

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

# 14x12 - "Helter Skelter"

Screenplay by Martyn Dunn

Based on characters from the series

*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*

and on the *Star Trek* tie-in novels  
by Pocket Books

### **TNG 19x12 - "NICE TRY"**

*Enterprise* figures out that the placement of stolen Soong-type androids around the Federation means that as Starfleet reacts, it will completely abandon one system - Tirana, where they investigated a missing ship (TNG "Search and Rescue"). Furious, the Gorn Emperor admits to Bacco that the entire conference was a deliberate distraction from something the Breen are up to. The idea of the Gorn leaving the Typhon Pact was a ruse before - now it might be the truth. *Enterprise* arrives at Tirana and finds the Breen excavating a ship with a Mirror Universe quantum signature. If they can't have the Federation's slipstream drive, maybe they can have the MU Galactic Commonwealth's wormhole drive instead. With Starfleet recalled from the Breen's distractions, *Enterprise* intimidates them enough to give up and go. For ordering this ridiculous project and squandering such valuable assets with nothing to show for it, the Breen ministers depose Domo Brex...

### **VOY 12x12 - "ESTRANGED"**

To gain custody of Miral, Julia Paris must prove that Tom and B'Elanna are unfit parents. She accuses her son of still being a reckless, irresponsible youth, and B'Elanna of abandoning her newborn baby to follow some arcane Klingon ritual (VOY "Homecoming"). Paris tells the court that B'Elanna is pregnant again - Julia instantly builds a nursery and brings parades of friends to testify to her childrearing capability. Paris calls in everyone he ever knew from *Voyager* - Sam Wildman, Vorik, the Delaney sisters, even B'Elanna's father John Torres. Finally Tom and his mother speak alone; no matter what she thinks, he will not let his children feel abandoned by their parents, like both he and B'Elanna did. The mediator believes that Julia has valid points, but it is not Tom's relationship with his daughter that is troubled - it is the one with his mother. Tom has won, but he decides he needs to stay on Earth for a while and rebuild their relationship...

**TEASER**

FADE IN:

**1     EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE**

Establishing shot of the station, with the *Defiant* and the *Xhosa* both docked...

**2     INT. DS9 - SCIENCE LAB**

Last seen in 14x09 "Crossroads". CANDLEWOOD focuses hard on his panels, deeply engrossed in his work - to the extent that he doesn't even notice or look up when the door opens and several pairs of boots enter the lab.

TENMEI (o.s.)

John...

Candlewood doesn't look up - he is not being deliberately rude, he's just *really* into what he's doing.

TENMEI (o.s.)

John? Hello?

Candlewood cocks his head, stares at the screen, *hmmmmms...*

TENMEI (o.s.)

Lieutenant Candlewood! Report!

The command voice finally jerks him out of his absorption. He looks up, confused...

...and sees TENMEI with her arms folded, unimpressed, at the head of all their friends from the Engineers' Table. CHAO, PERMENTER, K'UHLLO, TH'SHANT and SLAINE.

TENMEI

What are you doing?

CANDLEWOOD

I'm... working...?

TENMEI

You're supposed to be in Quark's.

Candlewood rolls his eyes and turns back to his work.

CANDLEWOOD

Is that what this is about? I'm busy, Pryn. I can't come out to play right now.

Team leader Tenmei steps forward, softens her stance...

TENMEI

John, this is the third week in a row you've skipped out on our regular get-together in Quark's.

CHAO

It was all your idea in the first place, remember?

SLAINE

The only time in the week all of us are off shift at the same time?

CANDLEWOOD

Of course I remember. But I've got work to do.

th'Shant steps forward, tries to see Candlewood's screen...

TH'SHANT

What are you working on anyway?

Candlewood immediately moves to block th'Shant's way...

CANDLEWOOD

(sharp)

None of your business.

th'Shant steps back, surprised at John's unusually harsh tone of voice. Tenmei is likewise shocked at her friend...

TENMEI

John... what the hell is going on?

Candlewood softens, takes a deep breath, thinks how best to handle this...

CANDLEWOOD

Look, I'm just busy, that's all. I'm under orders here, I'm under pressure, and I need to get back to work. Hanging out with you guys is going to have to take a back seat for a while, okay? I'm sorry.

Tenmei appraises her friend for a moment, then nods her acceptance and gathers the others together to leave...

TENMEI

Alright, John. We'll leave you in peace. You know where to find us.

As Tenmei crosses the threshold, Candlewood calls out...

CANDLEWOOD

Prynn...

(she turns back)

...I am sorry. It's nice that you all came to find me, I appreciate that. It's just...

(re computers)

I really am working on something important here. And I can't tell you about it. Captain's orders.

TENMEI

Alright. But don't work too hard, okay? You need time off like the rest of us... and we miss you.

Tenmei leaves and the door closes. Candlewood leans on his console and sighs...

### **3    INT. DS9 - INFIRMARY**

BASHIR exits the surgical suite back into the office area, in surgical reds, just peeling off the gloves. It's been a long day, and he's tired and short-tempered. He drops the gloves and the cap into a sterilising bin, turns...

...and stops up short at the sight of SARINA, the deputy security chief and his live-in girlfriend, standing there. He turns back to his consoles, typing up his notes.

BASHIR  
Lieutenant Douglas. Is there some-  
thing I can help you with?

SARINA  
Excuse me? "Lieutenant Douglas"?  
Is that what we're reduced to?

Bashir coldly points out Nurse RICHTER working at tidying  
up the exam room, far enough away to not overhear them...

BASHIR  
We're on duty.

SARINA  
We're not supposed to be. This  
is not your shift, Julian. And I  
thought we had plans for dinner.

BASHIR  
Doctor Aylam had to go to Bajor.  
Lieutenant Aleco cracked a rib in  
his martial arts class.

SARINA  
I heard about that. I also heard  
it wasn't serious.

BASHIR  
No, but since I was free...

He *wasn't* free, that's the point. But Sarina lets it pass,  
tries to build bridges...

SARINA  
Well, since you're finished, how  
about we make it a late dinner?  
I'm sure Quark can find us a  
table, or there's always Vic's -

BASHIR  
(too loud)  
I don't want to go to bloody  
Vic's, Sarina!

A moment for everyone to catch their breaths...

...including Richter, who definitely heard but keeps her head down and just gets on with her work...

...and Sarina steps closer, keeps it cool and collected.

SARINA

Grow up, Julian. This nonsense has been going on for months, and I've had enough. I've been nothing but honest with you, and these petulant little displays accomplish nothing except to invite everyone else in on the secret.

Bashir grinds his teeth, refusing to look at her...

SARINA

(continuing)

So pull yourself together, and for god's sake make a decision about what you actually want at last. I'll see you at home.

She turns and leaves the infirmary. Bashir leans against his console and seethes...

BLACK OUT

**END OF TEASER**

**ACT ONE**

FADE IN:

**4 EXT. SPACE - ROBINSON**

*Robinson flying at high warp...*

**5 INT. ROBINSON - BRIDGE**

SISKO sits in his centre chair, intense and driven as his crew keep the ship flying as fast as it can go...

QUARK (v.o.)  
You know, I'm glad it wasn't you  
who went into the Gamma Quadrant...

**CUT TO:**

**6 INT. DS9 - QUARK'S BAR**

A CORK POPS, drink bubbles out...

...and QUARK himself catches the overflow in a delicate glass, handing the result across the bar to Captain RO.

RO  
Really? Why's that?

QUARK  
Think about it. You go out there  
exploring unknown space, discover  
some previously unheard-of hyper-  
intelligent civilisation, and they  
decide to keep you around as their  
queen. How could I ever go on?

Ro smiles playfully, sips her spring wine...

RO  
So you think I should be treated  
like a queen, do you?

QUARK  
Absolutely. And I say that as your  
most loyal subject.



Quark places down the bottle and makes a flourishing bow.  
Ro giggles a little, enjoying the flirty banter.

RO

So what would you do if I told you  
to come over to my quarters and do  
whatever I tell you to do?

QUARK

I'd tell Treir she's in charge.

Quark steps out from behind the bar, heading over towards  
the *dabo* table, where Orion *dabo* girl TREIR holds court...

...but Ro grabs his arm before he can go too far.

RO

Wait - don't you want to know what  
I'm going to tell you to do?

QUARK

Oh, I think I know.

RO

Good, because my quarters could do  
with a really good clean.

Quark's face drops to the floor. Ro pulls him in closer...

RO

(continuing)

...but maybe you could do the  
cleaning with no clothes on.

**CLOSE-UP** - she blows into his ear, making the tiny hairs  
stand on end. He shudders in delight.

QUARK

It could be worth it.

RO

I'm not serious, you don't have to  
do that. But you can come by my  
quarters later if you like...

QUARK

It's pretty busy tonight. But I'm  
sure I'll find a way.

With a last tickle of his earlobe, Ro puts the glass back  
on the bar and heads off for the door...

7 **INT. DS9 - SCIENCE LAB**

Candlewood still working, comparing one screen to another.  
The door OPENS again, he still doesn't look up...

CANDLEWOOD

Look, Prynn, I told you -

RO (o.s.)

I'm not Prynn.

Candlewood looks up surprised again, snaps to attention...

CANDLEWOOD

Captain! Sorry, I didn't -

RO

Don't worry about it.  
(re computers)  
How's it going?

CANDLEWOOD

Um, it's... going. I think I'm  
getting there.

RO

Good. I knew you could do it.

CANDLEWOOD

Why?

RO

I'm sorry?

CANDLEWOOD

I mean, why me? Yeah, I know, I'm  
the chief science officer, it's my  
job, blah blah whatever. But it's  
a pretty big job. So why only me?

RO  
Because you're the only one I knew  
I could trust.

Candlewood looks at her, at her shameful admission...

CANDLEWOOD  
That's somehow hugely flattering  
and profoundly sad all at once.

RO  
I know. But with everything going  
on, so many people with their own  
problems and their own secrets...  
to have one person who's an open  
book is a gift from the Prophets.

CANDLEWOOD  
Pretty sure that's the first time  
anyone ever described me that way.

RO  
John, you're incapable of lying or  
keeping secrets. It's all either  
right there on your face or flying  
out of your mouth. I need someone  
who doesn't have their own agenda.

CANDLEWOOD  
Glad I could help. But you know  
that even once I crack this, I'll  
need help to put it into action.  
That part I can't do alone.

RO  
(nod, deep breath)  
Alright. But keep it as small as  
possible. You'll know who.

She nods for him to carry on then turns to EXIT. Candlewood  
watches her go, sad for how bad things have got...

**8**    **EXT. SPACE - REN FEJIN**

The blocky Breen freighter flying at high warp...

9 INT. REN FEJIN - BRIDGE

Starting on TOMALAK in the captain's chair, gripping onto the arms as the rickety old ship SHAKES and RATTLES around him. The bridge is half-blasted, barely repaired enough to function after the Jem'Hadar attack. But despite it all, the Romulan proconsul is enjoying himself.

TOMALAK  
Not exactly a top of the line  
warbird, is it?

He looks around at the rest of the bridge crew - now half Breen and half Romulan after so many of the Breen crew were killed by Jem'Hadar - hoping for a reaction to his stunning witticism. Blank faces all around, not just from the Breen.

TOMALAK  
(alright, fine)  
Nevertheless, it's good to command  
a ship of one's own again.

One of the Romulans turns and stands - KINN, the Tal Shiar agent, still haggard and haunted after his torture.

KINN  
In fact, Proconsul, one might even  
call this an improvement.

TOMALAK  
Indeed, Specialist Kinn?

KINN  
Sir. The technology we took from  
the Dominion is now hidden behind  
a phasing cloak on the *Eletrix*.  
Starfleet thinks the *Eletrix* is  
destroyed, so they won't be looking  
for it. And even if they check our  
holds, they'll find nothing.

TOMALAK  
Nothing except for our own phase  
cloak, Specialist.

KINN

That will be dismantled before we reach the wormhole, Proconsul.

TOMALAK

(cold smile)

Perhaps you'd be so kind as to make certain of that, Specialist.

KINN

As you say, Proconsul. Thot Trok, your assistance please.

One of the Breen - THOT TROK - suit scuffed and battered after the Jem'Hadar encounter, BUZZES and leaves the bridge with Kinn. Tomalak settles into his seat, self-satisfied...

**10 INT. REN FEJIN - TRANSPORT ROOM**

The Romulan and the Breen enter the room together. They pause and stare at the articulated frame of metal bars that serves as the interphase transport platform. This time, Trok's Breen BUZZ is translated with English overlaid...

THOT TROK

I despise him.

KINN

You hide your feelings well.

Trok looks at Kinn... and then throws his helmeted head back with the loud BUZZ that serves as a Breen laugh. Kinn LAUGHS along with him - he actually made a joke. For all their rivalry at the start of this mission, their shared trauma has brought them closer. They get on with the job...

**11 EXT. SPACE - ROBINSON**

*Robinson* flying at high warp...

**12 INT. ROBINSON - BRIDGE**

Sisko still in the command chair...

SISKO

Time to the wormhole.

Helm officer Lt Cmdr SIVADEKI checks her panels...

SIVADEKI  
Seventeen hours at current speed.

SISKO  
Bridge to engineering.

RELKDAHZ (comm)  
This is Relkdahz, go ahead.

SISKO  
Increase power to the warp engines,  
Commander. I want more speed.

RELKDAHZ (comm)  
We're almost exceeding tolerances  
as it is, Captain.

SISKO  
(emphatic)  
I want more speed, Commander.

There is an audible but untranslated CREAK over the comm...

RELKDAHZ (comm)  
We'll do what we can, sir.

Sisko closes the channel, then becomes aware of ROGEIRO  
staring at him from the XO chair. Without turning...

SISKO  
Problem, Mister Rogeiro?

ROGEIRO  
Could we speak in private, sir?

A moment to grind his teeth, then Sisko gets up and heads  
to the ready room. Rogeiro stands and follows...

SISKO  
Commander Plante, you have the  
bridge.

They EXIT to the ready room...

13 INT. ROBINSON - BRIDGE

Sisko heads behind his desk, turns to face Rogeiro...

SISKO

Out with it, Commander.

ROGEIRO

I'm curious why you're pushing the ship beyond its tolerances to get back to the wormhole just because of a downed comm line.

SISKO

Starfleet needs to know about the Romulans. About them faking the destruction of the *Eletrix*.

ROGEIRO

I agree. But that doesn't explain the very... personal edge to this that I'm picking up from you.

Sisko stews a moment, then finally slumps into his chair. Taking it as an invitation, Rogeiro takes the guest chair.

SISKO

We've served together for over a year, Anxo. But I've never told you why I'm here.

ROGEIRO

You've also never called me Anxo before this incident.

SISKO

That's because I didn't want to open up to you. Didn't know who I could trust.

ROGEIRO

Trust with what?

SISKO

I believe I'm cursed, Commander.

ROGEIRO  
(non-judgmental)  
How so?

SISKO  
The Prophets warned me bad things  
would happen if I stayed with my  
wife. And they were right.

Rogeiرو takes a moment to put the pieces together...

ROGEIRO  
That's why you were so eager to  
take a mission to the other side  
of the galaxy - to keep her safe.

SISKO  
Elias always did say you must have  
Betazoid blood.

ROGEIRO  
I'm flattered. But how does that  
connect to us rushing back home at  
maximum warp now?

SISKO  
Because you said the comm problems  
weren't at our end... so something  
must be wrong at Deep Space Nine.  
And the last message Kasidy sent me  
before the lines went down... was  
that she and my daughter... were  
on their way to Deep Space Nine.

As Rogeiرو realises the connection Sisko is making...

BLACK OUT

**END OF ACT ONE**



**ACT TWO**

FADE IN:

**14 INT. DS9 - PROMENADE / REPLIMAT**

KASIDY sits at a table in the Replimat, sharing lunch with KIRA and MATTHIAS. They are chatty and friendly, enjoying the company. The Replimat is fairly busy around them.

KIRA

So Rebecca was okay with going to the station school for a few days?

KASIDY

I'm sure she's teaching the entire class by now.

MATTHIAS

Arios and Mireh will keep an eye on her, don't worry.

KASIDY

Oh, if there's one girl who knows how to take care of herself, it's Rebecca. I just wish it didn't get her into trouble so often. Still, that's what we hired Jasmine for.

Kasidy finishes her lunch, wipes her mouth with a napkin.

KASIDY

Right. Better check in with Wayne and Pardshay. What about you two? What are your plans for the day?

MATTHIAS

I have a counselling session.

KIRA

And I thought I'd say hello to Vedek Capril at the shrine. Maybe do a little prayin'.

MATTHIAS

Well, enjoy.

Quick half-hugs, then Matthias leaves. Kasidy collects the dishes and returns them to the replicator. Kira hovers...

KIRA

How are you holding up, Kas?

KASIDY

I'm fine. Honestly. Haven't made any decisions yet, if that's what you're asking.

KIRA

It wasn't, but it's good to know anyway. I just don't want you to do anything you'll regret.

(half-joking)

You could always come and pray with me, if you wanted.

KASIDY

I appreciate the offer, Nerys. But I think I'll leave that in your capable hands. Don't worry, I'll check in before I decide anything.

A somewhat longer hug, then Kasidy heads off. Kira watches her go a moment, then heads off herself...

**15 INT. DS9 - COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE**

Matthias sits in her counselling chair, legs crossed and a padd to make notes...

MATTHIAS

So you think you've figured it out?

Reveal that her current patient is in fact Captain RO.

RO

Yeah... I think it started with losing Evik. It was so sudden... unfair. Made me feel like anything could happen, at any time. Like I had no control over anything.

MATTHIAS

And then?

RO

Then a promotion I didn't want,  
and all the self-doubt that comes  
with that. Am I good enough, am I  
making the right decisions...

MATTHIAS

Pretty normal for any new captain.

RO

Then this thing with Rwogo, the  
Typhon Pact, the True Way, Douglas  
and th'Shant - and we never found  
any bombs. That should be a good  
thing... but it makes me feel like  
I've missed something obvious.

MATTHIAS

The whole galaxy is watching you.  
You can't have anything go wrong.

RO

So I'm micro-managing...  
(dark chuckle)  
...which is exactly what I accused  
Nerys of when I first came aboard.

MATTHIAS

So now that you've realised that...  
what are you going to do about it?

Ro sits and ponders that question...

**16 INT. DS9 - SHRINE**

Kira gazes reverently at the ORB BOX on its plinth, while  
Vedek CAPRIL lights the flickering candles around her.

CAPRIL

I hope you won't think me invasive,  
Vedek... but I saw you eating with  
the Emissary's wife. Is she well?

KIRA

She's fine. I think.

CAPRIL

Good, good. And your friend Raiq?

KIRA

She's fine too. Still not exactly used to being a mother... but she knows I'm back safe at least.

CAPRIL

I too am pleased to see you back safe from Cardassia, Vedek.

KIRA

(turns to him)

We've known each other for a while now, Capril. You can call me Nerys.

CAPRIL

(shakes head)

I supported your Attainder -

KIRA

You followed the Assembly's orders. I don't hold any grudges. Besides... it all worked out for the best.

She models her own Vedek's robes and earrings for him. He smiles back, almost paternally proud.

CAPRIL

Well, Nerys... the Orb of Destiny awaits you. I'll make sure you're not disturbed.

KIRA

Thanks, Capril. I appreciate it.

Capril switches off the FORCE FIELD and reverently opens the Orb Box's doors, revealing the glittering hourglass within. Then he silently retreats and leaves Kira to it.

Kira kneels before the box, gazes into the swirling light. The LIGHT SWIRLS OUT of the box, filling the room...

**WHITE OUT**

**FADE IN**

...to reveal KIRA'S EYES squinting against the light, and the sounds of TRAFFIC and CAR HORNS in the background...

**17**    **EXT. NEW YORK STREET - DAY**

KAY EATON shields her eyes from the bright New York sun, standing in the doorway of a late 1950s Midtown brownstone as she emerges onto the street. The SMELL of gasoline on the breeze, the NOISE of the city at rush hour...

CASSIE (o.s.)  
Excuse me? Miss Eaton?

KAY - Kira as a 1950s human writer - looks down the steps to the sidewalk below, and sees CASSIE - Kasidy as a 1950s Harlem café owner - looking up at her, sad but hopeful.

CASSIE  
You are Kay Eaton... aren't you?

KAY EATON  
I'm sorry, do I know you?

CASSIE  
I'm Cassie - Cassie Johnson. You might have seen me around. I'm Benny Russell's girl.

At the reminder, Kay immediately trots down the steps to join Cassie on the pavement.

KAY EATON  
Oh... Benny... how is he?

CASSIE  
He's in trouble. I'm sorry, Miss Eaton, I know you don't know me, but Benny always spoke highly of you. I just need somebody to help me... to help Benny.

KAY EATON

Then let's go.

Kay immediately takes Cassie's arm, and they march down the pavement and into the bright sun together...

**WHITE OUT**

**FADE IN**

...to reveal the throbbing white tower of power that is the station's power core...

**18**    **INT. DS9 - POWER CORE**

Captain RO shields her eyes from the bright light, slowly accustoming herself to the glare. The THROB of power, the SMELL of ozone, the subtle underlying BEEPS of machinery...

Ro moves around the curve of the core, looking for...

RWOGO, the Ferengi security chief, who works at a console much as she did the day Ro came here to arrest her. But now chief engineer CHAO is with her, working together MOS.

RO

Excuse me, Inspector Rwogo?

RWOGO

(hears and turns)

Captain. How can we help you?

RO

Lieutenant Douglas said I'd find you here. What are you doing?

Unlike last time, this is said with politeness and respect. Rwogo notices the difference, and smiles appreciatively.

RWOGO

Lieutenant Chao and I are still on the hunt for the elusive sabotage.

RO

I see. Do we even know for sure there are any bombs?

RWOGO

(big toothy grin)

"Always exaggerate your estimates",  
Captain. Rule of Acquisition number  
five. Just because we haven't found  
any bombs doesn't mean there isn't  
something here to find. And I plan  
to keep searching until I do.

Ro nods at that, and finally drags herself to her point.

RO

Chief Chao... could you excuse us  
for a moment? We need to talk.

CHAO

Of course, Captain. Inspector,  
I'll move onto the next section.

Chao is aware of the previous tension between Ro and Rwego  
- everyone on the station is - so she packs up her tools  
and scuttles out of the way. Rwego turns to face Ro...

RWOGO

Please - go ahead, Captain.

RO

I want to apologise to you - for  
real this time. I've been speaking  
to Counsellor Matthias, and she's  
helped me realise I was treating  
you unfairly. Some of it was Evik,  
some was Rom... some of it was me.  
But you are my chief of security,  
and I'm ready to trust you now.

Rwego considers the captain for a moment... then nods.

RWOGO

I accept your apology, Captain.  
And I thank you for giving it. But  
quite frankly I'd like to put the  
whole thing behind us, and get on  
with the task at hand. Shall we?

RO

That's something we can definitely agree on. But still keep it quiet, okay? It's a sensitive subject and we don't want to cause a panic.

RWOGO

"Whisper your way to success",  
Captain!

With another toothy grin, Rwogo heads off to join Chao...

**19 INT. DS9 - SCIENCE LAB**

The door opens and TENMEI enters, a little nervous...

TENMEI

You... wanted to see me?

Candlewood is eager and excited, bouncing around the room.

CANDLEWOOD

Prynn, we're still friends, you don't have to be all formal. Get in here.

Tenmei relaxes and steps further into the room...

TENMEI

Am I allowed?

CANDLEWOOD

Yes, that's the whole point. I've finished, and Captain Ro gave me permission to bring in whoever I wanted to help me put it to work.

TENMEI

And you wanted me?

CANDLEWOOD

I can pilot a runabout myself, but not that and do the thing at the same time. But it's super, super secret, okay? Promise me.



TENMEI

I promise. You can trust me.

Candlewood calms down a bit, brings Tenmei to his console.

CANDLEWOOD

Okay. Ro thought there was something fishy going on ever since the Romulans and the True Way were here at the same time, yeah? So she ordered me to develop Captain Sisko's work on breaking through the Romulans' new phasing cloak.

TENMEI

Whew. Okay. How did it go?

CANDLEWOOD

How did it go? I did it. That's how it went. I, John Candlewood, where Starfleet's finest failed, have cracked the secret of how to detect a phase-cloaked ship. Me.  
(arms wide)  
Now tell me, what am I?

TENMEI

(beaming smile)  
You are so awesome.

They start to SING and DANCE the famously awful "I Am So Awesome" dance together, celebrating with pride and glee.

But as they sing, we PAN across to Candlewood's screen, and the SCHEMATIC of a menacing Romulan warbird upon it...

BLACK OUT

**END OF ACT TWO**

**ACT THREE**

FADE IN:

**20 EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE**

A RUNABOUT flies away from the station, where we can still see the *Defiant* and the *Xhosa* docked...

...and heads out towards the Denorios Belt.

**21 INT. RUNABOUT - COCKPIT**

TENMEI at the helm, with CANDLEWOOD behind her preparing his upgrades at a rear computer console.

TENMEI

Approaching the primary tachyon buoy now...

CENN (comm)

Acknowledged, Lieutenant. You have permission to proceed.

Tenmei nods to herself and pushes the ship on...

**22 INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

CENN in command, moving between SLAINE at the Ops table, TH'SHANT at engineering, ALECO at tactical and extras elsewhere, including Candlewood's science station.

TENMEI (comm)

Thanks, Major. We'll let you know how it goes. *Nile* out.

TH'SHANT

Major...?

Cenn trots up the stairs to talk to the young Andorian...

CENN

Yes, Ensign?

TH'SHANT

What exactly are they doing?

CENN  
Who, Tenmei and Candlewood? Just  
regular maintenance. Why?

TH'SHANT  
Only that if I'm meant to be their  
liaison here instead of Lieutenant  
Chao, it would be good to know  
what I'm liaising about. Sir.

CENN  
(indulgent smile)  
Well, I just told you. So you're  
all good.

TH'SHANT  
But Chao designed the buoys, why  
isn't she handling this?

CENN  
(firmer)  
Ensign, you know everything you  
need to know to do your job. I  
advise you to focus on that.

Cenn turns and walks to the next station, his face a mask  
of concern - he knows exactly what's going on.

th'Shant watches him go, feeling mistrusted and left out -  
is it because he's Andorian?

**23    EXT. SPACE - RUNABOUT**

The runabout now holds position next to a TACHYON BUOY, as  
seen in 13x13 "Dog Eat Dog". The buoy is BEAMED away...

**24    INT. RUNABOUT - REAR CABIN**

...and TRANSPORTS into the runabout's rear cabin, which has  
been reconfigured into a mini workshop. The buoy fills the  
space, a sphere with BEAM EMITTERS around the circumference  
on one axis and MANOEUVRING THRUSTERS on the other axis.

Candlewood grabs a TOOL and begins unlocking a panel on the  
buoy's surface. Tenmei stands and watches...

TENMEI

Is there some reason we can't do  
this remotely from the station?

CANDLEWOOD

A lot harder to hack a hard-wired  
connection than a comm signal.

TENMEI

And how long will this take?

CANDLEWOOD

Relax - we've got plenty of time.  
The Romulans aren't even due back  
for another couple of months.

As Candlewood digs into the guts of the buoy...

**25**    **INT. ELETRIX - BRIDGE**

Romulan commander T'JUL in her centre seat, the bridge dark  
around her to indicate the ship is under cloak...

T'JUL

Centurion, time to the wormhole?

Centurion DIVELN speaks up from the helm station...

DIVELN

Eight point two hours, Commander.

T'Jul nods, not bothering to acknowledge. She looks to her  
side, where her BREEN exchange officer KAZREN stands...

T'JUL

I imagine you're eager to get  
home, Trop Kazren...?

The Breen's grating BUZZ is translated into English...

KAZREN

It is better that we continue our  
current speed. We must maintain  
formation with the *Ren Fejin*...

They look together to the VIEWSCREEN, which shows the rear end of the Breen freighter as they warp home together...

KAZREN  
(continuing)  
...in order to use them as cover.

T' JUL  
Of course.  
(beat, sympathetic)  
Your fellow Breen... they are well rested and prepared?

KAZREN  
Those who survived will complete their mission. Proconsul Tomalak's supervision of the repairs to the ship was... adequate.

T' JUL  
A simple enough task... that offered the perfect opportunity to exile him from our presence.

Kazren cocks his helmeted head in a way that suggests he completely agrees with that. T'Jul chuckles...

KAZREN  
The signal was sent?

T' JUL  
The last signal Deep Space Nine will receive for a while. Don't worry, the contingency plans will be in place by the time we arrive.

Kazren straightens with satisfaction at that...

**26**    **INT. DS9 - OPS**

...to SLAINE at the Ops table, working hard with a smile of similar satisfaction. She looks to see CENN approaching, the next step on his formal tour of the Ops stations...

CENN  
Anything to report, *dalin* Slaine?

SLAINE

All normal, Major. The *Canterbury* is continuing its patrol of the sector, the *Xhosa* and the *Defiant* are still docked, and the *Nile* is holding station at the wormhole.

CENN

Excellent.

(more personal)

And how are you settling in? It's coming on six months since you joined us, isn't it?

SLAINE

It's... ah... it's good. Prynn has been tutoring me on Starfleet shuttles, I've joined the regular social events in the bar, I've even introduced them to my sauna programme... although I think it was a little much for Ensign K'Uhllo. I'm not sure Damiani are supposed to turn that colour.

CENN

(chuckle)

I'm glad you're making friends. It took a while for me to feel like this place was my home. Hopefully it won't take you as long.

SLAINE

It was a difficult start, I admit. But I think you're right... Deep Space Nine could become my home.

Cenn is about to turn away, but Slaine calls him back...

SLAINE

Actually, Major, I might have one thing to report. I didn't think much of it at first, but...

Now Cenn is intrigued...

27 **INT. DS9 - CAPTAIN'S OFFICE**

RO and CENN tight in conference, tense whispers...

RO

How long has this been going on?

CENN

Slaine isn't sure. We were getting the regular comm packets from the *Robinson* just fine... up until the last one. But since they're only every week, the lines could have been down for days... or weeks.

RO

And you think it's the Romulans?

CENN

I didn't say that. This is no time to jump to conclusions.

Ro considers that...

28 **INT. DS9 - OPS**

Ro strides out of the office with Cenn on her heels - she steps up to th'Shant at engineering.

RO

Hail the *Nile*.

TH'SHANT

Aye, Captain.

th'Shant works his console...

29 **INT. RUNABOUT - REAR CABIN (INTERCUT)**

As Tenmei watches Candlewood disconnect a forest of cables and reseal the cover on the buoy...

TENMEI

Tenmei here - go ahead, Captain.

RO (comm)  
What's your progress, Lieutenant?

TENMEI  
We're just finishing up now, sir.

RO (comm)  
Good. Before you come back, I want  
you to check the comm relay at the  
other end of the wormhole.

Candlewood perks up - *interesting...*

**30**    **INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

th'Shant is also concerned at this development. He looks up  
to Ro - she looks back at him, both tense...

RO  
Run a full diagnostic of all our  
comm transceivers, Ensign.

TH'SHANT  
Aye, sir...

Trying to control his nerves, th'Shant works his console...

**31**    **EXT. SPACE**

The runabout holding position...

The TACHYON BUOY transports back into space nearby, coming  
to life with running lights and manoeuvring thrusters...

The runabout pulls away, swooping around...

Having been deactivated for the upgrade, the rest of the  
buoys all come to life in quick sequence, reorienting...

...and FIRING their tachyon beams. Every buoy connects to  
every other, creating a visible WEB OF BEAMS filling in the  
full circle of buoys. Blue energetic particles sparkle in  
the gaps between the beams...

...just in time for the RUNABOUT to swoop back around and  
DIVE right into the web, crossing through the beams...



The WORMHOLE bursts into life in its customary beautiful blue-and-white display... and the runabout dives in...

**32**    **EXT. SPACE**

...the Gamma end of the wormhole bursts open, the runabout flies out again, and the wormhole closes up.

The runabout cruises up to the COMM RELAY (as seen in many previous eps) and holds position...

**33**    **INT. RUNABOUT - COCKPIT**

Tenmei driving, Candlewood peering out of the window...

CANDLEWOOD

Well, it's definitely still here,  
at least.

TENMEI

But is it working?

Candlewood moves to the rear consoles again...

CANDLEWOOD

Soon find out. Creating uplink and  
starting diagnostics now...

Tenmei waits nervously while he works...

**34**    **INT. DS9 - OPS**

While Ro paces impatiently, th'Shant reports from his own console...

TH'SHANT

Diagnostics are complete, Captain.  
All the station's comm systems are  
in perfect working order.

Ro accepts that unhappily, which worries th'Shant...

SLAINE

Captain - comm from the Nile.

Ro nods, Slaine works her panels...

TENMEI (comm)  
Nile to DS-Nine control.

RO  
Prynn - I take the fact that I can  
hear your voice to mean the comm  
relay's fine as well?

**35 INT. RUNABOUT - COCKPIT (INTERCUT)**

Tenmei and Candlewood both inspecting the readouts...

TENMEI  
That's correct, sir.

CANDLEWOOD  
I've run every diagnostic I know  
how. I've even run diagnostics of  
the diagnostic systems. If there's  
something out here blocking comm  
signals, then it's not the relay.

RO (comm)  
(audibly frustrated)  
So if the problem's not there and  
it's not here, then where is it?

Tenmei pulls Candlewood aside, speaks low...

TENMEI  
John... was this you? Could it be  
something to do with the changes  
you made to the tachyon buoys?

Off Candlewood's indignation...

**36 INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

...to th'Shant's alarm. What the hell were they doing out  
there, and why did nobody tell him? Do they not trust him?

Ro sees the look on th'Shant's face, and grits her teeth in  
annoyance at Tenmei letting out the secret over open comms.

RO  
No, Lieutenant Tenmei, standard  
maintenance on the tachyon buoys  
would have no effect on comms.

TENMEI (comm)  
(audibly chastised)  
Aye, Captain.

RO  
Head back now. DS-Nine out.

CENN  
You realise, of course... that the  
reason we've received nothing from  
*Robinson* could be... that *Robinson*  
isn't there to send us anything?

Ro shares a tense look with Cenn - yes, she realises.

RWOGO (comm)  
Rwogo to Captain Ro.

RO  
(sigh; what now?)  
Go ahead, Inspector.

RWOGO (comm)  
Could we see you in the power core  
please, Captain? Immediately.

Off Ro's alarm at that...

**37 INT. DS9 - POWER CORE**

A panel is open, revealing the workings inside...

...and what is recognisably a BOMB wired into the systems.

RO crouches down to the open panel at deck level, gazing at  
it in mute shock. An actual bomb. *It's real*. Inspector  
Rwogo and chief engineer Chao are there with her, the  
throbbing of the power core continuing behind them.

RWOGO  
We found three of them.

RO  
How long have they been there?

CHAO  
That's the thing - I was working  
at this exact station only last  
week. I had that panel open.

RWOGO  
That's also a non-critical system  
they're wired into. If they were  
intended to destroy the station,  
they won't do a very good job.

RO  
We can't take the risk.

Ro stands, making the only decision she can...

RO  
(taps combadge)  
Ro to Cenn.

CENN (comm)  
Go ahead, Captain.

RO  
Contact the *Canterbury*. In fact,  
send out a general distress call,  
and press all ships in the sector  
into assistance. I'm ordering a  
full-scale evacuation of the  
station, Major - right now.

Off Ro's horror...

BLACK OUT

**END OF ACT THREE**

**ACT FOUR**

FADE IN:

**38    EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE**

CLOSE UP on a Galaxy-class starship, revealing its name as *Canterbury* (14x08 "99 Problems"), docked at an upper pylon.

PULL BACK to the docking ring, just as a Bajoran transport ship pulls away from its port and TURNS to leave...

...passing more ships either already docked, pulling into place, pulling away, or waiting their turn. Over this:

CENN (v.o.)  
(calm but firm)  
...calmly but quickly, taking only  
the absolute essentials with you.

**39    INT. DS9 - PROMENADE**

Controlled chaos, as dozens of STARFLEET SECURITY herd the station's populace down the Promenade towards the airlocks.

CENN (comm)  
(continuing)  
Repeat, all station residents must  
proceed immediately to evacuation  
points. Move calmly but quickly -

Cenn's public announcement continues as we move into...

**40    INT. DS9 - INFIRMARY (CONTINUOUS)**

...where BASHIR and nurses RICHTER and ETANA move urgently around the space, gathering as many things as they can and piling them together on a pair of ANTI-GRAVS in the centre.

At last Bashir taps a control on a PADD on top of the pile, then steps back. The whole collection TRANSPORTS away...

BASHIR  
That's all patients and supplies  
transferred to the *Canterbury*. Now  
you two get the hell out of here.

Etana grabs Richter's arm, heads out. Richter resists...

RICHTER  
What about you?

BASHIR  
I'm right behind you, just a few  
finishing touches first...

Richter smiles - he's talking about Sarina. He lets her think that. Etana drags her wife to the door and onto...

**41 INT. DS9 - PROMENADE (CONTINUOUS)**

...where they join the surging activity, quickly lost in the numbers. We PUSH THROUGH the crowds and over into...

**42 INT. DS9 - QUARK'S BAR (CONTINUOUS)**

...where the various Ferengi servers GRAB everything they can off the shelves, SHOVE it all into cases.

Behind the bar, QUARK yanks bars of latinum from the floor vault, SHOVES them in another case. That done, he STANDS...

...and looks around at his bar - deserted, food and drink abandoned. TREIR shouts down from from the second level...

TREIR  
Second level clear.

SEBRIGAR the Nausicaan appears from the back corner...

SEBRIGAR  
Store room clear.

HULPESH the Sti'ach swings down from the highest level, six stubby legs carrying him from banister to rung to table top until he LANDS on the deck and stands tall on hind legs...

HULPESH  
Bathrooms are clear.

QUARK  
Where's Morn?

Blank looks from them all - none of them know. Quark can't possibly leave without him. Then he realises with horror...

QUARK

Oh frinx... All of you get out,  
now! Don't wait for me.

Sebrigar, Hulpesh and the Ferengi bartenders EXIT. Quark rummages in a drawer behind his bar. Treir approaches...

TREIR

What are you doing?

QUARK

Saving my friends.

Quark finds what he needs - a small boxy DEVICE - and runs with his case of latinum for the spiral stairs...

**43 INT. DS9 - QUARK'S BAR - UPPER LEVEL**

Quark dashes to a holosuite door, punches entries into the control panel, the door sweeps open, and he enters...

**44 INT. VIC'S LOUNGE - ENTRY PASSAGE**

...where VIC and MORN look up in shock, as if caught amidst shady dealings, a last-minute desperate transaction.

QUARK

Morn, there you are! You have to  
leave, now. You too, Vic.

VIC

(dark laugh)

Where am I gonna go, pally?

QUARK

(holds up device)

Right here. Active memory module,  
so your programme keeps running  
even without a holosuite.

Morn looks back at Vic, worried...

VIC

Go on. It's cool. I'll be okay.

Morn nods and EXITS. Quark doesn't know what that was about and doesn't care - he moves to an internal control panel...

VIC

Quark, just in case this is the last time I see you -

QUARK

It won't be.

Quark YANKS an isolinear rod out of the panel, causing Vic and his lounge to both DISSOLVE...

**45 INT. DS9 - HOLOSUITE**

...into a bare holosuite grid. Quark shoves the isolinear rod into a hole in his memory device, and the device into his case of latinum. Then he EXITS, no time to waste.

**46 INT. DS9 - QUARK'S BAR**

Quark dashes down the staircase again, finds TREIR waiting. He shoves his case of latinum at her to carry...

QUARK

Here, you take that and get out.

He heads for the Promenade, determined. She calls out...

TREIR

Quark!

(he turns, impatient)

Laren has enough to handle right now. Leave her be.

Quark seethes - he knows Treir is right, but can he...?

**47 INT. DS9 - POWER CORE**

RO watches impatiently, power core throbbing, as dozens of junior security officers and engineers scan and calculate and confer, Chief CHAO and Inspector RWOGO among them.



RO  
Anything?

CHAO  
I daren't even try until I know more. Move or open or transport them - it might set them off.

RWOGO  
But you recognise the writing?

RO  
Andorian.

RWOGO  
*Treishya*, to be precise.

CENN (comm)  
Ops to Captain Ro.

RO  
(taps badge)  
Go ahead.

CENN (comm)  
The *Canterbury* is ready to leave with its third load of civilians. And the *Xhosa* delivered the Orb to the monastery at Vanadwan, they're on their way back for more now.

RO  
Did you hear back from Starfleet?

CENN (comm)  
The *Brisbane* and the *Venture* are the closest ships. At least a day.

RO  
Keep me informed. Ro out.

She taps her combadge again. Chao turns to her and Rwogo...

CHAO  
You should both go. I can handle this, you've got bigger worries.

Ro reluctantly agrees, grips Chao's shoulder in thanks, and heads for the door. Rwego scuttles after her...

RWOGO

You might think about getting off the station yourself, Captain. She who dives under the table today...

RO

I still need a way to evacuate the crew. Once everyone else is safe, then I'll think about leaving.

Ro strides through the door, determined. Rwego follows...

**48**    **EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE**

Swooping up from the lower core, where Ro and Rwego were...  
...to the upper pylons, where the *Canterbury* uncouples...  
...and moves past the much smaller *Defiant* keeping watch.

**49**    **INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE**

TENMEI in the command chair, watching the viewscreen...

SLAINE (comm)

You're clear to proceed towards Bajor, *Canterbury*. Good luck.

TENMEI

Close channel.

At sciences, CANDLEWOOD does so. He gets up, approaches his friend. He is effectively serving as her first officer...

CANDLEWOOD

They'll be fine, Prynn.

She should tell him off for using her first name, but...

TENMEI

We could have fit another couple hundred on here, is all.

CANDLEWOOD

Ro needs us to stand watch - just  
in case.

She knows that. Doesn't make her any happier. Gazes around  
at her crew of untested junior officers. All so young...

50 **INT. DS9 - OPS**

RO and RWOGO rise together into Ops aboard the turbolift,  
to find CENN and SLAINE still hard at work at the central  
Ops table, TH'SHANT at engineering, and EXTRAS elsewhere...

SLAINE

*Xhosa* on final approach... giving  
them clearance for port three.

RO

Major, what are all these people  
still doing here?

Cenn looks at her confused... Ro calls out loud enough for  
everyone to hear her over the business of Ops...

RO

Listen up. I want everyone below  
the rank of Lieutenant Commander  
out of here. Evacuate, now.

All the extras shut down their stations and head out.

RO

Slaine, th'Shant - get to the *Rio  
Grande* and start beaming up junior  
crew. I don't care if you have to  
stack them like phaser coils.

CENN

(sidles up, *sotto*)  
Captain, I'd set the *Rio Grande*  
aside for senior staff. For you.

RO

You're welcome to go if you want,  
Desca. I won't stop you.

Without hesitation, Cenn turns to Slaine...

CENN

Well, *dalin*? You said you'd been learning to pilot... Off you go.

SLAINE

Yes, Major.

Slaine heads to the transporter platform. Cenn moves to the science station. th'Shant is still rather shellshocked by it all, so Cenn uses command voice to get him moving...

CENN

Ensign - contact the *Nile* and the *Brahmaputra* from the *Rio Grande*, pass on the captain's orders.

TH'SHANT

Y-yes, sir...

th'Shant runs to the transporter platform, joins Slaine. Cenn works the controls, and the two juniors TRANSPORT out.

Cenn moves back down to the Ops table, while Ro moves to and begins working the tactical station. Rwego follows her.

RWOGO

Captain - the bombs are Andorian.

RO

Your own investigation cleared th'Shant of any wrongdoing.

RWOGO

I could have been wrong.

RO

Or someone could be using distrust of Andorians to try and frame him.

RWOGO

Who would want to do that?

Ro looks at her, a significant look - she knows who.

51 INT. DS9 - HABITAT RING CORRIDOR

SARINA, at a T-junction, trying to control a panicked flood of CIVILIANS. Some of them get confused which direction they should be going, stop and cause a blockage...

SARINA  
Keep moving! There are transport vessels in both directions.

BASHIR (o.s.)  
Sarina!

Sarina turns to see BASHIR struggling through the crowd... She is glad to see him, but has to keep the crowds moving.

BASHIR  
You heard the orders. You should be gone.

SARINA  
I'm deputy security chief, Julian. You go. I've got people to help.

Doubt crosses his face - he tries to hide it, but too late.

SARINA  
What does that look mean?

BASHIR  
Just... well... bombs.

She realises with horror what he believes. Glares at him amazed, disgusted...

SARINA  
You actually think I did this.

BASHIR  
No, that's not -

SARINA  
I don't - why are you even here if you have that little trust in me?

BASHIR  
(defensive)  
I wanted to get something from my  
quarters...

SARINA  
(knows what he means)  
You cannot be serious...

Suddenly RED ALERT alarms go off all down the corridor,  
frightening the near-panicked civilians all the more...

**52 INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

...RWOGO reacts, covering her ears at the sudden ALARMS...

RWOGO  
What's going on?

CENN  
Shields raising - it's the tachyon  
buoys. The wormhole is opening!

RO  
On screen!

From tactical, Ro looks up to the main VIEWSCREEN...

**53 VIEWSCREEN (INTERCUT)**

...which shows the WORMHOLE opening up, the grid of blue  
tachyon beams across its mouth...

**54 EXT. SPACE - WORMHOLE**

...surging with power, blue and white petals of energy...

A ship emerges... it's the *Ren Fejin*. It passes through the  
tachyon grid without incident...

**55 INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE (INTERCUT)**

TENMEI, who had been alarmed, relaxes a bit at this...

CANDLEWOOD  
That's the Breen freighter...

TENMEI

Hail them, tell them we've got a humanitarian crisis. If they're willing to help, great. If not, they should get out of the way.

Then the *Defiant's* RED ALERT goes off as well...

CANDLEWOOD

The tachyon grid - it's detecting a phase-cloaked ship trying to sneak through behind the Breen.

(excited)

It worked! It actually worked!

He looks to the viewscreen, thrilled with the pure joy of science. Then he realises what his invention uncovered...

**56 EXT. SPACE - WORMHOLE (INTERCUT)**

The criss-crossing blue tachyon beams bounce off a SHAPE as it tries to pass through, revealing in negative space...

...the gigantic Romulan warbird *Eletrix*.

**57 INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE (INTERCUT)**

CANDLEWOOD

Romulans...

Tenmei's eyes narrow. There can be only one explanation - the Romulans are responsible for all of this. Calmly...

TENMEI

Target that ship - open fire.

BLACK OUT

**END OF ACT FOUR**

**ACT FIVE**

FADE IN:

**58    EXT. SPACE - ELETRIX**

The shape of the great Mogai-class Romulan warbird, outline drawn in sparkling blue by Candlewood's tachyon beams...

...then suddenly the blue beams are replaced by WHITE rays of light - TRACTOR BEAMS, holding the ship fast.

**59    INT. ELETRIX - BRIDGE**

Not quite panic, but definitely dismay. RIXORA speaks up...

RIXORA

Commander - we are discovered! The detection grid seems to have been enhanced with multiphase tachyons.

(ship shudders)

Now it is holding us in multiphase tractor beams.

T'Jul looks to the main viewscreen, with its image of Deep Space Nine, various Bajoran ships, the *Xhosa* docked...

...and *Defiant* swoops into view, firing PULSE PHASERS right at the Romulan ship. The warbird SHAKES from the impact...

RIXORA

And now we're under attack!

T'JUL

(dry)

Thank you, Sublieutenant.

T'Jul seethes at the situation she has found herself in...

**60    EXT. SPACE**

The true face of the *Eletrix* shimmers into view as T'Jul drops the cloak. At the same moment, multiple PHASER BOLTS fire - two hit out sideways at the tachyon buoys, two more blast right at the attacking *Defiant*...



61 **INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE (INTERCUT)**

The ship SHAKES HARD at the weapons hit. Candlewood watches the Romulan ship destroy TWO of his tachyon buoys...

CANDLEWOOD  
(incensed)  
Hey!

TENMEI  
Evasive!

Tenmei grips her armrests as MINNAR, the Betazoid male at helm (13x16 "The Little People"), SWERVES the ship...

62 **EXT. SPACE (INTERCUT)**

*Defiant* loops away from *Eletrix*, but with two tachyon buoys destroyed, the tractor beams can't hold the Romulan ship any longer, and it surges on after the Starfleet ship...

63 **INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

For Ro, Cenn and Rwego, this has all transpired in seconds on the main viewscreen, and they are appalled...

RWOGO  
Captain, the shields -

RO  
They came on automatically when  
the tachyon buoys detected -

RWOGO  
No, I mean - if the bombs go off  
while the shields are up...

CENN  
(realising)  
- the explosion won't dissipate.  
The effects could be devastating.

RO  
But if those Romulans fire on the  
station without our shields up -

RWOGO

It could set the bombs off anyway.

They're stuck, no way out. Ro makes a snap decision...

RO

Major, get the last civilian ships  
away and clear of the battle zone.  
They're our priority now.

Cenn turns to the central Ops table and enters commands...

**64 EXT. SPACE**

The last few Bajoran ships quickly undock from the station and get the hell out of there, avoiding the ongoing chase and firefight between *Defiant* and *Eletrix*...

**65 INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE**

Another hit from the Romulan weapons - the ship SHAKES and a conduit EXPLODES. Engineer PERMENTER speaks up...

PERMENTER

Shields down to eighty-five percent  
but ablative armour is holding.

TENMEI

Fire quantum torpedoes!

Tactical officer ALECO presses the firing control...

**66 EXT. SPACE**

Tiny white stars FIRE out from the *Defiant*...

...and hit the *Eletrix* on its port wing. The damage is obvious, but it doesn't stop the Romulan ship...

**67 INT. DS9 - CARGO BAY**

KASIDY stands by the airlock, guiding desperate CIVILIANS through the open door and onto her ship.

KIRA stands by the cargo bay door in her vedek's robes, beckoning the last few civilians into the cargo bay...

... as soon as the last is through, she SLAPS the control and the door rumbles closed. She turns to follow them...

...but stops with surprise as the view becomes OVEREXPOSED, the white of the cargo bay lights overtaking everything...

**WHITE OUT**

**FADE IN**

**68**    **EXT. NEW YORK STREET - DAY**

KAY EATON (Kira) is being dragged down the street by CASSIE (Kasidy), who is determined to get to the police station to help Benny. The noise of the city continues around them.

KAY EATON

Miss Johnson, please slow down for a moment...

CASSIE

I'm sorry, Miss Eaton, but Benny needs me. He needs us.

In her eagerness, Cassie breaks away from Kay just as they reach the busy avenue. Cassie dashes out into the traffic, swerving between the HONKING yellow 50s taxicabs with their cursing drivers. Kay is left on this side of the street...

Cassie reaches the other side, turns and beckons Kay...

**69**    **ECU on KAY EATON**

...who blinks in surprise and confusion, because...

**70**    **ANGLE**

...Kasidy Yates, the freighter captain, is standing on the 50s Manhattan sidewalk, beckoning her to cross traffic...

KAY EATON

No... that's not the way.

**MATCH CUT TO:**

71 **INT. DS9 - CARGO BAY**

KASIDY beckoning Kira in exactly the same way from across the cargo bay. But Kira is standing there, confused...

Frustrated, Kasidy pushes her way against the thinning tide of evacuating civilians to reach Kira...

KASIDY

Nerys, what are you waiting for?  
The ship's full, we have to go.

KIRA

No... we can't leave yet. There's still people who need help here.

KASIDY

Almost all the civilians are gone, Rebecca's safe at home and I will not leave her without a mother. I couldn't do that to Ben, not after - Nerys, come on. We're leaving.

Kasidy grabs Kira's arm to drag her to go - but Kira takes the other arm and holds fast, pulls Kasidy close.

KIRA

Kas, we have to stay. You trusted me before, please trust me now.

Despite all sense, there is something compelling about Kira now, something almost hypnotic. Kasidy gazes at her...

KASIDY

...Okay.

Kira smiles with relief...

72 **EXT. SPACE - DEEP SPACE NINE**

Xhosa detaches from the docking ring and slowly turns... but the firefight is still continuing nearby.

PHASERS and TORPEDOES fly out from Deep Space Nine, right towards the battling Romulan ship...

...but they hit something else first, something invisible. Another cloaking device shimmers away, revealing...

...a TZENKETHI HARRIER. The gigantic, smooth-skinned silver teardrop-shaped starship (13x11 "New Life") SHUDDERS under DS9's inadvertent attack... but it is not destroyed.

**73 INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)**

Ro reacts with horror...

RO

Tzenkethi... what the...

CENN

Incoming!

On the VIEWSCREEN, we see the Tzenkethi ship turn and white PLASMA BOLTS stream out at us. The whole station LURCHES...

**74 INT. DS9 - BASHIR'S QUARTERS (INTERCUT)**

As the station rocks, BASHIR's enhanced reflexes allow him to catch one item before it falls to the deck...

...his beloved teddy bear KUKALAKA. Cradling the ratty old doll to his body, Bashir RUNS for the door...

**75 INT. DS9 - HABITAT RING CORRIDOR (CONTINUOUS)**

...where the last few CIVILIANS who haven't been able to escape mill about in terror, adults and children of several species, all whimpering and crying. Bashir runs to them...

BASHIR

It's okay... we'll be okay...

MATTHIAS (o.s.)

Doctor!

Bashir turns - Matthias staggers up to him, a little bloody and bruised but generally okay.

BASHIR

Counsellor! Your family -

MATTHIAS

Safe. I stayed behind to help...

BASHIR

Have you seen Sarina?

MATTHIAS

...I'm sorry, no.

Bashir is suddenly terrified for her. The station SHAKES...

**76** INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)

Ro holds onto the tactical console as it ROCKS...

Meanwhile Rwego is thinking and pacing, almost not paying attention to the pitched battle going on outside...

RWOGO

It doesn't make sense. The *Treishya* would have no reason to destroy DS-Nine, even if they are allied with the Typhon Pact. And those bombs... they're too weak and in the wrong place to cause any serious damage.

RO

(still firing weapons)

Rwego, what the hell are you doing? We need your help here!

RWOGO

But it doesn't make sense, Captain! Believe me, I have no interest in being an apologist for terrorists, but I don't think those bombs are intended to destroy us. None of this is supposed to be happening.

RO

Well, it is happening!

To punctuate, the station ROCKS again under more fire.

CENN

Another ship decloaking!



...except for the bomb itself which suddenly starts BEEPING and FLASHING. Chao lurches backwards in horror...

CHAO

Get out! Everyone get out!

As the juniors scramble to the exit, Chao dives back in the panel, determined to save the station... but it's too late.

The BEEPING reaches fever pitch... and the bomb EXPLODES.

**81** INT. DS9 - OPS (INTERCUT)

The mightiest RUMBLE yet hits, a roaring earthquake that makes panels EXPLODE and knocks them all off their feet.

Ro's head HITS the deck with a hard BONK. Half-conscious, bleeding from a cut, slurring her words...

RO

Wha... what hit us? Who hit us?

She drags herself just barely vertical, looks over tactical and down to Cenn, who is likewise bloodied and working the spluttering central table... He looks up in muted horror...

CENN

Nobody. One of the bombs went off.  
Reactor two containment has failed.  
It'll go critical in seven minutes.

Desperately searching for the answer, Ro brainstorms...

RO

Can we use thrusters to reorient  
the station itself? Eject the  
reactor right at the Breen or the  
Tzenkethi? Use it as a weapon?

CENN

Interesting idea. But not in this  
condition. Shields are gone, and -

Suddenly the TURBOLIFT rises back into Ops again, jerky and lurching. It carries QUARK, still with his latinum case...



RWOGO

Ambassador! You shouldn't be here.

QUARK

I couldn't leave, not without -

Another ROAR, greater even than the first. Panels EXPLODE, lights BURST, gravity revolts and throws everyone into the air, only to land on burning, blackened deck plating.

Momentary silence, as everyone gets their bearings...

RO

Cenn? Quark? Somebody speak...

CENN

I'm here...

Dragging herself up again, she sees Rwego helping Quark up off the floor. They're all still alive - for now.

RO

That was another bomb, wasn't it?

CENN

Yes. Reactor three containment has failed.

RO

Eject both reactors. Do it now.

Cenn works his panels... we FEEL the ejection of the core shaking the station more gently... then a distant BOOM...

CENN

I ejected reactor three, but the blast that took out containment for reactor three also damaged the ejection system for reactor two.

RO

So... we can't eject reactor two?

By now, Rwego and Quark have joined Ro outside her office. Cenn gravely climbs the steps towards them all as well...

CENN  
Captain, it's time to go.

RO  
But -

CENN  
(quiet but firm)  
Captain... it's time to go.

Ro knows there's no other choice here. She nods sadly.

BEEP BEEP BEEP. Somehow one last console is working. Ro runs to the science station... and blooms with hope.

RO  
The wormhole's opening. Another ship's emerging... the *Robinson*!  
(turns to screen)  
The Emissary has come to save us...

Cenn and Quark look at Ro, amazed she would say that...

**82**    **EXT. SPACE**

The wormhole open, the *Robinson* emerging into the shattered ring of the tachyon buoys...

**83**    **INT. ROBINSON - BRIDGE**

SISKO jumps up from his seat, hurries to the viewscreen, which shows...

The battle scene - the gutted station, *Defiant* vs *Eletrix*, Breen, Tzenkethi, runabouts, Bajoran ships... debris and fires, phasers and torpedoes firing every which way...

...and in the middle of it all, helpless - the *Xhosa*.

SISKO stunned, horrified... RED ALERT in the background...

SISKO  
Sivadeki, set course for -

UTELN  
Captain - the *Xhosa*!

**84**    **EXT. SPACE**

The Tzenkethi harrier does its whirling trick again. It spins on its axis, using its teardrop tail as a bludgeon...

...and slices right through the Xhosa. Kasidy's freighter is ON FIRE, sparks and flames and escaping gasses, horrific gouge in its side from the attack... and then it EXPLODES.

**85**    **SISKO**

...as his mind simply snaps from what he's seeing...

**86**    **EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE**

Beginning from the lower power core, FIRE BLOOMS.

Consumes the lowest parts of the station...

Reaches up towards the central core...

Rings, bridges, pylons - all shatter and go spinning...

The explosions reach the Promenade and the Ops Dome...

The station, our home for almost 15 years... is destroyed.

**87**    **INT. ROBINSON - BRIDGE**

With his entire senior staff watching on, the strength goes from Sisko's legs and he falls to his knees, the sounds of his bridge fading to silence...

SISKO  
Kasidy... Rebecca... No...

BLACK OUT

**END OF SHOW**