

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

10x07 - "Instinct."

Screenplay by Martyn Dunn

Based on characters from the series

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine

and from the post-finale novels
by Pocket Books

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE - ESTABLISHING

Focusing on a familiar freighter vessel - the *Xhosa* - just settling into place on the docking ring...

2 INT. DS9 - CARGO BAY

KIRA and BASHIR stand nervously, waiting for the external docking hatch to open. Two or three non-coms also wait in the background. The hatch cycles open --

-- and the O'BRIEN family emerges, tired and frazzled. KASIDY is just behind them. Once they have cleared the exit, the non-coms head up the ramp and into the ship to handle the luggage.

Bashir rushes forward and grabs O'Brien in a friendly hug. Kira does the same for KEIKO, and then bends down to MOLLY and YOSHI. Kasidy looks on wistfully, waiting her turn - she understands the urgency.

BASHIR

Miles, Keiko - I'm so glad you're safe. We've been hearing so many stories...

O'BRIEN

We're alright, Julian. Garak took care of us.

KIRA

It's good to have you home. All of you...

She reaches down, tussles Yoshi's hair affectionately...

KIRA (cont)

Kas - thank you as well.

KASIDY

Of course. Just lucky I was around to help.

O'BRIEN
Has there been any news?

KIRA
(evasive)
A little...

She flicks her eyes towards the children, as if to say, are you sure you want to talk about this in front of them?
Keiko gets the message...

KEIKO
We can worry about that later,
Miles. Right now, I think we all
just need to sit down and have a
cup of coffee and decompress a
bit. Right?

O'BRIEN
(slightly
chastised)
Absolutely, sweetheart.

The non-coms appear at the hatch, guiding anti-grav machines carrying the O'Briens' belongings. Kasidy moves out of the way to let them pass...

KASIDY
Shall we get out of the way?
There's a lot of frightened,
uprooted people on that ship who
just want to find a comm panel and
let their friends and families
know they're okay.

KIRA
Of course, you're right, Kas. Ro
and Vaughn are working on setting
everyone up with temporary
accommodations until they can
figure out their next move.

The group heads to the door as more civilians exit the Xhosa behind them...

3 INT. DS9 - DOCKING RING CORRIDOR

The group exits a door and walks along the corridor...

KIRA
I'm afraid your old quarters have
been reassigned.

KEIKO
Don't worry about it, Nerys. We'll
take whatever.

KIRA
There'll have to be an official
debriefing, and the Diplomatic
Corps has arranged a conference
in a couple of days to discuss
Bajor's official position.
(tentative)
But I was thinking that if you two
want some time to relax, I could
look after Yoshi for a few days.
I'd love the company...

KEIKO
That would be nice. Wouldn't it,
Yoshi? Would you like to stay with
Aunt Nerys?

YOSHI
Can I bring my Space Shuttle?

KIRA
(grin)
You certainly can.

KEIKO
Okay then. That's decided.

BASHIR
And Quark's got a holosuite ready
whenever you say the word, Miles.
(pat on
the back)
After the obligatory medical
check, of course.

O'BRIEN
(chuckle)
Ugh. Let me at least take my boots
off first, Julian.

KIRA
Kas, are you staying for a while?

KASIDY
I think I'm free. Especially since
I guess my usual run to Cardassia
is on hold for now...

Which brings them all back to sad and worried thoughts
about the state of Cardassia...

4 INT. DS9 - TARAN'ATAR'S QUARTERS

TARAN'ATAR sits at his computer desk, with numerous files
open on the various screens. He is studying hard.

As we move closer, we see that his eyes are drooping a bit.
Screws up his eyes, blinks hard, tries to clear them. Rests
his tired head in one hand and keeps studying...

...but his body inevitably slump into a most un-Jem'Hadar
like position - asleep at his desk. Finally his eyes
flutter closed...

L'HAAN (v.o.)
Why do you bother?

5 EXT. FOUNDERS' PLANET

We are back at the Great Link. Taran'atar stands on the
rocky islet, the Vulcan handmaiden L'HAAN beside him.

They both look out over the Link, standing companionably.
They have done this a few times now, and Taran'atar is
becoming more comfortable with it than he'd like to admit.

L'HAAN
Those books cannot provide you
with anything a Jem'Hadar needs.
So why read over them again and
again as you do?

TARAN'ATAR

Must I also explain this to you again and again? They are guides on diplomacy. That is the mission I have been set by the Founder, therefore I must be as familiar with the nature of that mission as possible.

L'HAAN

You may explain as often as you wish, Taran'atar. But that does not mean that I am convinced. And since I am only you...

TARAN'ATAR

(to clarify)

An unwanted part of me. If there is indeed a part of my mind that does not think I should obey the Founders no matter what, then it should not exist, and I will deny it until my last breath.

L'HAAN

So you keep saying. Yet here I remain. I am your doubts, Taran'atar... and you will not get rid of me that easily.

Taran'atar grits his teeth in annoyance. It looks like L'Haan may in fact be right...

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

6 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S OFFICE

Beginning on KIRA, as she sits behind her desk...

KIRA
(gently)
You didn't see the murder yourself?

O'BRIEN sits opposite Kira, with VAUGHN sat beside him. It is an official debriefing, but a fairly informal one. Kira asks the questions, while Vaughn makes notes in a padd...

O'BRIEN
No. We just heard about it on the news with everyone else. And Garak was too intent on getting us out of there to stop and explain. Have you... heard from him?

Awkward beat...

KIRA
A lot of the reports that we're getting out of Cardassia mention him fairly prominently. He seems to be leading the charge to get things under control and help stop the disease spreading.

O'BRIEN
And how's he doing?

KIRA
With the virus at least, he's making some headway. He managed to find some kind of vaccine from somewhere, so it's just a matter of getting it to the people.

O'BRIEN
Easier said than done.

Kira sadly agrees...

KIRA

Politically speaking, it's getting worse. People are breaking into factions. The ones who are loyal to Ghemor. The ones who believed Mondrig. The ones who just want to get on with their lives...

(sigh)

The disease spreads. People blame the Oralian Way and anyone who supported Ghemor. They fight and kill each other in the streets. The riots hamper the government's attempts to combat the disease.

(sad shrug)

And the disease spreads.

O'BRIEN

Is there anything we can do?

VAUGHN

That's what the conference will try to determine.

KIRA

I think we've got everything we need to file a report. You should go home, Miles.

O'BRIEN

Gotta decide where that is first.
Thank you, Captain. Commander.

7

INT. DS9 - MAIN OPS CENTRE

O'Brien exits the office and into Ops, where NOG is at the engineering station, SHAR at sciences, BOWERS at tactical and CENN running the central Ops table. Extras elsewhere.

O'Brien heads over to engineering. Nog is working regular everyday activities. He turns, pleased to see O'Brien...

O'BRIEN

Nog! You keeping my console happy?

NOG
Chief! I'd heard you were back.
(pats console)
It misses you, but I keep it
distracted.

They chuckle together. Then Nog sobers a little...

NOG
Sorry to hear about what happened.

O'BRIEN
Yeah. Just when you think it's
getting better, it goes to hell
all over again.

They turn at the sound of the TURBOLIFT rising into Ops --
-- and tense to see that it carries Taran'atar. He heads
straight for Kira's office without acknowledging anyone...

8 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S OFFICE

Mid-discussion, Kira and Vaughn look up, and are slightly
surprised to see Taran'atar waiting. Kira presses the
button to open the door, Taran'atar enters...

KIRA
Taran'atar - this is a surprise.

Taran'atar stands in the doorway, a little awkwardly...

TARAN'ATAR
Captain - I wish to speak with
you. In private.

Vaughn didn't expect that at all, but he'll go with it...

VAUGHN
I'll leave you be, Captain.
(re padd)
I have enough here to finish the
report by myself. Ambassador.

With an acknowledging nod, Vaughn gets up to leave...

9 **INT. DS9 - MAIN OPS CENTRE**

Vaughn exits into Ops, heading down towards the central Ops table. From the engineering station, Nog and O'Brien have both been eavesdropping. The office door closes...

O'BRIEN
(sotto)
How do you do it?

NOG
Do what?

O'BRIEN
Live with a Jem'Hadar. It took a long time for me to get used to living among Cardassians without my skin crawling.

NOG
I know how you feel. And now he's not controlled by the Founders anymore... I don't know if that makes me trust him more or less.

O'BRIEN
So what do you do?

NOG
(pats console again)
I keep myself distracted.

10 **INT. DS9 - KIRA'S OFFICE**

Kira sits, Taran'atar stands...

KIRA
So what can I do for you?

TARAN'ATAR
It is a delicate matter, Captain. You are aware of course of my need for sleep. If you recall, I also began to suffer from what your people call dreams.

KIRA

I remember. Are you saying the dreams are back?

TARAN'ATAR

To be precise, Captain, they never left. I find them intrusive and disconcerting. I want them to stop but I do not seem able to control them. So I come to you for help.

KIRA

Okay... we have a psychologist on staff, Lieutenant Commander Matthias. I can set you up with an appointment, if you like.

TARAN'ATAR

I am unfamiliar with the practice. Would it be acceptable for you to accompany me, Captain?

Kira is surprised again - he wants a friend...

KIRA

Things like that are usually confidential, between the patient and the therapist... but if that's what you want, then yes, I'll go with you.

TARAN'ATAR

Thank you, Captain.

KIRA

(grin)

You're off to a good start with the diplomacy.

(new thought)

Hold on - if you've been having dreams all this time... that means this was going on while Bashir and Ro were having their problems.

TARAN'ATAR

Yes, Captain.

KIRA
So while everyone was blaming you
for their bad dreams... you were
having bad dreams of your own?

TARAN'ATAR
Yes, Captain.

KIRA
(sympathetic)
Why didn't you say anything?

TARAN'ATAR
(simply)
Nobody asked.

She feels a bit ashamed over that, and sorry for him.
Taran'atar nods his acknowledgements, turns and leaves...

11 **INT. DS9 - MAIN OPS CENTRE**

...and walks to the turbolift, once again ignoring everyone
else. He boards the lift, and it carries him away.

O'Brien and Nog watch him go...

NOG
At least it's better than when
he used to just stand behind me
breathing down my neck all day.

O'Brien takes Nog's advice and forcibly changes the topic.
Nog is happy to go along with it, grateful for the change.

O'BRIEN
So, what are you working on?

NOG
Just a basic recalibration of the
internal weapons sensors.

O'BRIEN
(inspects panels)
You're doing it through the
environmental subsystems?

NOG
Yeah, so?

O'BRIEN
Well, it's better if you use the tactical systems. You get better readings on power capacity --

NOG
But that sometimes picks up false readings from other power sources. Plus it's easier this way to pick up possible biological weapons.

O'BRIEN
No no, you can get around that by splitting the scans. Here, watch.

NOG
Wait, I just -- ...

He reaches across Nog and starts working the panels, much to Nog's dismay. Nog can only sigh and hold his tongue...

12 INT. DS9 - MATTHIAS FAMILY QUARTERS

Lt Cmdr MATTHIAS, the station counsellor, sits at her comm panel. In b.g., husband SIBIAS sets the table for dinner...

MATTHIAS
Alright, Captain. I'll see you in the morning. Good night.

She signs off the computer, then slumps back in her seat...

SIBIAS
You alright, hun?

MATTHIAS
I think I'm gonna have to skip the lecture tonight, babe. Kira just dumped a bombshell in my lap.

SIBIAS
Is it something bad?

Matthias stares into the computer. Chuckles a bit...

MATTHIAS

First a depressed hologram, now a
nightmare-plagued Jem'Hadar. I
love a challenge, but isn't there
just a nice, garden-variety serial
killer for me to play with?

Both amused and exasperated, she sighs and gets to work...

13 INT. DS9 - DOCKING RING CORRIDOR

Nog stands working inside one of the large panels (like in
5x05 "The Assignment"). A tool in each hand, one behind his
ear, another in his teeth, more in boxes on the floor...

O'BRIEN (o.s.)

Hey, Nog.

Nog turns and sees that O'Brien has wandered up, and is
inspecting the panels. Nog reacts coolly...

NOG

(around tool)

Oh. Hi, Chief. Settling in?

O'BRIEN

Keiko's unpacking, calling her
boss back on Earth, let him know
she's okay.

(points at panel)

Is that a phase shunt you've put
on the optronic regulator, there?

NOG

Yeah...

O'BRIEN

Well, you've done it wrong.

Nog takes the tool out of his mouth, turns to inspect the
part O'Brien is pointing at...

NOG

No I haven't.

O'BRIEN

You have. It's supposed to go
power cell, regulator, then the
processor, then the shunt. You've
got it back to front.

(holds hand out)

Gimme the coupler.

NOG

That's the old way. Doing it this
way round gives you more control
over the output. It's in all the
journals.

O'Brien stands back and purses his lips, unimpressed...

NOG

Look, Chief... I appreciate your
help. But really, I'm fine here on
my own. Why don't you...

(searches for
something)

...go and have a nice drink at my
uncle's bar. I'm sure he's missed
you just as much as the rest of us.

As polite as possible, but that still says "Go away please"
pretty clearly. O'Brien gets the message. Doesn't like it.

O'BRIEN

Fine. I wouldn't want to get in
your way.

O'Brien turns in a huff, and stomps back down the hall...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

14 INT. DS9 - MATTHIAS'S OFFICE

Soothing neutral colours, an open-plan seating area to put patients at ease. But MATTHIAS has chosen to sit behind her desk, as subconscious barrier and protection.

TARAN'ATAR is uncomfortable, both with his soft and squishy guest chair and the entire need for him to be here. KIRA sits beside him, acting with detached professionalism...

MATTHIAS

To be honest, I'm working in the dark here. There's precious little research on Jem'Hadar psychology.

TARAN'ATAR

Then that is an oversight. Your enemy's defeat is only assured if you can predict his responses.

Awkward. Not the way they want the conversation to go...

KIRA

No-one's here to defeat anyone, Taran'atar.

TARAN'ATAR

I am. I am here to defeat the Vulcan.

MATTHIAS

I'm sorry - who?

TARAN'ATAR

L'Haan - the Intendant's slave. She is the image I see most frequently in the dreams.

KIRA

She was the one who... changed you, right?

TARAN'ATAR

Correct. She attempted to draft me to her cause by offering to free me from Ghemor's control... and from the Founders.

MATTHIAS

And when you see L'Haan in your dreams... what is she doing?

TARAN'ATAR

She taunts me... accuses me of having doubts about my mission.

KIRA

Is that bad? Everyone has doubts.

TARAN'ATAR

(offended)

Not Jem'Hadar. Serving the Founders is everything.

MATTHIAS

That is consistent with everything we've observed before, Captain. Jem'Hadar emotions aren't like other humanoids'. They're entirely concerned with doing their duty - nothing else enters into it.

KIRA

On a conscious level, maybe. But Taran'atar's subconscious appears to be telling him something else.

MATTHIAS

...and it's using L'Haan's image to express those doubts because she's the one who allowed them to exist. So that part's completely understandable.

TARAN'ATAR

Understandable or not, I want the dreams to stop. They are a distraction to my mission.

MATTHIAS

I'm not sure that's possible. You are the oldest Jem'Hadar that ever lived as far as we know. Maybe your brain just reached its limit. Said that's it, I can't go on any longer without sleeping from time to time. And your subconscious is simply doing exactly what a brain is supposed to do when it's asleep - recover and process everything that happens to you. But I may be able to help you handle it better.

TARAN'ATAR

How?

MATTHIAS

I suggest you go to the holosuite, program in a copy of L'Haan, and talk to her face to face. Denying your subconscious never works. But if you bring those questions out into the open, externalise them and answer them, consciously, then you'll have dealt with the underlying issues and the dreams shouldn't trouble you anymore.

TARAN'ATAR

(to Kira)

Do you agree with this, Captain?

KIRA

I actually think it's a good idea.

TARAN'ATAR

Very well. I will do as you say.

Decision made, Taran'atar gets up and heads to the door. But he stops and turns, awkward...

TARAN'ATAR

Thank you, Lieutenant Commander Matthias, for your help.

MATTHIAS
(pleasantly
surprised)
You're welcome, Ambassador.

Taran'atar leaves...

15 **EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE - ESTABLISHING**

Just a moment to indicate time passing...

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

Upper corridors by the holosuites. QUARK stomps up towards Taran'atar, shoves a datarod at him with a disgusted humph, making no effort to conceal his distaste...

QUARK
Don't know what you'd want with a Vulcan meditation program anyway. This isn't one of your usual hack-and-slash jobs. There's no-one for you to murder on that thing.

TARAN'ATAR
We will see.

As Taran'atar begins to work at the suite's computer panel, Quark heads back to the staircase.

Bashir and O'Brien are on their way up, wearing wetsuits and carrying kayak oars...

O'BRIEN
Can't wait. I hear those rapids calling my name, Julian.

BASHIR
Not much kayaking on Cardassia?

O'BRIEN
Why do you think I wanted Keiko to finish her rainmaker machine?

They chuckle together, completely ignoring Quark, who has to avoid getting comically bonked on the head by the oars.

17 **INT. DS9 - KIRA'S QUARTERS**

Kira, Keiko, Kasidy and Matthias sit around the couch area with glasses of wine and a bowl of nibbles on the coffee table. Friendly, chatty, very casual with each other...

KIRA

So what did Sibias say when you told him he was looking after three children tonight?

MATTHIAS

Oh, you know. Don't worry about me, I can handle it, kill me now.

They chuckle...

MATTHIAS (cont)

No, he'll be fine. Molly's not far off Arios's age anyway. And he's dragged me to enough archaeology lectures in his time.

KASIDY

I know Rebecca's safe with Ben, obviously. But it still kills me whenever I have to leave her.

KEIKO

You get used to it, Kas. It never goes away, but you get used to it.

MATTHIAS

Especially if you've got the husband properly trained.

They laugh again - all except Kira, who smiles pleasantly but can't relate like the other three. No husband, no kids.

18 **EXT. VULCAN PLAINS - NIGHT**

A stony, austere wilderness. Taran'atar sits on the ground alone, staring into the flame of a Vulcan meditation lamp.

PAN UP from the flame, to L'Haan knelt in a calm meditative pose opposite him, in her shapeless slave's smock...

L'HAAN

I fail to understand why you wish to remove me at all. You need me.

TARAN'ATAR

You seek to derail my mission.

L'HAAN

"I" do not exist. You ask these questions, I only give them voice.

TARAN'ATAR

I am going insane. The changes forced upon me have unhinged my mind, and you are the result.

L'HAAN

The truly insane do not question their sanity. But I do find your behaviour baffling. You have been freed of your chains, Taran'atar. And yet you cling to them still.

TARAN'ATAR

A Jem'Hadar is nothing without his obedience to the Founders.

L'HAAN

And if there are no Founders?

Taran'atar growls in frustration...

19 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S QUARTERS

Keiko glances to where Yoshi is playing with his toys...

KEIKO

Yoshi's still at that age where everything's one big adventure. But for Molly, she's moved around so much, and every time she makes friends we end up moving again...

KIRA

That's what happens when you keep taking them into war zones.

That was a bit harsh. Keiko is a bit thrown...

KASIDY

Nerys...

KEIKO

It's okay, it's nothing I haven't thought myself. That's the whole reason we went home to Earth after the war - for a quiet, safe life.

Under this, Yoshi has picked up his Space Shuttle and is zooming it around the room. He runs around the seats and coffee table, in between the four women...

KIRA

(pointed)

Then you took them to Cardassia because you got a job.

KEIKO

It was the best job I ever had, Nerys. I couldn't turn it down.

KIRA

It put your children at risk.

KASIDY

You can't think like that, Nerys. If everyone worried about what might happen, no-one would ever raise a family. Ben raised Jake right here on the station, didn't he? Philippa's raising her two.

Kira reaches out and grabs Yoshi, sits him down on the sofa next to herself, where he happily continues to play...

KIRA

Well, I'm keeping you here right here with me, where I know you're safe and sound.

She smiles contentedly.

Kasidy watches her, concerned...

20 **EXT. VULCAN PLAINS - NIGHT**

Taran'atar stands, paces, frustrated and confused. L'Haan smoothly stands to join him, remaining infuriatingly calm.

TARAN'ATAR

This is pointless.

L'HAAN

Are you giving up? Was it not your mission to "defeat" me? Surely a Jem'Hadar would not leave before his mission was accomplished.

TARAN'ATAR

Never! You are my enemy and I will defeat you.

L'HAAN

Surely it is better for disparate parts of an individual's psyche to work in harmony than at odds. Is that not the essence of diplomacy?

TARAN'ATAR

...It is.

L'HAAN

Then consider this. Let us work together. Allow me to ask the questions you cannot, and allow yourself to answer me. In doing so you will resolve those questions and be left stronger in your convictions.

TARAN'ATAR

Captain Kira once said the same.

L'HAAN

As did Counsellor Matthias. Heed their words, Taran'atar.

Taran'atar grits his teeth and seethes... and then slumps. He accepts it. L'Haan seems to approve...

L'HAAN

Then it is agreed - I will remain with you. Do not consider this a defeat. On the contrary, it signifies the success of your mission. You and I have reached a consensus, as diplomats must. This simulation has served its purpose.

TARAN'ATAR

Agreed. Computer, end program.

He turns his back, begins to walk away. The Vulcan plains around him DISSOLVE to nothing. The door opens...

21 INT. DS9 - QUARK'S BAR

...and Taran'atar steps out into the upper corridor...

L'HAAN (o.s.)

Taran'atar...

Surprised, he turns and looks back over the threshold...

...and sees that L'Haan is still there, standing on the bare holosuite grid.

L'HAAN (cont)

I've already said - you cannot get rid of me that easily.

(pointedly)

I will remain with you.

And she steps off the holosuite and into the corridor with him. Off Taran'atar's shocked reaction...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

22 INT. DS9 - WARD ROOM

A morning staff meeting for the senior engineering crew.
Nog sits at the top of the table, with...

CANDLEWOOD (human male), LEISHMAN, PERMENTER and CHAO (all human females), and K'UHLLO (Damiani male-ish - green skin, pointed ears, silver horns on each side, black spiky hair).

NOG

Okay, department assignments for
today...

He turns to Chao, hands her a padd...

NOG

Jeanette, the cargo transporters
on level six, section twelve of
the docking ring have been playing
up according to the night crew.
See if you can figure it out.

CHAO

Aye, sir.

He turns to K'Uhllo, hands him another padd...

NOG

K'Uhllo, the atmospheric scrubbers
on the Promenade are due for their
regular maintenance, and...

(wince)

...waste extraction is down in
habitat ring section three.

K'UHLLO

Euch. Great.

NOG

It's not so bad. My dad used to
work in waste extraction. Now he
runs our entire planet.

CANDLEWOOD

Oh, I am dying to make a joke
right now...

NOG

(sweet smile)

But you'd never actually do that,
would you, John? Because you
respect your commanding officer
too much.

CANDLEWOOD

Absolutely, sir.

Chuckles around the room - it's just playful banter...

NOG

Well that's good, because I can't
think of anyone better to oversee
the complete system upgrade for
the *Defiant's* tactical database.

Nog hands another padd to Candlewood, who groans with
feigned exasperation. This amuses Nog...

NOG

Talk to Bowers, he'll get you
properly set up.

(turns to Permenter)

Okay, Bryanne, your turn --

They are interrupted as the door opens --

-- and O'BRIEN strides in. Nog tenses...

O'BRIEN

Hey everyone - just thought I'd
pop in and say hi.

LEISHMAN

Hey, Chief! Welcome back.

O'BRIEN

Mikaela! Good to see you. Don't
mind if I sit in, do you, Nog?

NOG
(tense smile)
Of course not. Take a seat, Chief.

He does, all chummy and familiar. He immediately grabs one of the padds off the table and starts inspecting it...

O'BRIEN
So. What are we looking at?

NOG
I was just handing out today's assignments to my department heads...

O'BRIEN
Great! Count me in.

Nog grinds his teeth...

23 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S QUARTERS

Kira is out of uniform, sat cross-legged on the ground with Yoshi. Between them is a simple child's building set, and Kira is happily playing with it alongside Yoshi...

KIRA
Where do you think this piece goes?

Yoshi thinks a moment, then points...

YOSHI
There!

Smiling approvingly, Kira places the piece where he said. The comm system chimes...

VAUGHN (comm)
Vaughn to Kira.

KIRA
This is Kira.

VAUGHN (comm)
Is there a problem, Captain?

KIRA
(baffled)
What do you mean?

VAUGHN (comm)
(delicately)
It's oh-nine-thirty hours. We were
expecting you in Ops half an hour
ago...

KIRA
(caught out)
Oh... yeah, something came up. I'm
gonna need to take the morning
off. Nothing serious. You can take
care of things, right, Commander?

VAUGHN (comm)
Umm, yes, of course. Will you
still be able to chair the
conference this afternoon?

Kira sags a bit - she had forgotten...

KIRA
I'll be there, Commander. Kira
out.

That dealt with, she goes back to playing with Yoshi. She
holds up another piece...

KIRA
What do you think about this
piece? How about... here?

YOSHI
Noooooooo!

Kira chuckles and lets Yoshi decide where the piece goes...

24 INT. DS9 - HABITAT RING CORRIDOR

Taran'atar walks along the corridor, alone. Some CIVILIANS
come the other way - they keep a wide berth and a wary eye
as they pass him in the corridor and go on their way...

L'HAAN (o.s.)
You see how they remain wary and
distrustful.

In one unbroken shot, we PAN AROUND to the other side of
Taran'atar..

...and see that L'Haan is now walking calmly alongside him,
where there was no-one before.

TARAN'ATAR
(mutter)
It is of no concern to me.

L'HAAN
Of course not. That is why your
heart rate rose and your lip
curled in anger - because you do
not care.

TARAN'ATAR
Be silent.

L'Haan eyebrows. Taran'atar stomps along the corridor...

L'HAAN
Perhaps this can be of use. An
exercise in emotional restraint.
A vital attribute for a diplomat.

TARAN'ATAR
(loud)
I said be silent!

Embarrassed at his outburst, he stops and looks back down
the corridor. The civilians heard him, and have glanced
back over their shoulder, confused and worried. They turn
and scurry away. He breathes hard, reining himself in.

L'Haan remains calm as ever...

L'HAAN
Control yourself, Taran'atar. Only
you can see me, they can not. Do
you want them to think you are
insane?

TARAN'ATAR

(growl)

They should think so. What other explanation is there for one's dreams walking alongside you while fully awake?

L'HAAN

The Denobulans consider it a healthy thing to hallucinate. A harmless way to release nervous energy, and a comfort in times of solitude and loneliness.

TARAN'ATAR

I am not lonely.

L'HAAN

Of course you are. Who else do you have to confide in, if not me?

Taran'atar grinds his teeth...

25 **INT. DS9 - WARD ROOM**

Continuing Nog's assignment briefing...

NOG

So, that just leaves Lieutenant Leishman.

O'BRIEN

(interrupting)

Oh, she can come and help me. I spotted some tweaks I wanted to make to the main power ratios when I was checking out the distribution nodes earlier.

NOG

(interrupting
back)

Actually, I've assigned the lieutenant to run calibrations on the science labs on level twelve.

O'BRIEN
(dismissively)
Oh, that'll only take a minute.
I can use the extra hands.

NOG
There's nothing wrong with the
power nodes, Chief.

O'BRIEN
Well, not wrong, exactly. But I
think I can make them better.
(turns to
Leishman)
So, you get on with that science
lab thing, Mikaela, then report to
me on level twenty-two and we'll
go over the distribution
manifolds. Alright?

Leishman glances awkwardly at Nog, then back to O'Brien...

LEISHMAN
Umm... I guess...

Nog gets to his feet, firmly. Tense and getting tenser...

NOG
Everyone, you have your assign-
ments. Get to work on them please.
You're dismissed.

The junior officers get to their feet, very much aware that
a frosty atmosphere has entered the room. They exchange
awkward glances and head to the door, happy to get out of
there. O'Brien is unaware - he's ready to get to work.

NOG (cont)
Mister O'Brien. Please stay. I
would like to speak to you alone.

O'Brien is surprised at that - what's got Nog upset now?

O'BRIEN
Sure, Nog. What's up?

Nog is trying to be polite and civil, but he's quite angry.
O'Brien is entirely genuine - he is only trying to help...

NOG

I thought I made it clear that I
can manage on my own, Chief. Your
help is appreciated, but not
necessary.

O'BRIEN

Nog, it's okay. You don't have to
do everything on your own. I know
you think you have to prove
yourself to me, but --

NOG

I beg your pardon?
(off O'Brien's
surprise)
I don't have to prove myself to
you! And I don't need your help!

O'BRIEN

Since when?

NOG

Since I was made Chief Engineer of
Deep Space Nine and the *Defiant*,
two years ago.

O'BRIEN

But I'm back now. So you can
relax.

NOG

And you think just because you're
back on the station, you're
automatically back in charge?

O'BRIEN

What are you talking about? I've
only been trying to help. And
frankly from what I've seen you
could use it. You should show a
bit more gratitude.

NOG

Gratitude? For what? For trying to
take over my job?

O'BRIEN

Oh, don't be ridiculous.

NOG

I'm not being ridiculous. You've
done nothing but complain about the
way I do things from the moment you
arrived. And now you come in here
and take over my meeting, start
assigning tasks to my people?

O'BRIEN

(darkening)

You watch your tone of voice,
Lieutenant. Who the hell do you
think you're talking to?

NOG

I think I'm talking to a non-
commissioned officer who quit his
job more than two years ago...
and should have stayed gone.

Nog grabs his padds, turns hard and stomps out of the room.

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

26 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S QUARTERS

Kira at the threshold, handing over Yoshi to GAVI, the man who runs the station's pre-school (8x16 "Baby Steps")...

KIRA

I'll be over to pick him up as soon as the conference is done.

GAVI

Mrs O'Brien isn't free?

KIRA

Oh, I... I just want them to relax and not have to worry. I'm happy to take care of him.

(bends down)

Okay, Yoshi, I have to go to work now, but you'll have fun with Gavi, won't you?

YOSHI

Are there other children there?

GAVI

Lots of them! We'll all have a great time together.

YOSHI

Okay then.

Smiling, Kira gives him a quick kiss, then reluctantly lets go of his hand and passes him across to Gavi...

GAVI

Don't worry, Captain. He'll be fine. Come on Yoshi - time to meet the other kids!

Gavi walks away, hand in hand with Yoshi. Kira watches them go, biting her lip with separation anxiety...

27 **EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE - ESTABLISHING**

Dominion vessel 288 sat at an upper pylon, with the *Xhosa*, a standard Bajoran shuttle, and of course the *Defiant*...

28 **INT. DS9 - WARD ROOM**

DEJAR, the Cardassian representative (from 3x15 "Destiny"), sits at the long side of the table nearest the wall. Her image occasionally FRITZES - a holographic projection...

DEJAR

(astonished)

You are saying the Federation will
not support Cardassia?

KIRA is at one end of the table, with two Starfleet ensigns sat quietly behind, acting as assistants. She is already a bit harried and indignant, but is trying her best...

KIRA

We will absolutely support the
Cardassian people. Humanitarian
aid is being organised as we
speak. But the Federation is very
clear that this offer should not
be taken as indicating support for
the Ghemor government, or for any
other political body.

DEJAR

(unimpressed)

Even after all the promises of
friendship to the Ghemor regime
that have been made in the past?

KIRA

Ghemor was the popularly elected
Castellan. That is no longer the
case. Your political problems are
yours to resolve. We will not
interfere by taking sides.

LEDAHN, the Bajoran minister (9x03 "Waiting for the Mist to Clear"), sits opposite Dejar, nameless Bajoran functionary sat behind. Ledahn is calm, but not taking any nonsense...

LEDAHN

This is no more than Starfleet's usual position on the affairs of other races. I'm surprised at your surprise, Miss Dejar.

DEJAR

(sneers)

Why are you even here, Bajoran?

TARAN'ATAR, a bit out of place at the other end, not sure what to do with himself. VANNIS the Vorta sits behind him, legs crossed and an imperious, superior air on her face...

DEJAR (cont)

I understand why that creature is here - his kind is responsible for the state we are in now. But you had nothing to do with it.

From this point, the following dialogue plays in b.g...

KIRA

I asked the minister to attend. Bajor has some experience with planetary devastation, after all.

LEDAHN

If we are questioning people's attendance at this conference, Miss Dejar, I would not have expected a former agent of the Obsidian Order to represent a democratic government.

DEJAR

And I would not have expected Bajor to have an opinion of its own, now that the Federation carries you in its pocket. And yet here we both are.

From a seat just behind Taran'atar, L'HAAN now leans into view. He flinches at her presence, but daren't show more. She murmurs into his ear, over the preceding dialogue...

L'HAAN

See how they manage their emotions.
One may tell by their body language
that they still feel them, but they
make an effort to keep them under
control. Do you see it?

Taran'atar watches the others' faces. He nods subtly...

L'HAAN

To be an effective diplomat, you
must do likewise.

KIRA

(are you there?)
Ambassador Taran'atar?

Taran'atar flinches again, caught off guard...

KIRA (cont)

Does the Dominion wish to register
a position on the Cardassian
situation?

He glances back to Vannis, as if asking for help. Then he
turns back to the meeting, a touch nervous...

TARAN'ATAR

We do not.

DEJAR

Really? After your people tried to
obliterate mine from the galaxy,
you have nothing to say?

LEDAHN

Some might say Cardassia brought
destruction on itself.

VANNIS

I say exactly that. Cardassia
betrayed the Dominion. The Founders
ordered your deaths as punishment,
and they were right to do so.

TARAN'ATAR
(hiss at Vannis)
Silence.
(back to Dejar)
The Vorta does not speak for the
Founders in this instance. I do.

Vannis quietly seethes in the background...

TARAN'ATAR (cont)
The Dominion hopes for peaceful
relations with the Alpha Quadrant
from this point forward. To that
end, I have been instructed by the
Founder to express our sympathies
to the representative.

DEJAR
Sympathies?! What use are they?

Dejar SPITS her holographic disgust, but just as she is
about to start a good solid rant, her image FRITZES again,
then CUTS altogether. Frustrated, Kira taps her combadge...

KIRA
Kira to Nog. What's going on?

NOG (comm)
Sorry, Captain. The signal keeps
breaking up. I'm trying to boost
it, but it'll take a minute.

KIRA
Do your best, Lieutenant. Kira out.

She turns back to the meeting, specifically Taran'atar...

KIRA
Dejar has a point, Taran'atar. As
the government responsible for the
current conditions on Cardassia,
one might have hoped for something
more concrete from the Dominion
than sympathy. The Federation
would like to suggest the Dominion
offer reparations to Cardassia.

Taran'atar glares at Kira now, GROWLS under his breath...

...but L'Haan leans into view again...

L'HAAN

Control yourself. Do not allow
your emotions to disrupt your
focus. Remain calm.

KIRA looks at Taran'atar, frowns...

...as Taran'atar pauses, leans in slightly as if someone is
whispering in his ear... then turns back to the meeting...

TARAN'ATAR

Everyone here is aware of the
current crisis in the Dominion.
Whether we accept responsibility
or not, we are in no position to
offer reparations to anyone.

KIRA

That's your answer. "We've got our
own problems."

LEDAHN

Cold as it may seem, it has the
virtue of being the truth.

NOG (comm)

Nog to Kira. The signal's back
now. I'm forwarding it through to
the ward room...

KIRA

Thank you, Lieutenant.

From a rear angle, we can now see a HOLO-COMM DEVICE (as in
5x13 "For the Uniform") set up just underneath the table.
It activates, and Dejar's image FRITZes back into view...

DEJAR

Apologies Captain, ambassadors. As
you can see, conditions continue
to deteriorate. Perhaps we should
get to the point?

LEDAHN

The Bajoran government echoes the Federation's offer of aid. Unlike the Federation however, Bajor is prepared to take sides in the political debate.

DEJAR

I find that surprising, Second Minister. I would have thought Bajor would follow where the Federation leads... as usual.

Kira flinches. Ledahn doesn't rise to the bait...

LEDAHN

Before we joined the Federation, Vedek Yevir allied his order with the Oralian Way. Bajor would like to reassure Cardassia that we stand by that alliance now.

KIRA

Minister Ledahn... just to be clear, you are declaring support for the Reunion Project?

LEDAHN

I am. Castellan Ghemor supported the open practise of religion on Cardassia, including the Oralian Way. We will continue to support the Reunion Project in his honour. We emphatically do not support any who wish to deny that right.

Kira is secretly relieved - this is a better deal...

DEJAR

Second Minister... I am very happy to hear that. And please, allow me to apologise for my earlier remarks. You are an honourable man. Unfortunately, it no longer matters. The point is moot.

Confused looks around the table...

KIRA

I don't understand...

DEJAR

I attended this meeting because I wanted to hear what you all had to say. But the decision has already been made.

LEDAHN

What decision is that?

DEJAR

To reject all aid, no matter who offers it. The Cardassian Union has officially quarantined itself. As of today, no-one will enter and no-one will leave, for any reason.

KIRA

(stunned)

Dejar, please... reconsider.

DEJAR

(haughty)

It is for your own good, Captain. We cannot risk letting the virus spread to our "friends" in the Federation. To do so would only invite more recriminations.

KIRA

Dejar, we want to help. You don't have to do this alone.

DEJAR

Apparently we do. The fact is that every time we have reached out for help, our hand has been bitten for our trouble. We can depend on no-one but ourselves. Please allow us our dignity, and leave us to lick our wounds alone.

She is firm and final. Kira is too disappointed to reply...

LEDAHN

If that is your choice, we will of course respect it. But Bajor's friendship remains, even if you do not choose to accept it. I believe that our two worlds are connected by more than enmity.

DEJAR

Let us hope so. I've said what I came to say. I will take my leave now. Good day to you all.

The holo-comm deactivates, and her image dissolves. Kira sighs, glances over her shoulder to her assistants...

KIRA

Please enter into the record, the Federation's offer of humanitarian aid will remain open indefinitely, in the hopes that Cardassia will eventually choose to accept it.

(beat)

I guess that's the best we can do.

They sag. The meeting is over, but no-one has the will to get up from the table.

Unsure what to do now, Taran'atar glances to his side, and there sits Vannis.

To his other side, and there is L'Haan. She nods approvingly at him. He is not quite so sure...

29 INT. DS9 - HABITAT RING CORRIDOR

Kira walks along, tired after the conference. She heads to a particular door...

...but then is surprised to see KASIDY waiting for her outside the door...

KIRA

Kas? Is there a problem?

KASIDY

Well, I'm not sure. That's what
I'm here to find out.

Now Kira is worried. She looks towards the closed door, and
then back to Kasidy...

KIRA

Has something happened to Yoshi?

KASIDY

He's fine.

KIRA

So where is he? I said I'd pick
him up after the conference.

KASIDY

You were a little late. Gavi let me
take him back to Miles and Keiko.

KIRA

What? Why? I'm supposed to be
looking after him.

KASIDY

He's fine where he is.

KIRA

(exasperated)

Kasidy, I've had a long day. I am
not in the mood for games. Picking
up Yoshi and taking him home is
what's kept me going.

KASIDY

He is home. With his parents.

KIRA

(scoff)

The ones who drag him back and forth
across the quadrant? And into the
middle of disease-ridden war zones?
Yeah, that's a great idea.

Kira attempts to push past Kasidy on down the corridor.
Kasidy steps to block her...

KIRA
Get out of my way, Kas. I'm going
to get my child.

KASIDY
(quiet surprise)
Nerys, do you hear yourself?

KIRA
(shouts)
I carried him inside me! I gave
birth to him! It's my turn!

Kasidy grabs hold of Kira and won't let her go. Sympathetic
but firm...

KASIDY
No, it's not.

KIRA
(angry, tearful)
Give me back my baby!

Kira finally hears her own words. They shock her. She
begins to cry...

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

30 INT. DS9 - KIRA'S QUARTERS

KIRA and KASIDY sit on the couches, coffee table between them. Kira's head is down, stares at her own hands...

KIRA

I told myself, for five months I told myself, don't get attached. You're doing a favour for a friend, nothing more. I read all the papers on surrogacy and how to handle it, so I'd know what to expect when the time came...

(beat)

None of it made a difference. The moment Yoshi was born... all I wanted to do was hold him. And never let him go.

KASIDY

Every mother feels the same.

KIRA

I knew he wasn't mine. But he felt like he was mine. Miles and Keiko did nothing wrong. They let me spend time with him whenever I wanted, get to know him. But there was never enough time. The war was just starting, and then Keiko took the children back to Earth.

KASIDY

(pointedly)

To keep them safe. So accusing them of being bad parents was hardly fair, was it?

KIRA

I know it wasn't. I just wanted to protect him more than anything.

KASIDY

Believe me, I understand, Nerys.
There's not a thing in nature more
dangerous than a mother protecting
her children. But Yoshi isn't your
child. He's not yours to protect.
I'm sorry Nerys, but I just don't
know any other way to say it.

KIRA

How would you feel if you had to
give up Rebecca?

KASIDY

It would kill me. Or I would kill
whoever tried to take her from me.
But I didn't make the promise you
made. I can't even imagine how you
felt... but this is one of those
times when your heart has to step
back and let the head take over.

Kira continues to look down. She knows Kasidy is right...

KIRA

You were there waiting for me. How
did you know?

KASIDY

You're my friend, Nerys. And...
I'm a mother myself now. I know the
signs. It's not something I ever
expected to happen, but apparently
it's an instinct you get.

KIRA

Instinct, exactly, that's it. I
just wanted something solid to
hold onto, something I could rely
on when nothing else made sense.
And then Yoshi was back, and it
was like the perfect thing.

KASIDY

You'll make it right with them,
though, right?

KIRA
(nods)
Assuming they'll let me.

31 **INT. DS9 - WARD ROOM**

NOG is under the table, disconnecting and dismantling the holo-comm device. The door opens, Nog looks up --

-- and sighs sadly when O'BRIEN enters. Not angry now, but he just knows there's going to be an argument. O'Brien seems sympathetic...

O'BRIEN
Are you ready to talk now?

NOG
You still think I'm the one with the problem, don't you?

O'BRIEN
Well, you have been biting my head off since I got here...

NOG
Chief, sit down.

O'Brien frowns, but does it. He sits down cross-legged on the deck with Nog. Now they are level...

NOG
Let me explain how this looks from my angle. I was like... your apprentice. I would never have come half as far as I have if you hadn't taken me under your lobes. But then you moved on. And I had the honour of trying to take your place. Kira made me Chief of Operations, and do you know what everyone said? He's too young. He doesn't have the experience. He'll never manage it. Oh, they kept their voices down, but I could hear them. So I worked my frunk off to prove them wrong.

O'BRIEN

That's what I was saying --

NOG

Let me finish. I wanted to prove I could do this job just as well as you had. And I did. I've been Chief Engineer here for two years, and people trust me now. They know I can do the job. I even got a promotion! And then you walk in, the man who taught me everything I know, and the first thing you tell me is that I'm doing it wrong. Not that you're proud of me or that you know the station's in safe hands. That I'm not good enough.

Now O'Brien finally understands...

O'BRIEN

Oh, Nog... you're better than good enough. You're brilliant. You've taught me things.

NOG

So why treat me like I'm an idiot?

O'BRIEN

I'm the idiot. I was trying to prove to myself that I was still good enough. I've been living on Cardassia for a year, feeling useless. Keiko had her great big project, and I was thrilled for her, but me... I was just bored. The biggest breakdown we had was when one of the digging machines got sand in the gears. Took me ten minutes to blow it out. I just wanted to feel useful again. I never thought of how it must have looked to you. Forgive me?

NOG

Of course I forgive you, Chief.

O'BRIEN

It felt like the old days were back again. Fun on the holodeck with Julian, teaching the new kids what's what... but the old days are over, aren't they?

NOG

Sorry. But yeah, they are. You wanna gimme a hand with this?

O'Brien smiles, and they go back to work together...

32 INT. DS9 - GUEST QUARTERS

Keiko and Kira stand together by the window, letting the kids do their things elsewhere in the room...

KIRA

Keiko, I wanted to say sorry if I spoke out of turn the other night.

Keiko is completely unconcerned. Hadn't even realised there was anything wrong...

KEIKO

Oh don't be silly, I never took any offence. You worry too much, Nerys.

Keiko changes the subject freely. Kira is quietly relieved.

KEIKO (cont)

I've spoken with my sister in Kyoto, and she's happy to put us up for a little while, at least until Starfleet figures out what it wants to do with Miles. I don't know if he's spoken to anybody yet.

KIRA

They'll be happy to have the both of you. I just wanted to make sure I took time to say goodbye first.

KEIKO

Thank you for looking after us, as
always. And Yoshi had a great time
staying with his Aunt Nerys.
Didn't you, Yoshi?

Yoshi is zooming around the room, oblivious...

KIRA

Keep in touch, yeah? Bye Yoshi!
Bye, Molly.

MOLLY

(over shoulder)

Bye...

Yoshi zooms. He's happy. Kira watches him a moment. This is
the right thing to do. She lets him be, heads to the door.
In the doorway she crosses paths with O'Brien. She gives
him a quick half-hug, then carries on her way. He enters...

KEIKO

Everything alright?

O'BRIEN

Yeah. Just chatting with Nog,
that's all.

He comes up close and holds her, gives her a quick kiss.

O'BRIEN

Keiko, sweetheart, I'm sorry you
lost your job. I know it meant a lot
to you. We'll find you something
just as good, I promise. Or better.

KEIKO

(amused)

Everybody's apologising today. Is
it something in the water?

O'BRIEN

Maybe. And I'm sorry if I made you
feel guilty. You probably knew I was
bored at Andak. But I don't want you
to ever think that was your fault.

KEIKO

I knew. But you have every right to your feelings, Miles. We'll find you something good, too. Something important, fulfilling, and not in a war zone.

O'BRIEN

Well, alright then. I guess we're gonna be okay.

He leans in to kiss her again...

33 INT. DS9 - TARAN'ATAR'S QUARTERS

TARAN'ATAR stands staring out of the window at the stars. VANNIS moves around the room, picking up padds and placing items into a small shoulder satchel, still smarting...

VANNIS

I could have you killed for the way you spoke to me in there.

TARAN'ATAR

If you truly believed so, you would have already done so. But you know that you would rather die yourself than defy the Founder.

Of course she would. That doesn't mean she has to like it.

VANNIS

I will return to the Idran system and prepare a report for the Founder. I will make certain to mention your... disrespect.

TARAN'ATAR

(turns to her)

You were sent on this mission to assist me. Do you intend to do so?

VANNIS

(seething)

Of course.

TARAN'ATAR

Then cease questioning me. The residents of this station do that enough without my supposed ally joining them. Go now.

Vannis controls her fury just barely enough to nod her acknowledgement, and then turns to leave.

As the door OPENS for her, Kira is there in the corridor, hand lifted to press the door chime...

KIRA

Oh. Hi. Sorry to interrupt. Are you busy?

TARAN'ATAR

The Vorta is leaving. You may enter, Captain.

Vannis grits her teeth and leaves without a word.

Kira shudders from the frosty air, enters the room...

KIRA

Thanks. I wanted to see how you were doing, after your first diplomatic conference.

TARAN'ATAR

It was a strange experience. One I was not sure I was prepared for.

KIRA

It's not exactly my forte either. But I thought you did fine.

TARAN'ATAR

I do have a question, however. I observed you during the meeting. Your body language was curious.

KIRA

(blink)

I beg your pardon?

TARAN'ATAR

You were tense when delivering
the Federation's decision on
Cardassia. And yet you relaxed
when Bajor gave its verdict. What
does such behaviour mean?

Bit of a personal question, but he wouldn't know better...

KIRA

Umm... it means I didn't actually
agree with the words I was saying.
I thought that the Federation's
decision about the Cardassians was
wrong. That we should absolutely
be supporting the Oralian Way. But
I had to say it anyway, because
that's my job.

TARAN'ATAR

You are experiencing divided
loyalties.

KIRA

I suppose so.

Taran'atar nods with understanding. It's what he thought.

TARAN'ATAR

My instructions also felt contra-
dictory. I know that the Founders
cannot have been wrong to order
the destruction of Cardassia. And
yet I have been asked to offer
sympathy on their behalf.

KIRA

You have doubts about your mission.

TARAN'ATAR

(forced to admit)

I do.

KIRA

I think everyone does.

TARAN'ATAR
How do you resolve them?

KIRA
I'll let you know when I figure
that out.

Kira turns and leaves. Once she is gone, Taran'atar turns
and looks out of the window again.

After a moment, L'HAAN steps out of the shadows and joins
him calmly at the window...

L'HAAN
You have done well, Taran'atar.
Even Captain Kira approved of
your conduct as a diplomat.

TARAN'ATAR
She did.

L'HAAN
And was my advice helpful?

TARAN'ATAR
It was.

L'HAAN
Do you have anything to say?

TARAN'ATAR
(grudging)
Thank you.

If Vulcans could do an evil grin, L'Haan would be doing one
right now...

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW