbolift jars to a halt.

BEVERLY
Engineering!

COMPUTER VOICE
Failure in Turboshaft Four.
Unable to proceed to Main
Engineering.

BEVERLY
Just get me anywhere on Deck
Thirty-Six!

The Turbolift begins moving again.

70B INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

No Red Alert. The Traveler is still phasing. His eyes and Wesley's eyes are still closed. And then, incredibly, Wesley begins to phase too... In the background, the vortex begin to form. Reactions.

71 INT. CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

Beverly steps off the turbolift. It vanishes behind her, revealing the gray, misty void. She sees it, takes off at a run. As she runs, pieces of the ship disappear behind her. She's only keeping a few steps ahead of it!

72 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Picard and Geordi watch as Wesley's phasing begins to sync up with the Traveler. The vortex grows even brighter. But then Geordi glances at his readouts, shakes his head, looks at Picard, quietly --

72 CONTINUED:

GEORDI
We're losing the bubble...

73 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Red Alert. Beverly charges in. The vortex is there, but beginning to break up! She leaps through!

74 INT. ENGINEERING (OPTICAL)

Beverly half falls, half tumbles out of the vortex. The vortex vanishes in a flash of light. Picard moves to her. Wesley and the Traveler stop phasing. Wesley collapses, exhausted. And the Traveler, too, looks drained. Picard helps Beverly to her feet. He smiles, embraces her.

BEVERLY
Jean-Luc...
(sees the Traveler,
reacts)
You...

He stares at her.

BEVERLY
Do I have you to thank for getting
me back?

TRAVELER
No.

He steps aside to reveal Wesley. Wesley stands slowly, uncertain. She holds out her arms. Wesley moves to hug her. They hold each other in silence.

BEVERLY
Captain, if I may ask: how many
people are there onboard?

74 CONTINUED:

PICARD
(surprised)
One thousand fourteen, including
your guest, Doctor Quaice.

She closes her eyes.

GEORDI
Is there something wrong with that
count?

BEVERLY
(smiles)
No. That's the exact number
there should be.

She holds Wesley even tighter.

75 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

as it holds its position near the Starbase.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END