

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

"Sarek"
#40273-171

From an unpublished story by
Marc Cushman & Jake Jacobs

Television Story & Teleplay by
Peter S. Beagle

Directed by
Les Landau

THE WRITING CREDITS MAY NOT BE FINAL AND SHOULD NOT BE USED
FOR PUBLICITY OR ADVERTISING PURPOSES WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING
WITH THE TELEVISION LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Copyright 1990 Paramount Pictures Corporation. All Rights
Reserved. This script is not for publication or
reproduction. No one is authorized to dispose of same. If
lost or destroyed, please notify the Script Department.

FINAL DRAFT

MARCH 5, 1990

STAR TREK: "Sarek" - 3/5/90 - CAST

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Sarek"

CAST

PICARD	SAREK
RIKER	PERRIN
DATA	SAKKATH
BEVERLY	KI MENDROSSEN
TROI	
GEORDI	
WORF	
WESLEY	

O'BRIEN
SCIENCE CREWMEMBER

Non-Speaking
SUPERNUMERARIES
SEVERAL CREWMEMBERS
MUSICIANS
MEDICAL TECHNICIAN
INJURED CREWPERSON
HONOR GUARD (4)

STAR TREK: "Sarek" 3/5/90 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Sarek"

SETS

INTERIORS

EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE

USS ENTERPRISE

MAIN BRIDGE

CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

OBSERVATION LOUNGE

CONFERENCE ROOM

TRANSPORTER ROOM

CORRIDOR

TURBOLIFT

TEN-FORWARD

BEVERLY'S OFFICE

PICARD'S QUARTERS

SAREK'S GUEST QUARTERS

SHIP'S THEATRE

STAR TREK: "Sarek" - REV. 3/8/90 - PRONUNCIATION

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Sarek"

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

BENDII	BEN-die
CORIDAN	CORE-ah-don
KI MENDROSSEN	KEY men-DROH-zhen
LEGARANS	leh-GAIR-uns
PERRIN	PER-in
SAKKATH	SAK-uth
SAREK	SAR (rhymes with FAR)-eck

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Sarek"
TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

The ship is in orbit around a red/brown planet.

PICARD (V.O.)

Captain's log, Stardate 43917.4
The Enterprise has been given the
singular honor of hosting the
first face to face meeting between
the Federation and the mysterious
race of beings known as the
Legarans. We are in orbit around
Vulcan preparing to welcome aboard
the Federation ambassador that
has made this historic event
possible.

2 INT. CORRIDOR

PICARD and RIKER are walking to the Transporter Room.
They are in dress uniforms.

RIKER

(slightly awed)

I can remember studying his career
in school... the treaty of Alpha
Cygnus Nine, the Coridan admission
to the Federation, the Klingon
Alliance...

PICARD

I met him once... Many years ago,
just briefly at his son's wedding.

(smiles at memory)

But I'll tell you it was quite
a moment for a young lieutenant.
Standing in the presence of such
history... I was a little
tongue-tied to be quite frank...

RIKER

You... tongue-tied?

2 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Indeed. After all, how does one
make small talk with a man who
has virtually shaped the
Federation...

RIKER

Is it true that he'll be
retiring after this mission?

PICARD

Unofficially, that's what I hear.
And what a crowning achievement
this will be to his career. The
benefits of relations with the
Legarans are incalculable.

They have arrived at the Transporter Room.

3 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

There are FOUR CREWMEMBERS forming an honor guard on
either side of the transporter stage. They stand at
attention. O'BRIEN is at the console, as KI MENDROSSEN
(a human -- fifty-five, stocky, comp), and SAKKATH (A
Vulcan, early twenties) MATERIALIZE on the pads. They
step off.

MENDROSSEN

Ah... Captain Picard. I am Ki
Mendrossen, the ambassador's chief
of staff. This is Sakkath, his
personal assistant.

PICARD

Has the ambassador been delayed?

3 CONTINUED:

MENDROSSEN

He will be joining us momentarily.
But first we must discuss some
matters of the utmost delicacy.

Picard and Riker exchange a quick look. What's going
on?

PICARD

By all means.

MENDROSSEN

To be frank Captain, the
ambassador is not a young man.
He tires easily.

SAKKATH

He is going to need a great deal
of rest to prepare himself for
the difficult job that awaits him.

MENDROSSEN

Which is why it's imperative that
he be allowed to conserve his
strength. I must request that
you dispense with any official
ceremonies you would normally
accord a visitor of his rank.

RIKER

We had planned for a ship's
concert this evening.

PICARD

Yes, I believe that the ambassador
is extremely fond of Mozart.

Mendrossen reluctantly shakes his head.

MENDROSSEN

I'm afraid it would be impossible
for him to attend. Upon his
arrival he will be taken directly
to his quarters where he will
remain in seclusion until we reach
Legara Four.

PICARD

You have my assurance that the
ambassador will not be disturbed
during our voyage.

3 CONTINUED: (2)

Mendrossen relaxes, an ingratiating smile.

MENDROSSEN

That's all we ask. Well, now...
that's settled. The ambassador
is waiting.

Picard nods to O'Brien who works his controls.

4 TRANSPORTER (OPTICAL)

SAREK and his wife, PERRIN (a human) MATERIALIZE.
Sarek is indeed old, but immensely commanding. A
genuinely regal figure. Perrin is much younger -- about
Picard's age -- poised and charming, with an immediate
warmth about her.

PICARD

Welcome aboard the Enterprise
Ambassador Sarek.

SAREK

We come to serve.

PICARD

Your service honors us.

SAREK

Allow me to present she who is
my wife.

PICARD

Mrs. Sarek.

PERRIN

Please call me Perrin, Captain.

PICARD

This is my first officer,
Commander Riker.

Riker and Sarek exchange nods.

PERRIN

Captain, if you'd be so kind as
to show us to our quarters.

SAREK

I prefer to view the conference
room first.

4 CONTINUED:

Mendrossen moves closer to Sarek.

MENDROSSEN

Ambassador, I'm sure Sakkath and I can handle all the necessary details...

SAREK

I will examine it for myself.

An awkward moment as Mendrossen and Perrin exchange a brief glance.

PERRIN

Dear, perhaps it would be best if we settled in first.

Sarek silences her with a look.

SAREK

They worry about my health, Captain. Too much.

(a beat)

You will take me to the conference room, please.

And there's no doubt that he means it.

RIKER

If you'll follow me, sir.

Mendrossen and Sakkath close in behind Sarek as Riker leads them out of the Transporter Room. Perrin looks back and smiles at Picard in gracious apology.

5 CLOSE ON PICARD

Things haven't gone at all the way he expected. He doesn't look troubled, exactly -- only wondering...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

6 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

The room is currently dominated by a large bulky tank about chest high containing a gaseous/liquid revolting mixture. GEORDI, WESLEY, and a few SUPERNUMERARIES are busily connecting a complicated series of pipes and cables around the tank. There are a few pictures on the walls and a generic table with chairs. Wesley peers into the tank with disgust.

WESLEY

Are the Legarans really going to sit in this stuff?

GEORDI

Well, I'm sure not.

WESLEY

Can you believe this smell?

GEORDI

What smell?

Wesley looks up in surprise. Geordi laughs and Wesley gives him an abashed grin.

GEORDI

What can I say... to us it's a slime pit, to them it's home.

WESLEY

(a little eager)

The environmental controls are ready. What's next?

GEORDI

Why? Are you in some kind of hurry?

WESLEY

I have... sort of a date.

GEORDI

(surprised)

With who?

WESLEY

(shy, but proud)

Ensign Dumont.

6 CONTINUED:

GEORDI

(whistles)

That is one attractive lady. I've got to admit I'm surprised.

WESLEY

(grinning)

What, that she'd go out with me?

GEORDI

No, that you had the nerve to ask her. Way to go Wesley.

Sarek, Sakkath, Perrin, Picard and Riker ENTER. Sarek walks to the center of the room, looks things over and is immediately displeased. Sarek's attitude is irritated and he seems to grow more agitated by the moment.

SAREK

The room is not ready.

PICARD

No Ambassador. Commander La Forge and Ensign Crusher are---

SAREK

The Legarans are very sensitive in matters of protocol. You will remove all furniture from the room. The walls must be bare.

MENDROSSEN

I'm sure that by the time the Legarans arrive, everything will be set up according to our specifications. Isn't that right, Captain?

PICARD

Ambassador, please be assured that everything will be ready by the time the conference begins.

PERRIN

My husband and I have every confidence in you, Captain.

Sarek continues to look over the room.

6 CONTINUED: (2)

SAREK

(voice rises slightly)

I have worked for ninety-three years in preparation for this meeting. It is vital that no detail be overlooked.

Sakkath moves next to Sarek. As Sakkath looks at Sarek, there is a subtle change in Sarek's demeanor. He becomes more impassive, less irritated. The interaction between Sakkath and Sarek should not be immediately obvious.

SAKKATH

Perhaps we should allow these gentlemen to return to their work, Ambassador.

SAREK

That will be acceptable.

Sarek leads the way back out of the room with Sakkath and Mendrossen. As he reaches the doorway Sarek pauses and looks at the wall.

SAREK

These walls are too bright.

Sarek, Sakkath and Mendrossen EXIT.

7 OMITTED

8 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

The ship goes into warp.

9 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard and Riker (now in standard uniforms) at Command along with TROI. WORF at his station.

TROI

So what was the ambassador like?

RIKER

The way Mendrossen described him, I expected him to be a frail old man.

PICARD

I hope I'm that frail when I'm two hundred and two. His aides did seem a little overprotective, didn't they?

RIKER

From what I could see, the ambassador doesn't need to be protected from anything.

PICARD

Nevertheless, we will honor Mister Mendrossen's request and allow Ambassador Sarek his privacy.

(beat, sighs)

I suppose they were foolish and vain, my expectations of this voyage. Sharing his thoughts, his memories, his unique understanding of the history he has made...

TROI

Does this mean you're going to cancel the concert this evening?

PICARD

No, the concert will go on as scheduled. But it is a pity that the guest of honor will be absent.

9 CONTINUED:

RIKER

For all we know, the ambassador
might enjoy an evening's
entertainment...

TROI

(to Picard)

Why not ask his wife if she'd like
to attend?

Picard considers this for a beat. He nods.

9 CONTINUED:

PICARD

I think that's an excellent idea.

Riker smiles in approval. Picard stands.

PICARD

The bridge is yours, Number One.

Picard heads for the turbolift.

10 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

The door CHIMES. The blinds over the windows are closed. As Perrin moves toward the door, we can see that she looks very tired, almost exhausted. She presses the control panel and the door slides open, revealing Picard.

PERRIN

Come in, Captain.

PICARD

I hope I'm not intruding.

PERRIN

Not at all. But I'm afraid that Sarek is in meditation at the moment.

PICARD

Actually, I came to see you.

Perrin leads him into the room.

PERRIN

(lightly)

Why, how nice Captain. I so rarely get visitors of my own. Usually everyone wants to see the ambassador.

PICARD

I find that hard to believe.

Perrin smiles at him warmly. She indicates a seat for the captain and they both sit down.

10 CONTINUED:

PERRIN

These quarters are lovely.

(beat)

The ambassador and I were both very pleased when we heard that the negotiations would take place aboard the flagship of the Federation.

PICARD

The honor is ours.

PERRIN

My husband has followed your career with interest. He finds it to be satisfactory.

PICARD

(reacts with pleasure)

High praise from a Vulcan.

PERRIN

Ah, then you have had experience with Vulcans, Captain. Some people who expect an emotional response often find Vulcans quite cold when they are merely being...

PICARD

Logical.

PERRIN

Exactly.

PICARD

I have come to extend my personal invitation to you... and your husband, if he is available, to attend a Mozart recital this evening.

And now Perrin's face really brightens in anticipation.

PERRIN

Mozart? That would be wonderful. Any chance that they will be performing the string quartet number six?

PICARD

I'm sure it could be arranged.

10 CONTINUED: (2)

PERRIN

It's a very tempting offer...
(looks over at door to
adjacent room)

I doubt that the ambassador will
be able to attend, but I will make
it a point to ask him.

Picard stands and Perrin escorts him to the door.

PICARD

Well, then I hope to see you
tonight.

PERRIN

As do I.

Picard EXITS.

11 CLOSE ON PERRIN

as she turns away from the door. Her face clouds
slightly as she moves toward the closed door to the
adjacent room.

12 INT. SLEEPING QUARTERS

Sarek is kneeling on a angled stool (like a computer
stool). His eyes are wide open, and his expression is
not calm and distant, but conscious and troubled.

13 ANGLE ON DOOR

The door slides aside and Perrin ENTERS. The easy,
light manner that she showed to Picard is gone. This
is a deeply worried woman. She goes over to Sarek and
puts her hand on his shoulder. Sarek looks up at her.

PERRIN

You are still unable to meditate?

SAREK

It is of no importance.

PERRIN

It has eluded you for many weeks.

Sarek gets up, towers over his wife with a vague air of
threat.

13 CONTINUED:

SAREK

(low)

I said, it is of no importance.

PERRIN

(not backing down)

You know I am right.

SAREK

My wife, you will leave me now.

I require solitude.

There is a beat of silence as Perrin considers refusing. She thinks better of it, then EXITS. PUSH IN on Sarek... and we see a flicker of turmoil within.

14 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Geordi and Wesley are still working on the tanks. The supernumeraries are no longer present. The pictures and furnishings seen earlier have been removed.

WESLEY

The temperature in the tank is now one hundred fifty degrees Celsius.

GEORDI

Okay, lock it off.

Wesley works the control on the tank. He turns back to Geordi and his tone of voice suddenly becomes somewhat surly.

WESLEY

Is that it? Can I get out of here?

And at first it just seems like kidding around...

GEORDI

What's your hurry? You don't really think something's gonna happen between you and Suzanne Dumont...

WESLEY

At least I'm not spending the night with a good book like some people...

14 CONTINUED:

And now slowly it begins to turn into something more...
with just an edge --

GEORDI

What's that supposed to mean?

WESLEY

Just what it sounds like.

GEORDI

You'd get more action out of a
good book than you'll ever see
on this date, I guarantee it...
she's not going to waste her time
with someone like you.

And now this is really getting nasty...

WESLEY

Someone like me?

GEORDI

She's way out of your league.

WESLEY

Since when did you become an
expert on women?

GEORDI

Compared to you, every man on this
ship is an expert on women.

WESLEY

At least I don't have to find my
women in the Holodeck!

GEORDI

(deadly)

What did you say?

WESLEY

You heard me!

Wesley shoves Geordi hard. Geordi looks like he's
going to take Wesley apart when...

15 NEW ANGLE

Riker ENTERS. He looks at the two of them as they
glare at each other.

15 CONTINUED:

RIKER
Something wrong?

They don't respond, but continue to stare at each other.

RIKER
(edge of command in
voice)
I asked a question.

GEORDI
No, sir. Nothing wrong here.

WESLEY
(to Riker)
May I be excused, Commander?

Riker nods and Wesley EXITS. Riker looks at Geordi and his voice is a little less official.

RIKER
Anything you want to talk about,
Geordi?

GEORDI
No, sir.

Geordi returns to the tanks. On Riker's puzzled expression...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

16 INT. SHIP'S THEATER

The ship's concert has not yet begun, but SUPERNUMERARIES are filing into the room. On stage, a string quartet with DATA prominent among them, is tuning up.

17 OMITTED

18 ON PICARD AND RIKER

as they ENTER and move to their seats.

PICARD

I noticed that Lieutenant Worf put Ensign D'Amato on report... for insubordination.

RIKER

D'Amato's been an exemplary officer.

They sit. BEVERLY and TROI are seated nearby.

PICARD

Indeed he has. Look into it, Number One.

(beat)

I assume work has been progressing in the conference room?

RIKER

Yes, sir. I checked on Geordi and Wesley a few hours ago.

(beat while he wonders whether to mention it)

For a moment there... I thought that the two of them were actually going to... hit one another.

18 CONTINUED:

Picard notices something o.s. and stands up.

19 NEW ANGLE

including doorway. Sarek and Perrin have entered. Mendrossen is behind them and Sakkath is close by Sarek. Everyone in the theater stands.

FOLLOW THEM as they walk over to where Picard and Riker are waiting.

PICARD

Ambassador Sarek, Perrin... on
behalf of my entire crew, welcome.

Picard and Perrin exchange a smile. Sarek notices this.

SAREK

It was my wife's suggestion that
we attend... and it seemed an
ideal diversion. My wife can be
quite logical when she so chooses.

Perrin only smiles wider.

MENDROSSEN

(jovially)

It seems the ambassador had more
free time than I anticipated.

Picard waves over Data who walks over carrying his violin.

PICARD

This is Commander Data. He will
be the featured soloist this
evening.

DATA

(to Perrin)

We will start the evening with
Mozart's string quartet number
six. I am programmed to reproduce
the individual musical styles of
over three hundred concert
violinists, including Heifitz,
Menuhin, Grak-tay and Tataglia.
Do you have a preference?

19 CONTINUED:

Both Perrin and Sarek are impressed. Perrin looks to Sarek and he indicates that the choice is hers.

PERRIN

Tataglia would be lovely.

DATA

I hope you find the performance pleasing.

PERRIN

I look forward to it.

Picard indicates their seats and turns to Data.

PICARD

At your convenience, Commander.

20 NEW ANGLE

Data walks over to stage, nods to the other musicians and begins to play.

21 NEW ANGLE

Perrin and Sarek appear to be concentrating on the music while Mendrossen and Sakkath keep stealing glances at Sarek.

TIME CUT:

22 ANGLE ON STAGE

The musicians are playing a new piece of music. Data is giving a perfect performance. This piece must be very emotional. (Note: it is the beauty of the music which creates the emotional response in the audience... a perhaps familiar melody that stirs memories.)

23 ANGLE ON CROWD

We PAN across the gathered crewmen and we can see that they are caught up in the lovely music. END PAN on Sarek, who seems surprisingly moved.

23A ON TROI

She is listening to the music. She suddenly senses something odd and looks around the room in puzzlement.

23B NEW ANGLE

on Mendrossen and Sakkath. Sakkath has noticed Sarek's change of mood and is leaning over to whisper something to Mendrossen. They look at Sarek with alarm. Mendrossen tries to get Perrin's attention in front of him, cannot do it...

23C ON SAREK

getting very caught up in the moment.

23D
thru OMITTED
23H

23I ECU - SAREK'S EYE

as a tear begins to form.

23J SAKKATH - CU

straining with his mind, trying to reach out telepathically to Sarek.

23K ANGLE - SAREK

in the foreground, Picard behind him... Picard (or for that matter any other member of the crew) cannot see Sarek's face from his angle, so he is unaware of what's happening... although he may respond to some movement in Sarek's party.

23L THE TEAR

rolls slowly down Sarek's cheek.

23M ON PERRIN

who glances over and sees the tear... a second of panic crosses her eyes, then she quickly leans over and whispers something to her husband, using the excuse to try and wipe...

23N CLOSE - SAREK'S CHEEK

but the tear just escapes her touch and...

23O PICARD'S EYES

glance toward Sarek and Perrin whispering...

23P ANGLE - PICARD'S POV - SAREK'S PROFILE

backlit by the stage lights... as the tear drop glistens.

23Q PICARD - CLOSE

reacts.

23R ANGLE

as Perrin and Sarek stand and leave.

23S ON TROI

as she watches them leave.

23T ON PICARD

thinking about what's just happened.

24

thru OMITTED

25

25A EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

The ship still at warp.

26 OMITTED

27 INT. BEVERLY'S OFFICE

Wesley ENTERS. Beverly is drinking tea and reading a medical journal on the terminal.

27 CONTINUED:

WESLEY

Hi Mom. I got a message you wanted to see me?

BEVERLY

I thought you were going to be at the concert last night.

WESLEY

I said I might be going. Suzanne wanted to go to the arboretum.

Wesley is unconcerned at this point. Beverly, however, is starting a slow burn.

BEVERLY

Captain Picard asked where you were. I don't like having to make excuses for you.

WESLEY

(surprised)

Excuses? Come on, Mom... it wasn't an official function.

Wesley picks up some small art object from a table and starts to absently toy with it. Beverly grabs it from him.

BEVERLY

You have responsibilities young man and I expect you to live up to them!

27 CONTINUED: (2)

WESLEY

Don't you think you're
overreacting a little?

BEVERLY

Don't talk back to me!

WESLEY

(hurt)

Okay, I won't.

Wesley turns and tries to leave. Beverly grabs him
and yanks him back.

BEVERLY

Where do you think you're going?

WESLEY

(strong)

Away from you.

Beverly slaps him hard. Wesley is clearly shocked.

WESLEY

Mom!

There is a long beat as Beverly realizes what she's
done. As they stand there in silence, staring at each
other, it is hard to say which one is more hurt or
shocked.

28 OMITTED

28A INT. TROI'S OFFICE

Troi and Beverly are discussing the incident in
Beverly's quarters.

Beverly is extremely upset and is pacing around the
room.

BEVERLY

... and then I just slapped him.
Really hard.

(incredulous)

I slapped Wesley.

TROI

Do you know why you did it?

28A CONTINUED:

BEVERLY
(on the verge of tears)
I never hit my son in his life.

TROI
(soothing, yet with
trace of urgency)
Beverly, this is important. What
were you thinking when you hit
Wes?

BEVERLY
(thinks for a beat)
That's just it... I wasn't
thinking about anything. I was...
just angry... so angry.

TROI
And Wesley didn't provoke you in
any way? It wasn't anything he
said, anything he did?

BEVERLY
No. It was a sudden... burst of
anger. I still can't believe I
did it.

Beverly sits on the couch and puts her head in her
hands. Troi comes over to her and tries to comfort
her.

TROI
I don't know why you did it either,
Beverly. But I can tell you that
I've heard the same kind of story
from ten different people in the
past two days.

Off Beverly's reaction.

29 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

A few hours later. Data is giving Sakkath a tour of
the bridge.

29 CONTINUED:

SAKKATH

(looks at center
stations)

This is your Command Center.

DATA

Yes. It is normally occupied by
Captain Picard, Commander Riker,
and Counselor Troi.

SAKKATH

Counselor Troi is Betazoid?

29 CONTINUED: (2)

DATA

Half-Betazoid. Her father was human.

A slight frown crosses Sakkath's features.

SAKKATH

Then she is not a true telepath?

DATA

Her skills are empathic in nature. She can sense the emotions of other beings.

Sakkath's frown deepens slightly at this news. He seems troubled by something, but his Vulcan reserve makes even this observation difficult. Sakkath continues after a momentary pause.

SAKKATH

What is Captain Picard's background in diplomacy?

DATA

(surprised)

Extensive. The captain's first diplomatic contact dates back to Stardate---

SAKKATH

And what of his knowledge of the Legarans? Would he be able to conduct negotiations with the Legarans should the need arise?

DATA

(puzzled)

Do you foresee such a circumstance occurring? Is Ambassador Sarek unable to --

SAKKATH

(smoothly)

Forgive me. I was merely exploring various possible permutations of our mission.

(beat)

Your tour of the bridge has been most informative.

Sakkath heads for the turbolift and then EXITS.

30 INT. TEN-FORWARD (OPTICAL)

O'Brien and TWO TRANSPORTER TECHNICIANS get drinks from the bar and head over to a table which is currently occupied by THREE CREWMEN wearing science uniforms. O'Brien gives the science crewmen a friendly grin.

O'BRIEN

Excuse me, we were sitting here.

SCIENCE CREWMAN

(shrugging)

Well, we're sitting here now.

O'BRIEN

(smiles with edge)

Come on fella... this is our table.

SCIENCE CREWMAN

(unimpressed)

Really?

(looks over table)

Funny... I don't see your name on it.

O'BRIEN

(forcing his voice to be light)

Didn't your mother teach you manners?

The science crewman and his companions stand up. The tension level has just risen several notches.

31 NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

as Geordi smoothly intercedes between O'Brien and the science crewman.

GEORDI

Hey guys, some kind of problem here?

O'BRIEN

There seems to be a question of who's table this is.

GEORDI

(light)

There are plenty of other tables.

31 CONTINUED:

O'BRIEN
(trying to lighten up)
I suppose you're right.

GEORDI
Why don't I get everyone another
round of drinks?

Everyone relaxes and smiles. It appears that Geordi has defused the situation.

32 INT. CORRIDOR/TEN-FORWARD (OPTICAL)

Outside Ten-Forward. Riker and Worf are walking to Ten-Forward doors.

RIKER
I don't need to tell you that
insubordination is a serious
charge to level against any
officer.

WORF
I am aware of that Commander.
However, Ensign D'Amato directly
challenged my authority.

RIKER
Is it my imagination, or have
tempers aboard this ship been
getting a little frayed lately?

WORF
I hadn't noticed.

The doors to Ten-Forward OPEN. Inside a full scale bar fight has broken out. O'Brien and the science crewman are grappling with each other while other crewmembers are hitting each other at random. There are clearly no sides here, just absolute chaos.

WORF
I see what you mean.

Riker spots Geordi trying to pull some combatants apart.

RIKER
Geordi, what the hell is going
on here?

32 CONTINUED:

GEORDI

I wish I knew.

WORF

(hits combadge)

Security team to Ten-Forward.

Riker grabs a fighting crewman and pulls him off someone else.

RIKER

All right, that's enough!

The crewman reacts by decking Riker with a punch. Worf growls and wades into the fight to protect Riker.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

33 INT. TEN-FORWARD (OPTICAL)

Starting on Beverly treating a cut on Geordi's mouth...

GEORDI

... and the next thing I know
somebody's left hook is on its
way to my chin.

Pulling back to see Picard, Riker, Worf, Troi surveying
the damage. SEVERAL CREWMEMBERS are clearing away some
of the debris.

TROI

Captain, this is not an isolated
incident. There have been reports
of random violence all over the
ship...

PICARD

(reacts)

Are you suggesting it is somehow
contagious?

BEVERLY

There's no indication of a virus
or bacteria... I've run every test
I know... I've checked the water,
the food replicators, airborne
samples...

PICARD

This is one hell of a time...

(beat, to Riker)

Whatever it is, I don't want it
to affect the ambassador... I
want his quarters isolated from
the rest of the crew until we can
identify the cause.

TROI

It's not that simple, Captain.

Off Picard's look --

33 CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

We've been able to determine that these outbreaks of violence started... at virtually the same time Sarek's party beamed aboard the ship.

Picard reacts and...

33A INT. BEVERLY'S OFFICE

Picard, Beverly and Troi. Picard is quite shaken by this turn of events.

BEVERLY

We do have a working theory...

Glancing with import at Troi. A deep breath and...

BEVERLY

We believe it's possible that Ambassador Sarek himself is responsible for these incidents.

PICARD

Sarek?

TROI

I felt something from him during the concert... it was vague and undefined... but very disturbing...

PICARD

(a small realization)

He cried. I saw that. I didn't believe it. A Vulcan moved to tears by music... ?

TROI

Vulcans have the same basic emotions that we do. But they have learned to repress them. At the concert, I was sensing that Sarek had lost control...

PICARD

What would cause such a loss of control?

33A CONTINUED:

BEVERLY

There is a very rare condition that sometimes affects Vulcans over the age of two hundred. Bendii Syndrome.

TROI

The early symptoms include sudden bursts of emotion, mostly irrational anger. Eventually, all emotional control is lost.

PICARD

I can't imagine anything that would be more offensive to a Vulcan. Their emotional detachment is the very core of their being.

(beat)

But why would it affect others aboard the ship?

TROI

Vulcans possess telepathic ability. Sarek could be unintentionally projecting these intense emotions onto other people... at random.

Picard's expression becomes more grim as he realizes the broader implications.

PICARD

And when the Legarans beam aboard...

BEVERLY

They could very well be affected too.

PICARD

Is there a treatment?

BEVERLY

(shakes her head, no)

Can't anyone take his place?

PICARD

Sarek has built a personal relationship with them. They will accept no one else.

(MORE)

33A CONTINUED: (2)

PICARD (Cont'd)

(beat)

How can we confirm your
diagnosis?

BEVERLY

We grow a culture from the tissue
of the metathalamus... but the
results will take several days.

PICARD

I have twelve hours.

She shakes her head. Can't do it.

34 INT. READY ROOM (OPTICAL)

Mendrossen is sitting in the chair before Picard.
Mendrossen is sincere and easy-going.

MENDROSSEN

That's impossible, Captain Picard.
I cannot delay the conference...
not for a day, not for an hour.
The schedule itself required three
months of negotiations.

PICARD

Nevertheless, I believe we are
facing a potentially far worse...

MENDROSSEN

I give you my word of honor that
the ambassador is in perfect
health. Is that not enough?

PICARD

Mister Mendrossen...

MENDROSSEN

You are dealing with a theory full
of holes, Captain. Why am I not
affected by Sarek's supposed
condition? And Perrin, how could
his wife function normally if this
theory of yours is correct?

34 CONTINUED:

PICARD

I cannot explain that. Hundreds
of others on board have not been
affected either. I have not.
The effects appear to be random.
Proximity apparently has no
bearing on the phenomenon.

34 CONTINUED: (2)

MENDROSSEN

You are accusing the greatest man
of his time of losing his mind.
On the eve of his greatest
triumph. And you cannot explain
why... ?

Beat. Stands.

MENDROSSEN

I won't report this to the
ambassador. For the moment. I
do not want to divert his
attention from the mission.

("friendly")

And I don't want to jeopardize
your career unnecessarily. But
if I were you, in the interests
of your career, I'd be very
concerned about finding the real
cause of these outbursts before
the Legarans arrive.

He EXITS. A beat on Picard. Picard taps his fingers
on his desk, muses.

PICARD

(to comm)

Mister Data, please report to my
Ready Room.

35 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Sakkath stands near the Legaran tanks. And this is a
man in turmoil. Logic tells him he cannot allow what
is occurring to continue. He fears what will happen
at the conference. Yet, he is dedicated to Sarek.
These matters weigh on his mind as the doors slide open
and Data ENTERS. There is a beat of silence as they
glance at each other.

DATA

Captain Picard is not satisfied
with Ki Mendrossen's assurances
that the ambassador is in good
health. Do you consider Sarek
capable of carrying out his
mission?

35 CONTINUED:

SAKKATH

Have I given you cause to think otherwise?

DATA

You have voiced certain reservations about his abilities to me.

SAKKATH

(carefully)

I do not recall making such a statement.

DATA

Directly, no. However, you did question me on the diplomatic capabilities of both Captain Picard and Counselor Troi.

SAKKATH

I am honor bound to help Sarek carry out his mission. That is the only answer I can give.

DATA

Then you must decide which is your greater obligation: your loyalty to Sarek or your duty to the Federation.

Sakkath remains impassive and Data continues after a beat.

DATA

Can you accept the logic of continuing the mission?

And this touches Sakkath at his most vulnerable core. His eyes leave Data's as he weighs his loyalties. In a soft, almost hoarse voice --

SAKKATH

Tell your captain... the mission is in jeopardy.

On Data's reaction...

36
thru OMITTED
37

37A INT. BRIDGE

Picard, Data, Riker at command. Wesley and Worf at their posts.

DATA

Sakkath has been able, until very recently, to use his telepathic skills to reinforce Sarek's emotional control and thus protect others from the effects of his deterioration.

RIKER

He hasn't been doing a very good job...

DATA

The strain of this mission on Sarek has made it impossible.

Picard frowns, stands.

PICARD

Ironic isn't it? Despite our magnificent technology, we find ourselves still susceptible to the ravages of old age. The loss of dignity, the slow betrayal of our bodies by forces we cannot master.

He inadvertently winds up saying this to Data.

PICARD

(a beat)

Still want to be one of us, Data?

DATA

Sir, it is conceivable that even for me, time will eventually lead to a irreparable circuit failure. But there is one thing I do not understand...

PICARD

Yes... ?

37A CONTINUED:

DATA

Sarek is a logical, intelligent being. The effects of Bendii Syndrome are apparent. Why would such a man choose to ignore them?

A beat as Picard considers his answer...

PICARD

Logic fails us sometimes, Data. This is one of those times. I can only guess that he does not see or does not wish to see the truth. And he is being insulated from that truth by those who love him the most.

Riker steps forward, doesn't want to say anything, but realizes that he must.

RIKER

Someone has to confront him.

PICARD

(quietly)

It is not a task I look forward to.

Riker's voice starts to steadily rise and his temper begins to show through.

RIKER

I don't understand this... everyone's protecting Sarek... his wife, Mendrossen, even you.

Picard's voice rises too...

PICARD

What would you have me do... march down there and destroy the man?

RIKER

The mission with the Legarans cannot go forward with Sarek in this condition.

PICARD

I know --

37A CONTINUED: (2)

RIKER
(hits table)
Then tell him that there is no---

PICARD
Don't you tell me...

Data who is unaffected, steps between them...

DATA
Captain... Commander...

37B ANGLE - REACTIONS

from the bridge crew to this most unusual shouting match. They both realize what's happening and the anger dissipates. Picard nods in understanding.

PICARD
(nodding with grim
resignation)
You're right of course, Number
One. But I am loathe to do what
I must do.

Picard thinks for only a few seconds longer. He heads for the door.

38 OMITTED

39 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

Perrin is reacting to what Picard has told her... she is cold and imperious.

PERRIN
I don't think I really understand
what you're telling me, Captain.
My husband is responsible for your
crew assaulting one another... ?

Picard studies her a beat... he cannot be sure if she knows the truth and is hiding it... or does not know at all.

PICARD
He is very ill, Perrin.

39 CONTINUED:

PERRIN

(shakes her head)

Bendii Syndrome is more a folk tale than a disease. There hasn't been a true case in my husband's lifetime.

PICARD

There is one now. Sakkath knows.

For an instant, Perrin is taken aback. She recovers quickly.

PERRIN

Sakkath? Sakkath knows nothing my husband didn't teach him.

PICARD

He knows. More than that, he has been consciously holding Sarek's mind together on this mission as well as he could...

PERRIN

That is not true!

PICARD

I must see Sarek.

He moves deeper into the room.

PERRIN

Captain, I know a good deal about the Vulcan mind and I know a good deal about the heart of one particular Vulcan.

(with great strength)

I am his wife and I tell you he is fine. He does not have Bendii Syndrome. And that shall be the end of it.

PICARD

I'm sorry.

He moves around her. She grabs Picard's arm, pleading now... panic fills her eyes.

PERRIN

Please... you must not do this to him.

40 ON SAREK

He is standing in the doorway on the far side of the room. Mendrossen and Sakkath can be seen behind him, their faces grim.

SAREK
Must not do what, my wife?

41 NEW ANGLE

including Picard and Perrin. She looks away from Sarek's gaze... cannot answer.

SAREK
(continuing)
If Captain Picard wishes to see
me, he may do so.

Sarek's voice is strong and commanding. He seems to be completely in charge of the situation. Picard begins to realize just how difficult a task he has set before himself. Push in on Picard's determination...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

42 INT. GUEST QUARTERS

As before. Picard and Sarek facing off in the room. For all outward appearances, Sarek looks like the imposing figure of legend. Sakkath is standing very close to Sarek and is almost physically propping him up throughout the scene.

SAREK

I regret that we have seen so little of each other on this voyage, Captain.

PICARD

The loss is mine, Ambassador.

Mendrossen coolly steps forward to take charge of the situation before it gets out of hand.

MENDROSSEN

Captain, may I talk to you in private --

Sarek interrupts Mendrossen.

SAREK

(to Picard)

You were speaking of your belief that I suffer from Bendii Syndrome.

(dryly)

I have been accused of many things in my life... but never an excess of emotion.

PERRIN

(with obvious concern)

Sarek, I see no reason to continue this discussion...

SAREK

On the contrary, I wish to assuage any fears that the captain may have regarding my capabilities.

(to Picard)

I believe there is a test for Bendii Syndrome, I will take it immediately.

42 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Unfortunately the results would not be available for several days... which is why I must ask for a postponement of the conference.

SAREK

That would be a mistake. Captain I give you my word that I am in perfect health.

PICARD

Then why must Sakkath help you contain your emotions?

Sarek now looks at Sakkath, who lowers his eyes. There is a beat of silence. Sarek turns to Mendrossen.

SAREK

Is what the captain says true?

MENDROSSEN

(without hesitation)

No, Ambassador, absolutely not.

SAREK

Perrin were you aware of this?

Perrin cannot answer.

When Sarek speaks again, his voice is still cool and calm, but it is tinged with a slight tone of irritation

SAREK

Sakkath, I await an answer.

SAKKATH

(finally)

I have used my limited abilities to strengthen... your mental discipline.

A beat as Sarek takes this in.

SAREK

Your efforts will no longer be required.

SAKKATH

That would not be wise.

42 CONTINUED: (2)

SAREK

It may not be wise... but it is necessary.

Sakkath bows his head in acceptance and EXITS. Sarek looks to Perrin and Mendrossen.

SAREK

Leave us. I wish to speak with Captain Picard.

Perrin and Mendrossen exchange alarmed looks.

PERRIN

Sarek, I ask you to reconsider.

SAREK

Obey my wishes.
(softer)
There is nothing to fear.

A beat and then Perrin and Mendrossen reluctantly EXIT.

43 NEW ANGLE

As Sarek and Picard square off alone. Sarek will remain immobile throughout as Picard moves and paces. Picard is clearly unhappy at the prospect of the task before him.

PICARD

I hope I have not embarrassed you, Ambassador.

SAREK

You seem to forget I am a Vulcan, Captain. I am not affected by emotional considerations.

PICARD

I believe you are affected, sir... far more than you realize.

SAREK

I am a logical being. Present your arguments. I will listen.

Picard remains deferential, but there is a growing urgency to his arguments.

43 CONTINUED:

PICARD

There has been an epidemic of violent incidents aboard the Enterprise. As we speak, the situation is worsening.

SAREK

And it is your hypothesis that I am the cause of these incidents?

PICARD

My chief medical officer has explored all other probable causes.

SAREK

I share your concern for your crew. However, you must agree it is not unusual for a starship to encounter unexplained phenomena.

PICARD

That is correct.

SAREK

Therefore, since I can assure you that I am not the cause of your difficulties, the logical course of action is for your doctor to continue her search.

Picard is looking for an opening. He will not be so easily sidetracked.

PICARD

She is... but the fact remains that these incidents began shortly after your arrival.

Sarek is starting to get a little irritated despite himself.

SAREK

Is your entire argument to be based on mere coincidence?

PICARD

Is it also coincidence, that your wife and chief of staff have been carefully isolating you?

43 CONTINUED: (2)

SAREK

(with understanding)

I believe I now see the flaw in
your logic. You are reacting to
their overprotective attitudes
towards me.

(MORE)

43 CONTINUED: (3)

SAREK (Cont'd)

They are both somewhat emotional
regarding my... age.

PICARD

Surely Sakkath is not influenced
by emotions.

Sarek cannot keep the annoyance out of his voice any
longer.

SAREK

Am I to be branded by the
judgment of a child? Sakkath
is young and inexperienced. He
erred in his assumption that I
needed help.

Picard has decided that the only way to get Sarek to
admit to his condition is to force him into an
emotional response. Picard would rather avoid this,
but he sees that he has no other choice.

PICARD

(starting to press)

But you did need his help at the
concert.

Sarek is a little shocked and doesn't respond. Picard
presses him harder.

PICARD

(continuing)

Or perhaps you have a logical
explanation for what happened
that night?

For the first time we see a hesitation in Sarek's
responses. He is not as sure of himself as the moment
before.

SAREK

What... happened?

PICARD

I saw you crying.

SAREK

I did not... cry.

PICARD

I was there... I saw the tears.

43 CONTINUED: (4)

Sarek answers quickly, as if anxious to prove a point.

SAREK

You exaggerate, Captain. I
recall... only one tear.

43 CONTINUED: (5)

PICARD
(forceful)
Then you were emotionally affected
by the music.

SAREK
(edge creeping into
voice)
That is not possible.

PICARD
You still have not answered me,
Sarek. Is it logical for a Vulcan
to cry?

Sarek is cornered and he knows it. He desperately
searches for an answer.

SAREK
It was late... I was fatigued.
Nothing more.

Picard simply stares at him, allows the false response
to hang in the air. Sarek tries to regain control of
the situation.

SAREK
The Legarans trust only me. They
will not meet with any other
representative of the Federation.
I must be allowed to complete my
mission. There are no other
logical solutions.

PICARD
(pressing)
No other logical solutions? But
Ambassador, there are always other
solutions. You have said so
yourself many times.

SAREK
What I meant was...
(pauses)

PICARD
Sarek of Vulcan was never afraid
to look straight at something he
did not want to see.

Sarek is having a hard time remaining impassive.

43 CONTINUED: (6)

SAREK

I warn you Captain, your efforts
to discredit me will not succeed.

PICARD

Sarek of Vulcan never confused
what he wanted with the truth.

Sarek's hands are tightly clenched into fists. His
voice is now clearly enraged.

SAREK

I will not be spoken to in such
a manner.

PICARD

Is that anger I hear in your
voice?

SAREK

(struggling to maintain
control)

It would be illogical for a Vulcan
to show anger... it would be
illogical... illogical...

44 ON SAREK AND PICARD

as they stare at each other. Sarek turns away... a defeated man. He begins to weep.

45 ON PICARD

realizing that he has destroyed a hero. Hold on his anguished face...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

46 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

The ship drops out of warp.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, supplemental.
In three hours time we are
scheduled to meet with the Legaran
delegation. However it is now
all too evident that Ambassador
Sarek is in no condition to
proceed with the conference.

47 INT. READY ROOM

Picard is looking out the window, deep in thought.
Riker has just entered.

RIKER
We're entering the Legaran system,
Captain. Shall I have Mister Worf
contact their ambassador?

PICARD
(turns)
No.
(off Riker's look)
I will present our regrets to the
Legarans personally. It is vital
that they understand our reasons
for cancelling the negotiations.

Picard is still haunted by what happened with Sarek.
Riker can see that the captain is still troubled.

RIKER
(quietly)
Captain, with all due respect...
I think you did the right thing.

PICARD
But at what cost, Number One?

A moment as they reflect on the fall of a great man.

The door CHIMES.

47 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Come.

The door opens and an emotional Perrin ENTERS.

PICARD

(surprised)

Perrin?

PERRIN

I must speak with you, Captain.

She glances at Riker, who takes the hint.

47 CONTINUED: (2)

RIKER

I'll be on the bridge, sir.

Riker EXITS.

PICARD

(with concern)

How is the ambassador?

PERRIN

Resting.

(beat)

I've come to ask you to reconsider
your position.

PICARD

You know that's impossible.

But Perrin is not to be denied. She continues to plead
her case...

PERRIN

Sarek is a... good man, Captain.
He has given the Federation a
lifetime of service. I beg you,
let him keep the respect he has
earned.

PICARD

He will never lose that respect.

PERRIN

If you need to blame someone,
blame Mendrossen and me.
(beat)
But we never wanted to deceive
you. My husband's... condition...
came on him so... gradually. It
was so easy to... delude
ourselves, to pretend that nothing
was wrong. We convinced ourselves
that he could complete this one
last task... and end his career...
the way it began... with dignity.

PICARD

I'm not blaming anyone.

PERRIN

Then help him, Captain, please.
Help him regain his pride...
his honor.

47 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD

Believe me, nothing would give
me greater pleasure. But there's
nothing I can do.

PERRIN

The mission can be saved.
(off Picard's look)
But he needs your help to do it.

On Picard's expression, wondering what she means...

48
thru OMITTED
50

51 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Picard and Sarek are standing near the Legaran tank.
Sarek is a little surprised.

SAREK

A mind-meld... between the two
of us? Do you realize the dangers
involved in what you are
proposing?

PICARD

Yes, Ambassador, I do. But I also
realize the potential benefits.

SAREK

We would be telepathically
linked... exchanging our
thoughts... becoming in essence
one mind.

PICARD

Which, for a few hours, should
provide you with the emotional
control you need. Enough time
for you to meet with the Legarans
and conclude the treaty.

Sarek is tempted... but he hesitates.

SAREK

It is a generous offer. But I
must warn you that while I would
gain your stability, you would
experience the fierce onslaught
of emotions unleashed by my...
condition. Vulcan emotions are
extremely intense... we have
learned to suppress them. No
human would be able to control
them. They would overwhelm you...
the mind-meld can be a terrible
intimacy.

(beat)

I cannot allow it.

PICARD

I am aware of the risks, Sarek.
But I believe it is the only...
logical solution.

51 CONTINUED:

A long beat as Sarek slowly realizes that Picard is right.

SAREK
Your courage honors me, Captain.

51 CONTINUED: (2)

They share a silent beat of respect.

52 OMITTED

53 INT. PICARD'S QUARTERS

Picard is placing two chairs face to face in the center of the room. Beverly is standing next to him, holding a tricorder. She is obviously worried.

BEVERLY

I can't say I approve of this,
Jean-Luc.

PICARD

I didn't expect you would,
Beverly.

BEVERLY

Is there some way I can talk you
out of it?

PICARD

I'm afraid not. Though I do admit
to a certain... trepidation.

(beat, then smiling)

Your company is appreciated.

A warm moment passes between them. The door CHIMES.
Beverly and Picard exchange a look... this is it.

53 CONTINUED:

PICARD

Come.

The door opens and Sarek ENTERS. He looks at the chairs.

SAREK

I see you are ready, Captain.

PICARD

Doctor Crusher will be monitoring our responses.

SAREK

A sensible precaution.

They take their seats. Beverly moves to an unobtrusive position nearby.

53A ANGLE ON SAREK AND PICARD

Sarek slowly reaches out with his hand and places his fingertips on Picard's face. Picard's eyes close briefly then open again.

SAREK

(whispering)

My mind to your mind... your thoughts to my thoughts...

PUSH IN closer until their faces fill the screen...

54

thru OMITTED

56

57 EXT. SPACE - ENTERPRISE IN ORBIT (OPTICAL)

Legara Four is visible below...

58 INT. BRIDGE

Riker at Command, Wesley, Worf and Data at their stations.

DATA

Commander, the Legarans are ready to beam aboard.

58 CONTINUED:

RIKER

Very well...

SAREK (V.O.)

Number One, please inform the
Legaran delegation that Ambassador
Sarek is on his way to welcome
them.

The entire bridge crew turns to see...

59 ON SAREK

He has just emerged from the turbolift. He looks
strong, confident, imposing. He is Sarek... yet he is
Picard too.

RIKER

Yes... Ambassador.

60
thru OMITTED
61

62 INT. PICARD'S QUARTERS

CLOSE ON a table as Picard's hands come slamming down on the surface. PULL BACK as he lets out a strangled cry of rage.

PICARD

NO!!!

Beverly is nearby, not sure how to help. Picard supports himself against the table. Throughout this scene, Picard physically struggles to withstand the onslaught of raw emotion unleashed by Sarek.

PICARD

It is wrong. A lifetime of
discipline washed away, and in
its place... bedlam...

(MORE)

62 CONTINUED:

PICARD (Cont'd)
Nothing but bedlam.
(angry)
And I am helpless to prevent it!
I am old! Nothing left but dry
bones and dead friends.
(exhausted)
Weary, so weary.

Beverly goes over and tries to lead Picard to a couch.

BEVERLY
It will pass. All of it.
Another hour or so at most.
You're doing fine... Just hold
on.

He escapes her grasp.

PICARD
No! This weakness disgusts me!
I hate it! Where is the logic?
I am betrayed by desires... I want
to... feel... to feel everything!
(a whisper)
But I am Vulcan.
(voice rising)
I must feel nothing. Give me back
control...

Beverly approaches him... staring, searching his face
for any signs of recognition.

BEVERLY
Jean-Luc...

He looks at her, but he doesn't fully recognize her.

PICARD
Perrin...
(tears begin to stream
down his face)
Amanda... I could have given you
so much more. I wanted to show
you tenderness. But it is not
our way. Spock... Amanda did you
know... ? Perrin, can you know...
how much I... love you?
(anguished cry)
I do love you!

62 CONTINUED:

Then, suddenly as if with tremendous effort, the tears
still streaming down his face... Sarek is gone.

62 CONTINUED: (3)

PICARD
(a hoarse whisper)
Beverly...

BEVERLY
I'm here... I'm not going to
leave you.

PICARD
It's so... difficult.

She puts her arm around him and leads him to the couch.
Picard is stunned.

PICARD
The anguish in the man...
despair... pouring out... so
many... feelings... regrets...

Picard is now weeping openly.

PICARD
I can't stop them...

He buries his head into her shoulder. She cradles his
head.

BEVERLY
(whispers)
Don't even try.

As Picard weeps...

63 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

in orbit around Legara Four. We hear Riker's VOICE
OVER.

RIKER
First officer's log, Stardate
43920.7. Ambassador Sarek has
successfully concluded the
negotiations with the Legarans.
The USS Merrimac has arrived and
will transport the ambassador and
his party back to Vulcan.

64 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

Perrin, Sakkath, and Mendrossen are talking with Picard
and Riker. They are in dress uniforms again.

64 CONTINUED:

The honor guard seen in the teaser are again present in the b.g.

PICARD

I hope your journey aboard the Merrimac will be uneventful.

SAKKATH

With the pressures of the conference behind him, I believe I can help maintain his control until we return to Vulcan.

RIKER

What will happen to him then?

MENDROSSEN

The effects of Bendii syndrome are irreversible.

(beat)

Medical research is always continuing, of course...

Sakkath and Mendrossen move to the transporter stage along with Riker, giving Perrin and Picard a moment of privacy.

PERRIN

(with deep gratitude)

Thank you, Captain.

PICARD

He... loves you... very much.

PERRIN

(smiles and nods)

I know. I've always known.

64 CONTINUED: (2)

Picard smiles in return. Sarek ENTERS. The honor guard comes to attention.

SAREK
(to Picard)
I will take my leave of you now,
Captain. I do not think we shall
meet again.

PICARD
I hope you are wrong, Ambassador.

SAREK
We shall always retain the best
part of the other inside us.

PICARD
I believe I got the best part of
that bargain, Ambassador.

A silent moment between them. Picard raises his hand and gives him the Vulcan salute.

PICARD
Peace and long life, Sarek.

SAREK
(returning salute)
Live long and prosper.

Sarek now steps up on the transporter stage with Perrin. Picard nods to O'Brien, who works his console.

64A ON SAREK AND PERRIN (OPTICAL)

Just before they start to beam out, Sarek reaches out for Perrin's hand. She clasps it and they DEMATERIALIZE.

64B ON PICARD AND RIKER

as they watch the beam out.

65 OMITTED

66 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

as it swings away from Legara Four into the vastness of
the galaxy.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END