CAST

PICARD
RIKER
BEVERLY
DATA
TASHA
WORF
GEORDI
NURSE
GUARD (RAMOS)
Non-Speaking
MOTHER
DAUGHTER
SECURITY TEAM
ONE GUARD

KLINGONS
CAPTAIN KORRIS
LIEUTENANT KONMEL
KUNIVAS
CAPTAIN K'NERA
STAR TREK: "Heart Of Glory" - 1/13/88 - SETS

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
"Heart Of Glory"

SETS

INTERIORS                  EXTERIORS

USS ENTERPRISE              USS ENTERPRISE
  Main bridge
  Transporter Room            THE BATRIS
  Sickbay
  Guest Quarters
  Various corridors
  Security Area
  Main Engineering

THE BATRIS
  corridor
  Main Engineering
  Auxiliary Control Room
  - Engineering Compartment
FADE IN:

A1 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

moving at sub-warp.

1 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Minimum BRIDGE CREW -- TASHA; GEORDI is at Conn; DATA at Ops; RIKER and PICARD in the Command Position. WORF turns from his Aft Station.

WORF
Captain! Communication from Starfleet. They have recorded a disturbance in the Neutral Zone.

2 REACTIONS

PICARD
What is the nature of the disturbance?

WORF
A battle. Quadrant nine -- coordinates zero-seven-zero, mark three. No information who is involved. They are asking if we can investigate.

PICARD
Answer "affirmative."
(to Geordi)
Lieutenant La Forge, lay in the course.

DATA
Captain, I have no reports of any Federation ships in that area.

RIKER
Ferengi?

PICARD
It's a little out of their area.
CONTINUED:

RIKER
Should we separate the saucer?

PICARD
Let's get some more information first.

GEORDI
Course set.

PICARD
Speed -- warp seven.

GEORDI
Warp seven. Aye.

PICARD
Engage.

EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)
as it warps towards us.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE

It's very tense. Worf at Science; Data at Ops; Picard --
alert, watching.

GEORDI
We are approaching the Neutral Zone.

TASHA
Sir... Sensors indicate several recent photon explosions and heavy phaser activity.

DATA
I have analyzed the residue of the explosives. They are not of
any known Ferengi design. It is possibly Romulan.

Picard REACTS.
CONTINUED:

PICARD
That's a name we haven't heard for a while.

RIKER
And I could have gone a lot longer without hearing it.

PICARD
If the Romulans have returned to this sector we should know about it.

RIKER
Shall we move to the Battle bridge?

PICARD
Not yet. Worf, any further activity?

WORF
Negative, sir.

PICARD
Slow to half impulse.

GEORDI
Slowing to one-half impulse.

EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)
The ship comes out of warp speed.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE
Everyone is tense and expectant.

GEORDI
Entering quadrant nine-zero-seven, mark three.

PICARD
Shields and deflectors up.

DATA
I have located a ship. It is drifting.
CONTINUED:

PICARD
On the Main Viewer.

DATA
Aye, sir.

ANGLE TO INCLUDE MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

There is a distant ship.

PICARD
Magnify!

The IMAGE on the Screen INCREASES in size. It is now possible to see extensive battle damage.

DATA
The life-support systems on the ship are failing, propulsion, navigation, and all communication, inoperative.

PICARD
Any trace of the other ship?

DATA
None, sir.

RIKER
If it is a Romulan vessel, it could be cloaked.

PICARD
(to Worf)
Send this to Starfleet. We are entering the Neutral Zone.
(to Geordi)
Get us in a little closer, Mister La Forge. Stay sharp everyone.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE - TO INCLUDE MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

which displays THE BATRIS. Everyone studies the damaged vessel as the Enterprise moves around it.
CONTINUED:

RIKER
It's Talarian.

PICARD
Any life signs?

WORF
Nothing yet.

There is a lot of tension.

DATA
I have identified the vessel. It is the Batris. A general cargo vessel.

RIKER
Long way from home.

PICARD
Stay sharp. If this is a result of a Romulan attack, they could still be in the area.

WORF
Captain. Possible life signs.

PICARD
What do you mean "possible?"

WORF
I cannot be positive. The readings emanate from a location near what is left of Main Engineering. There is a great deal of magnetic and radioactive clutter making a positive determination difficult.

RIKER
I'll prepare an away team.

PICARD
Lieutenant Yar, remain at your post. Whoever attacked the freighter may still be in the area.

TASHA
(rejectantly)
Aye, sir.
CONTINUED: (2)

RIKER
Data, Geordi. Let's go.

PICARD
Lieutenant La Forge, are we close enough to use the Visual Acuity transmitter?

GEORDI
We can try it, sir.

PICARD
Then please do. And Number One - everything about this seems wrong.

RIKER
Agreed. It smells like a trap.

And they DEPART.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER
FADE IN:

10 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

as it slowly APPROACHES the other ship.

PICARD (V.O.)
Captain's log, stardate 41503.7. 
We have entered the Neutral Zone. 
A Talarian freighter has been 
severely damaged in a battle. 
Why, and with whom is unknown. 
Personal note: I hope this event 
is not a precursor of things to come, and that the peace which 
has endured for the last several decades will continue.

11 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

Riker, Data and Geordi have gathered and are preparing 
to beam over. A check of equipment. Geordi clips on 
the transmitter for his VISOR.

RIKER
What exactly does that device do?

GEORDI
Data and I have been working on 
a way to transmit what my VISOR 
sees. If it works, the bridge 
will be able to monitor us.

DATA
It is very restricted. The signal 
from Geordi's VISOR is so complex 
that it is difficult to encode 
and breaks down easily.

RIKER
That means it doesn't have much 
range.

GEORDI
Correct. The effective range is 
a few kilometers, but we're 
working on that. 
(touches communicator) 
Bridge, this is Lieutenant La 
Forge.
11 CONTINUED:

WORF'S COM VOICE
This is the bridge.

GEORDI
I have attached the Visual Acuity Transmitter.

WORF'S COM VOICE
We are receiving.

GEORDI
I am switching off.

12 ANOTHER ANGLE

as they gather on the Transporter Pad.

RIKER
Set phasers on stun.

They all check their weapons.

RIKER
(continuing)
Let's be ready for anything.

He takes a quick, final look at his team.

RIKER
(continuing; to the TRANSPORTER CHIEF)
Energize.

13 INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

The corridor is very DIMLY LIGHTED. There is evidence of the recent battle everywhere. Charred walls - damaged bulkheads. The transporter effect brings the away team INTO THE SCENE. They are very tense. Data scans with his tricorder as the others look around.

14 GEORDI

steps slightly to the side.

GEORDI
La Forge to Enterprise.
15 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard on the bridge.

PICARD
This is the Enterprise.

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
Captain, I am switching on the transmitter.

PICARD
Ready to receive.
(to the bridge crew)
Put this on the Main Viewer.

He leans forward as the IMAGE COMES ON the Screen. For the first time, Picard sees as Geordi sees. (Pattern and image to be determined.)

PICARD
Extraordinary.

16 INTERCUT

The other members of the bridge crew as they, too, REACT with astonishment.

PICARD
I understand him better than I ever have.

17 MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

Geordi's VISIONS. (TBD)

18 ANGLE ON PICARD (OPTICAL)

For a moment all else is forgotten as he is consumed by the image on the Main Viewer.

PICARD
Geordi. What was that? Over to the left.

Geordi looks to the left.

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
What?
18 CONTINUED:

PICARD
That -- right there? No -- back. Yes. That -- right there. What is it?

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
It's Commander Riker.

PICARD
To me it's just an undefined upright form, standing in a wild visual frenzy. Can you filter out the extraneous information?

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
No, I get it all simultaneously.

PICARD
It's a jumble. How can you make heads or tails of it?

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
I select what I want to see and disregard the rest.

PICARD
How is that possible?

19 INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

Geordi chuckles.

GEORDI
How, in a noisy room, can you pick out one specific voice or sound?

PICARD'S COM VOICE
It's something you learn.

GEORDI
Exactly. It's something I have learned. Does that make it clearer?

20 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Picard stares at the viewscreen, trying to accomplish in minutes what took Geordi a lifetime to learn.
CONTINUED:

PICARD
Yes. Look over at Data.

Geordi complies and WE SEE the difference between them from Geordi's point of view.

PICARD
(continuing)
There's an aura around Data.

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
Yes, of course. He's an android.

INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

Data and Riker are getting impatient with this conversation.

PICARD'S COM VOICE
From the way you say that, you must think we all see it.

GEORDI
Don't you?

RIKER
Captain - I don't mean to break this up, but...

PICARD'S COM VOICE
Yes, of course, Number One. Proceed.

Riker leads the away team down the corridor.

DATA
I am detecting high levels of Deuterium gas. Probably coming from the leakage in the drive system.

RIKER
Toxic?

DATA
Not as yet.
As the members of the Enterprise move forward, the damage becomes more extensive. They pause at an intersection.

DATA
The life signs are emanating from the far side of Engineering.

RIKER
What's the safest way around?

DATA
All routes are equally dangerous.

GEORDI
Which one is the least dangerous?

DATA
There is no significant difference.

RIKER
Then steady on.

Geordi notices something.

GEORDI
Commander, a fissure is developing in the bulkhead. The skin of the ship is losing its integrity.

RIKER
Where? I don't see it.

GEORDI
There.

Riker looks, but still cannot see anything except the charred bulkhead.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

Picard is standing in front of the Main Viewer.

PICARD
Step closer.

Geordi complies.
CONTINUED:

PICARD
(continuing)
It looks to me like a spectrograph indicating metal fatigue. Is that how you interpret it?

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
Correct, Captain.

INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

Riker steps up beside Geordi.

RIKER
How long before the hull ruptures?

GEORDI
Impossible to be exact. Five minutes -- probably less.

RIKER
Come on.

ANOTHER ANGLE

They move forward into the DARKENED corridor toward the WHITE GLOW coming from what was the Engineering Section of the Batris.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL) (FORMERLY SCENE 35)

as Picard watches Geordi's POV, his IMAGE BREAKS UP, then GOES OUT.

PICARD
I've lost the transmission.

GEORDI'S COM VOICE
Signal overload. I'm surprised it lasted this long.

INT. BATRIS - MAIN ENGINEERING

As the away team COMES to the entrance. All except Data cover up against the heat and INTENSE LIGHT.
27 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

as Picard and the others on the bridge listen to what is happening on the Batris.

28 INT. BATRIS - MAIN ENGINEERING

Data makes a sweep with his tricorder.

DATA

The life signs are very strong now. They are coming from over there.

RIKER

Is there any other way around?

DATA

Negative. This is the only way. I think the safest way to proceed is for me to cross alone. The heat and toxic gases have less effect on me.

RIKER

Agreed.

29 ANOTHER ANGLE

as Data walks through the maelstrom.

30 ANGLE ON RIKER AND GEORDI

They watch Data DISAPPEAR through the wall of heated gases.

31 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard listens.

32 INT. BATRIS - MAIN ENGINEERING

Riker and Geordi wait impatiently.

33 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

As Picard listens.
INT. BATRIS - MAIN ENGINEERING

What Picard saw was Data RETURNING. He pauses halfway across the Engineering compartment.

DATA
I found them. The door to their compartment is jammed.

One by one they cover up from the intense heat and SPRINT ACROSS the Engineering section.

OMITTED

INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

They arrive in front of the sealed compartment. The damage here is more severe. Torn pieces of bulkhead block the door to the compartment.

DATA
The control mechanism. It is inoperative.

Riker squeezes his arm through a twisted piece of metal and pounds on the door.

RIKER
This is Commander Riker of the USS Enterprise. Can you hear me?

There is no response.

DATA
I advise against the use of phasers. The gas buildup is too great, Commander.

GEORDI
Yes. A phaser discharge now could blow us all out of here.

They BACK OFF.

OMITTED

INT. BATRIS - DOOR TO AUXILIARY CONTROL ROOM

Data clears the doorway of debris.
39 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard is frustrated at no longer being able to see what's happening to the away team.

    PICARD
    What's going on?

    RIKER'S COM VOICE
    We are about to force the door.

40 INT. BATRIS - DOOR TO AUXILIARY CONTROL ROOM

    as Data steps closer to the door. With considerable difficulty he wedges one hand in between the sliding door panels. Then slowly he gets the other hand in place. Data, now with both hands in between the door panels, puts his great strength to work again, and slowly pries the doors APART.

41 thru OMITTED

43 ANOTHER ANGLE

    As soon as there is enough of an opening, both Riker and Geordi put their shoulders to the job, and between them all the door is OPENED. Riker STEPS THROUGH.

44 INT. BATRIS - ENGINEERING COMPARTMENT

    As Riker ENTERS the room he sees TWO BLURRED FIGURES. The first steps forward. It's dreamlike. A figure looms out of the DARKNESS. A very tall, very fierce KLINGON.

    PICARD'S COM VOICE
    What is it? What are you seeing?

    RIKER
    Klingons.

45 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

    Picard REACTS to this new twist.
CONTINUED:

PICARD

Klingons.

Worf REACTS.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
FADE IN:

46 OMITTED

46A INT. MAIN BRIDGE (FORMERLY SCENE 47A)

PICARD
Tasha, go to Transporter Room Three. I want you there when the away team returns.

47 INT. BATRIS - ENGINEERING COMPARTMENT

The Klingon, KORRIS, moves forward to begin formalized greetings.

KORRIS
I am Korris.

RIKER
We'll handle the formalities later - right now we have to get off this ship. Are there any others still alive?

KORRIS
No.

Data APPEARS in the torn hatchway.

DATA
I believe there is a quicker way out of here.

GEORDI
Let's go.

Riker indicates a third figure on the floor.

RIKER
Check him, Data.

Data steps over and scans the figure with his tricorder.

DATA
He is alive -- but just barely.
CONTINUED:

RIKER
Pick him up and let's get out of here.

Data starts to lift the stricken man. Korris steps up beside Data.

KORRIS
No. I will carry him.

DATA
As you wish.

INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

as the group hurries through the debris. There is a BOILING, RUMBLING EFFECT on the ship.

GEORDI
We're out of time, Commander -- the ship's going to blow.

RIKER
Transporter Room, have you got a lock on us?

TASHA'S COM VOICE
Not yet. Too much interference. You have to get farther away from the Engineering section.

Behind them there is an ominous change in the GAS BUILDUP.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Everyone watches the screen. Worf, from his Science Station where he is monitoring the Batris:

WORF
Sir, the Engineering section is at critical. Destruction of the Batris is imminent.
50 INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

They come to a bend in the corridor, turn the corner and bump into a solid wall of debris.

RIKER

End of the line. Transporter Room, we've gone as far as we can. Get us off -- now!

The away team and the Klingons stand ready to beam.

51 OMITTED

52 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

as Lieutenant Yar tries to get a solid fix on the away team.

TASHA

It's not good. I can't get locked on.

PICARD'S COM VOICE

They're out of options. Do it.

Tasha energizes.

53 INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR (OPTICAL)

The BEAM OUT BEGINS, then STOPS, then TRIES TO START again.

54 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM

Tasha shakes her head in frustration, makes an attempt to fine-tune her equipment and tries again.

55 INT. BATRIS - CORRIDOR

A CLOUD BOILS up at the end of the corridor. There is a CRACKLING SOUND, followed by a RUMBLE.

ANGLE ON THE AWAY TEAM

They REACT.
56 EXT. SPACE - THE BATRIS (OPTICAL)

As it BLOWS UP.

56A INT. MAIN BRIDGE

REACTION to the explosion of the Batris and the concern that the away team may have been lost.

57 INT. TRANSPORTER ROOM (OPTICAL)

As the six figures slowly STACK UP on the platform.

RIKER
Bridge, this is Commander Riker. We are taking the survivors to Sickbay.

TASHA
(steps over to the platform)
I'll need your weapons.

58 INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Picard, relieved, gets up from his Command Chair.

PICARD
I'll be in Sickbay.

WORF
Captain. Request permission to join you.

Picard hesitates for a beat, then:

PICARD
Granted.

59 INT. SICKBAY

BEVERLY and her NURSE are working on the most seriously injured Klingon. Riker is slightly off to the side. Data and Geordi have returned to their duties. Picard and Worf ENTER. The two Klingons REACT with surprise at seeing one of their countrymen.

PICARD
Situation, Doctor.

BEVERLY
His injuries are serious.

Picard then turns to the other two.
PICARD
I am Jean-Luc Picard, the captain of this vessel.

KORRIS
My name is Korris -- captain of the Klingon Defense Force. This is Lieutenant Konmel.

PICARD
Do you mind telling me what happened?

KORRIS
Not at all.

PICARD
Firstly, what were you doing on that ship? It's not Klingon.

KORRIS
We were passengers. The Talarians were taking us to outpost M-Zed-Five.

PICARD
What was the ship doing in the Neutral Zone?

KORRIS
We were attacked without warning by a Ferengi cruiser. During the course of the battle we must have unknowingly entered the Neutral Zone.

WORF
The weapons were not Ferengi.

Now the two Klingons turn their full attention on Worf. It's a time for evaluation.

KORRIS
What is your name?

WORF
I am Lieutenant Worf.

KORRIS
And you are a member of this crew?
WORF
Yes.

Korris pauses a beat, then continues.

KORRIS
You are correct. The weapons were
Klingon, but the vessel was
Ferengi.

PICARD
What precipitated the attack?

KORRIS
I don't know -- we were in our
quarters.

KONMEL
The captain of the freighter had
no combat experience so he did
not anticipate the first attack,
which was nearly fatal.

KORRIS
We took control -- with his
permission. The Ferengi called
for surrender. I told the captain
to agree to all their terms. We
had one chance -- I was confident
it would be enough.

KONMEL
As adversaries the Ferengi are
not very worthy.

Worf listens with relish to the story of the battle.

WORF
Still, your weapons were limited,
and their ship superior.

KORRIS
Yes -- all we had was an ancient
battery of Merculite rockets.
Our only chance was to trick them
into lowering their shields.

KONMEL
We reduced power and lured them
in.
59 CONTINUED: (3)

KORRIS
They suspected nothing.

KONMEL
Then, when they lowered their
shields to beam over a boarding
party, we opened fire.

WORF
Your strategy was very sound.

PICARD
There are still a few items that
are not clear.

KORRIS
Captain -- we are hungry and tired.

PICARD
Yes, of course.

KORRIS
If there is anything more you need
to know about this incident -- we
will be available.

WORF
Permission to show our guests to
their quarters, Captain.

PICARD
Permission granted.

Worf leads them OUT of Sickbay.

RIKER
What do you think, Captain?

PICARD
There's a lot more to this than
we've been told. Why was the
Talarian ship so far off course?
What was its point of departure?

RIKER
And why would three Klingon
officers hitch a ride on a broken-down
freighter?
PICARD
Contact Starfleet -- find out what they know about Korris and company.

RIKER
It will take forty-eight hours for a message to get to Starfleet on subspace frequency.

PICARD
They are going to be with us for a while; we might as well learn all we can about them.

RIKER
Do you think I should have a security team assigned to our guests?

PICARD
No -- Worf is capable of dealing with anything that may arise.
(to Beverly)
How's your patient, Doctor?

BEVERLY
Not good. I'll keep you posted.

Riker and Picard EXIT. Beverly's expression offers little cause for hope.

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

as Worf and the two Klingons ENTER. In the b.g., Konmel goes directly to the food station. As Worf and Korris APPROACH the table, Konmel orders a Klingon meal - complete with Klingon ale.

KORRIS
Sit, friend - let us eat.
I did not know there are.
Klingons serving on human Starfleet vessels.

WORF
As far as I know, I am the only one.

KONMEL
O'MAT - GRI - T'M -
PFFIOTS -

Konmel comes over and pours three great glasses of ale.
CONTINUED:

KORRIS
Tell me, what it is like for the hunter to lie down with the prey? Have they tamed you -- or have you always been docile?

KONMEL
Does it make you gentle? Has it filled your heart with peace?

KORRIS
Do glorious battles no longer inspire your dreams?

WORF
Why do you mock me? Why do you wish to anger me?

KORRIS
Only to see if it is still possible.

WORF
It is.

The two Klingons give Worf a long look of evaluation.

OMITTED

INT. SICKBAY

Beverly's aide (Nurse) calls to her.

NURSE
Doctor Crusher. I think you'd better look at this.

Beverly comes out of her office and into Sickbay.

NURSE
(continuing)
The Klingon's condition is worsening.

Beverly comes over and makes a quick examination. The Klingon's body jerks violently.

BEVERLY
He's convulsing.
CONTINUED:

She does what is possible, but his condition has gone too far.

INT. GUEST QUARTERS

The Klingons are finishing their meal. Worf has touched neither his food nor drink.

PICARD'S COM VOICE
Commander Korris, this is Captain Picard.

KORRIS
Yes, Captain.

PICARD'S COM VOICE
I am sorry to report -- your comrade's injuries are beyond our medical abilities.

INT. SICKBAY

Picard is there with Worf, Korris and Konmel.

BEVERLY
He's dying.

Korris and Konmel APPROACH their dying comrade.

ANGLE ON THE KLINGONS

as they STEP OVER to the examining table. Korris takes KUNIVAS' head in his hands and turns it toward him. Kunivas opens his eyes and looks up. Korris leans forward and with his thumbs he keeps the dying man's eyes from closing. Korris leans even closer. Worf is drawn to them.

ANGLE ON WORF

with Beverly and Picard standing beside him, watching the strange ritual.
67 ANGLE ON THE KLINGONS

It is intense, and very private. From one of the three, or maybe from all of them, it's difficult to tell, there comes a LOW RUMBLING GROWL as the moment of death approaches. Then -- with a SHUDDER it happens. The wounded man dies. For a beat, Korris continues to stare into the dead man's eyes. Then, like an explosion from the bowels of Valhalla -- the living Klingons, including Worf, throw back their heads and ROAR.

67A ANGLE ON PICARD AND BEVERLY

as they REACT to the ritual.

68 OMITTED

69 BACK TO SCENE

The three Klingons, shoulders touching -- faces skyward -- fill the room with a SOUND which comes from deep inside them. It is not the WAIL of the dead, but the exaltation of the victorious. Then -- as one, they stop. The looks they exchange between them are the looks of men who have participated in a great and noble victory.

70 ANGLE ON PICARD AND BEVERLY

Both are awed by the ceremony.

70A KONMEL AND DEAD KLINGON

Konmel pauses by the dead Klingon -- as if to say a final farewell. While no one is looking, he removes the spike from his comrade's boot.

71 BACK TO SCENE

It's QUIET. The three Klingons are content.

BEVERLY

Is there any special arrangement you would like for the body?
CONTINUED:

KORRIS
It is only an empty shell now.
Please treat it as such.

He EXITS with Konmel. Worf FOLLOWS and he exchanges a look with Picard as he passes.

OMITTED

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
FADE IN:

73 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)
ESTABLISHING.

74 INT. CORRIDOR

Worf, Korris and Konmel walk along.

KONMEL
The opponent that killed Kunivas should have been an enemy -- then his death would have been even more glorious.

WORF
(stunned by the revelation)
If the opponent was not an enemy... who was it?

For a beat, neither Korris nor Konmel answer.

WORF
(continuing)
Tell me -- what really happened?

Korris gives Worf a long steady gaze.

KORRIS
I do not wish to anger you. We are after all, brothers lost among the infidels.
(he pauses; then)
How did you come to this ship and that uniform?

WORF
Through an act of kindness. The Romulans attacked the Khitomer outpost. Everyone was killed. I was buried under the rubble and left for dead. A human Starfleet officer found me. He took me to his home on Gault and told his wife to raise me as his son.
KONMEL
How old were you?

WORF
Before the age of inclusion --

KONMEL
That young?

KORRIS
(with disdain)
Gault is a farming colony.

WORF
When my foster brother and I were of age we entered the Starfleet Academy. He hated it and returned to Gault. I stayed.

KONMEL
You haven't spent much time among your own kind.

WORF
Almost none.

KORRIS
So when the night was still and quiet, and the sound of the blood rushing through your veins filled your ears, the only way to silence it was to slip out into the night and, like the hunter that spawned you, join in the struggle of life and death... but you were unable...

KONMEL
... And those around you did not understand. You frightened them.

KORRIS
They shunned you. Cursed you. Called you vile names, and you knew not why. Even now do you know why you are driven? Why you cannot relent -- or repent -- or confess -- or abstain? How could you know? There have been no other Klingons to lead you to that knowledge.
CONTINUED: (2)

WORF
Yes -- those feelings are part of me, but I control them. They do not rule me.

KORRIS
Yes, to fit in, the humans demand you change the one thing you cannot change. Yet, because you cannot -- you do, for that too is the mark of the warrior. You said I mock you -- I do not. I salute you.

There is a pause as the bonding which began in the death ritual, now continues.

KONMEL
But, against whom do you test yourself? Against what enemy do you charge into battle?

WORF
I have been in battle.

Korris moves closer to Worf.

KORRIS
Then you understand.

WORF
I do.

KORRIS
Brother, this peace, this alliance, is like a living death to warriors like us.

KONMEL
You are right, we lied to your captain. We commandeered that freighter -- left the crew behind, and were in search of a place where we could live our lives as true Klingons.

WORF
You did not fight the Ferengi.

KORRIS
It was one of our own cruisers sent to bring us back.
WORF
(surprised)
You destroyed a Klingon ship?

KORRIS
I did not want to battle our brothers. But, we had no choice. Our leaders sent the cruiser. They have been corrupted by the illusion of peace.

KONMEL
They have traded our birthright -- so they may die in their sleep...

KORRIS
... A peace that makes the Klingon heart that beats in my chest wither and die.

Worf looks at his fellow warriors for a long beat. Korris changes the mood.

KORRIS
(continuing)
Is it permitted for you to show us around this ship?

WORF
Yes -- of course.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Other than Worf, the crew is in their usual positions.

DATA
Captain, long-range sensors indicate another vessel approaching this area.

PICARD
Can you identify it, Mister Data?

DATA
No, sir. Not yet.

PICARD
Keep a close watch on it. We're too close to the Neutral Zone for it to be random.
INT. MAIN ENGINEERING

Worf proudly leads Korris and Konmel through, and the two visitors are suitably impressed.

KONMEL
What magnificent battles we could have at the helm of this ship.

Worf gives him a sharp look.

WORF
Perhaps your dreams of glory no longer fit the time. They belong buried with the past.

KORRIS
Standing here we will never know. The answer lies out there. Our instincts will lead us.

KONMEL
Instincts that have not been dulled by living among "civilized" men.

Worf studies him for a long beat.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The usual crew.

PICARD
I believe, Number One, that was the first time outsiders witnessed the Klingon death ritual. I think I can figure out why they look into the dying man's eyes - but the howling... ?

DATA
It is a warning.

PICARD
To whom?

DATA
They are warning the dead -- beware -- a Klingon warrior is about to arrive.

A shiver passes over Riker's body.
CONTINUED:

GEORDI
Captain, the unidentified vessel
is moving towards us at warp five.
Intersect in one hour, sixteen
minutes, thirty-three seconds.

PICARD
Can we get a visual?

GEORDI
I can try, sir.

Geordi works the controls. A PINPOINT APPEARS on the
Main Viewscreen.

PICARD
Magnify.

Geordi works the controls some more. A Klingon warship
APPEARS.

OMITTED

ANGLE ON CREW

as they stare at the viewer.

RIKER
Klingons.

PICARD
Open hailing frequencies,
Lieutenant Yar.

TASHA
Hailing frequencies open.

PICARD
To Klingon cruiser -- this is
Captain Jean-Luc Picard of the
USS Enterprise.

FAVOR MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

As the image of the Klingon, CAPTAIN K'NERA, APPEARS.

K'NERA
I am Commander K'Nera. What is
your purpose in this area?
PICARD
We came to investigate a battle.
We rescued three Klingon survivors.

K'NERA
Is that all that is left of the crew of the cruiser T'Acog?

PICARD
These men are not from the cruiser, they are off the freighter Batris. The leader is Captain Korris.

The Klingon Commander REACTS with anger.

K'NERA
You have him? On your ship? He is alive?

PICARD
Yes.

K'NERA
He is a criminal. A renegade who with two others stole that freighter, and somehow destroyed the Klingon cruiser sent to bring them back. We expect the criminals to be delivered into our custody as soon as we are within transporter range.

K'Nera CLICKS OFF.

PICARD
(to Tasha)
Where are they now?

Tasha checks her console.

TASHA
They are with Worf on Deck Seventeen.

PICARD
Deck Seventeen?
CONTINUED: (2)

TASHA
Yes, sir -- next to the auxiliary turbolift to the Battle Bridge. Shall I alert Lieutenant Worf?

PICARD
No. Send a security team to Deck Seventeen.

RIKER
Captain, you don't think Worf would allow them access to the Battle Bridge?

PICARD
Right now, Number One, we cannot assume anything.

TASHA
Captain, should I stay at my tactical position or lead the security team?

PICARD
Lead the security team. And Lieutenant -- remember with whom you are dealing.

TASHA
Aye, sir.

INT. CORRIDOR

The three Klingons walk. Korris stops and faces Worf.

KORRIS
We have heard this ship can separate in time of battle.

WORF
Yes. When relieved of its bulk, the Enterprise becomes an exceptional weapon.

Behind Worf, Korris sees the security team ENTER the corridor. He instinctively knows why they are there.

TASHA
Worf.

He turns.
CONTINUED:

KORRIS
They are here for us.

TASHA
Step to the side.

WORF
What is the problem?

TASHA
The captain wants those two taken into custody.

Worf looks at the two Klingons.

KORRIS
Do not let them take us, Worf. Help us.

KONMEL
Listen to the voice of your blood. You are not "of" these people.

He looks into Korris' eyes. This is a moment of decision for Worf. Then he looks down the corridor.

as Tasha and her security team edge CLOSER.

Worf looks at Korris, then glances to the turbolift, which is only two steps away. Korris thinks he has read the thoughts racing through Worf's mind.

KORRIS
Yes. Join us.

It's a moment of decision, but it's impossible for us to tell which way Worf is going to go, and WE:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
INT. CORRIDOR

As before -- Worf and the two Klingons; Tasha and her security team. Suddenly, the turbolift doors located between them, OPEN and a mother and her young daughter STEP OFF. As the little girl turns, she almost runs into Korris. The girl FREEZES. The mother is surprised to find the two Klingons standing there. (Worf wears a Starfleet uniform and doesn't evoke the same visceral response.)

82A ANGLE ON TASHA

She instantly recognizes how the dynamics of the situation have changed.

TASHA
(urgently)
GO BACK!

83 ANGLE BY THE TURBO Lift

The woman FREEZES. The little girl stands STARING up at Korris.

83A INTERCUT

Everyone involved -- they can only wait to see what Korris does.

83B ANGLE ON KORRIS

He glances over at Worf.

83C ANGLE ON WORF

KorrIs senses, as do we, that Worf will protect the little girl.
As Tasha watches, Korris slowly reaches down and picks up the little girl. The mother catches her breath. Tasha EDGES FORWARD and touches her communicator.

TASHA
Bridge -- we have a hostage situation on Deck Seventeen.

Korris shoots her a glance. Then -- milking the moment slightly -- he turns and hands the little girl to Worf, who smiles as he takes her. Tasha looks relieved and surprised as she touches her communicator.

TASHA
(continuing)
Bridge, this is Lieutenant Yar -- disregard. The situation is under control.

She WALKS FORWARD and confronts Korris and Konmel.

TASHA
(continuing)
By order of the captain, you are confined to Security.

Korris smiles and looks over at Worf, then turns and allows the security team to LEAD him and Konmel AWAY. Worf delivers the little girl to her grateful mother.

TASHA
(continuing)
I thought for a minute we had a problem.

WORF
Oh?

TASHA
Yes. It looked like Korris was going to hold the little girl as a hostage.

WORF
That is not our way.

Worf looks down the corridor as the security team of six LEADS the Klingons OFF.

WORF
(continuing)
Cowards take hostages -- Klingons do not.

Tasha REACTS and FOLLOWS after the Security team.
The Klingons appear to be going along. None of the tension associated with someone about to make a break or do something violent.

The Klingons are placed in what serves as the Security Holding Area. A forcefield surrounds the door. Two guards are left outside.

The tension, which was missing after their capture, returns.

KORRIS
R'oiaro.

Konmel nods his agreement. It's clear these two haven't played all their cards.

Picard has his eye on the aft turbolift, as Worf emerges and goes to report to him.

PICARD
A Klingon vessel is due to arrive. They have requested return of the renegades.

WORF
They will be tried and executed, sir.

PICARD
Lieutenant Worf, understand that I am not unmindful of the mixed feelings you must have about this incident.

WORF
Thank you, sir.

Worf remains standing where he is. A long moment.
CONTINUED:

WORF
(continuing)
Are there no other options, sir?

PICARD
None that I can see.

Worf nods and goes to his station. Picard leans over to Riker.

RIKER
He seems to be handling it well, sir.

PICARD
So far. But he must be torn.
These are his people.

DATA
Sir, the Klingon vessel is within range. They are requesting visual contact.

PICARD
Open frequencies.

The Klingon captain APPEARS on the Main Viewscreen.

K'NERA
We are in position now to receive the criminals.

PICARD
We will prepare for transfer.

WORF
Captain -- permission to address the captain on the Klingon vessel.

Picard is surprised.

WORF
(continuing)
I know it is against standard procedure -- but there is something I must say.

PICARD
Permission granted.

Worf STEPS FORWARD.
87 CONTINUED: (2)

WORF
K'OMGI BIMOGUS.

K'NERA
G'ARMOND T'RIS.

WORF
Could we speak English, sir? I am not comfortable in Kling.

K'NERA
What is it you want?

WORF
To plead.

K'NERA
You waste your time. Their actions threaten the alliance. They disobeyed and must be punished.

WORF
Yes, they must be punished, but not executed with dishonor.

K'NERA
Why do you care?

WORF
What burns in their eyes -- fires my soul. I hear their words and I see it all as it was. Part of me longs for that time.

K'NERA
It's bred in the bone. We all do.

WORF
Then send them to a planet in the Halee system. Allow them to meet death on their feet with a weapon in their hand. Not tied and helpless.

K'Nera pauses a beat.

K'NERA
When one of us dies that way -- it diminishes all of us.
CONTINUED: (3)

WORF
Yes.

K'NERA
Brother -- I feel as you. I too wish they could fly free. But -- I have no choice.

Worf studies the screen for a beat.

WORF
(to K'Nera)
Sir.

He BACKS OFF.

K'NERA
We await the transfer.

Main Viewer GOES OFF.

PICARD
(onto Com)
Lieutenant Yar, escort the prisoners to the Transporter Room.

TASHA'S COM VOICE
Aye, sir.

INT. SECURITY AREA

Konmel and Korris construct a Klingon weapon. Each takes off his belt buckle. Korris twists them together. Then each removes the side panels from their boots. These too, fit together and form more of the weapon, which now begins to GLOW. Then Konmel removes the item he took off the dead Klingon. He turns it until it forms into a tube which he attaches to the other pieces and this becomes the barrel. The weapon takes shape. The bracelet which Korris takes from his wrist becomes the muzzle. Konmel's the stock.

ANGLE ON KORRIS

He holds the very deadly looking "phaser" and with a nod of his head, he indicates the forcefield.
ANGLE ON KONMEL (OPTICAL)

removes what looks like a very common button from his uniform, then leans down and carefully attaches it to the bottom of the forcefield. The field instantly IS NEUTRALIZED.

89 INT. CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE SECURITY AREA (OPTICAL)

The two security guards immediately realize the forcefield is down.

GUARD
(on communicator)
This is Ramos -- the forcefield in Security Three has...

He never finishes. Korris and Konmel COME BURSTING OUT the door. Korris FIRES at one guard. A PHASER FIGHT breaks out. Konmel and the two security guards are killed, as Korris ESCAPES.

ANOTHER ANGLE - OUTSIDE SECURITY AREA

Tasha and a team of security guards ARRIVE. She touches her communicator.

TASHA
Lieutenant Yar to bridge. There has been an escape. Two of my security are dead. So is Konmel. Korris is loose -- and armed.

90 thru OMITTED

92

93 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)

The crew REACTS.

PICARD
Keep me informed, Lieutenant.

TASHA'S COM VOICE
Aye, sir.

PICARD
Data, visual on K'Nera.

DATA
Visual on, sir.
CONTINUED:

PICARD
There will be a slight delay,
Captain. Korris has escaped.

K'NERA
He is a trained Klingon warrior,
perhaps more than you can handle.
It is no disgrace to request our assistance.

PICARD
I think we can handle the situation.

INT. MAIN ENGINEERING

Korris COMES BURSTING around the corner. Those on
duty REACT. Korris brandishes his weapon... They BACK
OFF, and he CONTINUES THROUGH -- past the Dilithium
Crystal Chamber. He PAUSES and looks around for a
position of advantage.

INT. MAIN ENGINEERING - ANOTHER ANGLE

Tasha and her team ENTER cautiously.

ANGLE ON KORRIS

He's found a ladder and is climbing to the second
level.

ANGLE ON TASHA

as she sizes up the situation.

TASHA
Captain. Korris is in Main
Engineering.

INT. MAIN ENGINEERING - ANOTHER SECTION

where Korris is barricaded. The phaser pointing
directly at the Di-Crystal Chamber.
CONTINUED:

PICARD'S COM VOICE
Commander Korris. This is a futile effort. You cannot win.

Korris does not respond, then:

KORRIS
I will speak only to my countryman -- only to Worf.

INT. MAIN BRIDGE

REACTIONS from Picard and Worf to this demand.

ANGLE ON TASHA

as she looks around to see where Korris is.

TASHA
Captain, he has a phaser aimed directly at the Dilithium Crystal Chamber. At that range, one blast and...

INT. MAIN BRIDGE

Everyone's uncertain as to what to do next.

PICARD
I understand, Lieutenant.

WORF
Permission to leave the bridge, Captain.

PICARD
We'll both go.

Worf and Picard LEAVE the bridge as the crew watches him.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR
FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)

ESTABLISHING.

INT. MAIN ENGINEERING

as Worf and Picard APPROACH. Tasha has contained the situation and cleared out all but her security force who have been strategically placed.

PICARD
What's the situation?

TASHA
He's on the second level. Armed with a phaser. We do not have a clear field of fire.

PICARD
How do you suggest we proceed?

TASHA
Wait him out.

WORF
Captain. May I speak with him?

TASHA
I don't think that's a good idea. Right now he's running on adrenalin. Let it cool. There's no place he can go.

WORF
He will wait only as long as he believes it is to his advantage, the moment it is not, he will fire his phaser into the Dilithium Crystal Chamber.

TASHA
That would destroy the Enterprise and him along with it.

WORF
Yes... he knows.
Picard is pensive for a beat.

**PICARD**
Talk to him, Worf.

Worf nods, and WALKS THROUGH Engineering toward the Di-Crystal Chamber.

---

**99A ANOTHER ANGLE**

As Worf moves up beside the Di-Crystal Chamber, he looks up and sees:

**99B ANGLE ON KORRIS**

He's perched on the second level. He has a clear field of fire. Before another could reach him, he could easily take out the Di-Crystal Chamber. He sees Worf.

**KORRIS**
Brother -- I knew you would come.

---

**99C ANGLE ON WORF**

He glances over to the ladder and walks toward it. Korris continues to talk.

**KORRIS**
Now I... we have a chance.

---

**99D ANGLE ON KORRIS**

He relaxes slightly because now has has an ally.

**KORRIS**
I could not do it alone, but I would rather die here, than let the traitors of Kling pick the meat from my bones. With you it will work.

**WORF**
What will work?
as Worf nears the top of the ladder and swings onto the catwalk.

KORRIS
I will demand Captain Picard give us access to the Battle Bridge. We will separate from the rest of the ship, and together, we will light up the galaxy. Imagine the fear which will roll before us.

WORF
Captain Picard will not comply.

KORRIS
He cannot -- dare not -- refuse us. In order to save themselves, they will give us what we demand -- then, brother, we are free.

WORF
Put down the phaser.

Korris is surprised.

KORRIS
Wait. I do not believe this.

WORF
Believe it.

KORRIS
I have tasted your heart. You have been with them, but you are still "of" us. Do not deny the challenge of your destiny. Get off your knees and soar. Open your eyes and let the dream take flight.

WORF
My brother, it is you who does not see. You are looking for battles in the wrong place. The test of the warrior is not without -- it is within.

Worf touches his chest.
WORF
(continuing)
Here we meet the challenge. It is the weaknesses in here the warrior must overcome.

KORRIS
No.

WORF
You have talked of glory -- and conquest -- and legends we will write.

KORRIS
Yes -- the birthright of every Klingon.

WORF
Yet in all you say, where are the words -- duty -- honor -- loyalty. Without which a warrior is nothing.

KORRIS
What are you saying?

WORF
Put down the phaser.

Korris ignores the command -- as he continues to rail at Worf.

KORRIS
Living among these humans has sucked the Klingon heart out of you. You are a sham. My words were dust upon the ground. Your blood has no fire -- you are weak -- like them. I don't care what you look like -- you are no Klingon.

WORF
Perhaps not.

And without warning -- he BLASTS Korris. The phaser is set on kill.

KORRIS

101 ANGLE ON KORRIS

as he FALLS.
101A ANGLE ON WORF
He REACTS.

102 INT. MAIN ENGINEERING - PICARD, TASHA, SECURITY TEAM
Tasha and the others START TO MOVE FORWARD.

PICARD
Wait.

The security team FREEZES.

103 ANGLE ON WORF
He steps over to Korris, leans down and takes the dying Klingon's head in his hands and with his thumbs pricks open the eyes. For a long moment he stares into them.

104 PICARD AND TASHA
as they watch the ritual.

105 ANGLE ON WORF
After a beat, he leans back his head and ROARS a warning to those who have gone before. A Klingon warrior is coming -- beware.

106 ANGLE ON PICARD
OFF his REACTION.

107 OMITTED

108 INT. MAIN BRIDGE (OPTICAL)
Picard and Worf EXIT the turbolift. As Picard takes his Command Chair:

PICARD
Open hailing frequencies.

GEORDI
Hailing frequencies open.
Continued:

PICARD
Commander K'Nera, this is Captain Picard.

The image of the Klingon Commander COMES ON the Viewscreen.

K'NERA
Yes, Captain.

PICARD
Korris and the other Klingon are dead.

K'NERA
May I speak with Lieutenant Worf?

Picard motions for Worf to step forward.

WORF
Yes, Commander.

K'NERA
How did they die?

WORF
They died well.

K'Nera nods.

PICARD
Do you wish the bodies?

K'NERA
They are now only empty shells - dispose of them as you see fit.
(to Worf)
Worf, when your tour of duty on the Enterprise is complete -- consider serving with us. Your training and experience would be of benefit to us -- and perhaps there are some things we could teach you.

WORF
I will consider it. Thank you.

K'Nera nods and CLICKS OFF.
109 ANGLE ON PICARD

He reacts with mild surprise at Worf's statement and looks over at Tasha, who is also surprised.

110 CLOSE ON WORF

Worf pauses for a beat, then replaces the crewman at a Forward Position. As he sits, Worf senses the tension, and hears the SILENCE. He slowly turns and looks back at them.

111 FULL SHOT

Picard, Riker -- and the rest wait for some explanation.

   WORF
   (to Picard)
   I was just being polite, sir.

   PICARD
   Commendable, Lieutenant. Mister La Forge, set course for Starbase Eight-four.

Geordi taps in the information.

   WORF
   Really... I have no desire to leave the Enterprise.

They continue to just look at him.

   PICARD
   Good.

Worf turns back to his console.

   GEORDI
   Course set.

   PICARD
   Speed -- warp five.

   GEORDI
   Warp five.

   PICARD
   ... And Worf.

Worf turns and looks at Picard.
111 CONTINUED:

PICARD
(continuing)
The bridge wouldn't be the same
without you.

A look between Worf and the others, who are in complete
agreement.

PICARD
Engage.

A very satisfied Worf turns back to his console as
Geordi engages the warp drive. Picard settles back
with a smile, as do all the others.

112 EXT. SPACE - THE ENTERPRISE (OPTICAL)
as the great ship MOVES OFF.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END