
DEEP SPACE NINE - "A Second Opinion"

By Brad McDonald

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

(NOTE: Episode credits fall over opening scenes)

INT. KLINGON KIOSK

Continuous action from the Teaser. There is a lot of backslapping and handshaking going on. It is obvious that the two are very close and haven't seen each other in a long time. Garek looks on with interest.

BASHIR

(smiling broadly)

I can't believe you're here!
Why did you --

Garek clears his throat as a means of reminding Bashir of his presence. Bashir realizes his error and corrects the oversight, somewhat embarrassed.

BASHIR

Excuse me. Father, this is Garek, an old friend and dining partner.

Albert moves closer to shake Garek's hand, smiling.

ALBERT

(smiling, pleasant)

Nice to meet you, Garek. I've heard a lot about you.

Garek is surprised by the comment but pleased.

GAREK

Well, I'm afraid you have me at a distinct disadvantage. I don't believe Julian has talked much about his family.

(beat)

Nice to meet you. Would you care to join us?

Albert accepts, graciously and takes a seat.

THREE SHOT - ALBERT, BASHIR AND GAREK

There's an awkward moment of silence, then Albert talks.

ALBERT

(tentative)

I hope I'm not disturbing your lunch...

GAREK

Not at all. Would you care to join us? We were just discussing one of our favorite subjects, Cardassian literature.

Both Julian and Albert smile at Garek's suggestion.

ALBERT

I'll pass on the Klingon food. As for the subject matter, which era were you talking about, ancient or modern? It makes a difference.

Garek is surprised by the comment, Julian is enjoying the conversation, but staying out of it.

GAREK

Modern, of course.

ON ALBERT

Albert is obviously disappointed and shakes his head.

ALBERT

That's too bad. The modern works can't hold a candle to the ancient ones. Before the state began to influence Cardassian literature, there were some genuine masters who rivaled Earth's Homer, Shakespeare and others. Cardassia should mourn the loss of their greats, like Tagget, Lon, Vegrik and others...

THREE SHOT - AS BEFORE

Garek is about to argue when Bashir cuts him off.

BASHIR

Don't bother, Garek. He's a full Professor of literature at Oxford. There's no way you can debate him, successfully.

Garek concedes, reluctantly but with a smile. Sensing that the two need to be alone, he excuses himself.

GAREK

(rising)

Well. I must get back to the shop.

(to Albert)

Nice to meet you, Professor. I look forward to our next meeting.

Bashir and his father watch as Garek walks off quickly.

ALBERT

I half expected you to be in the company of a lovely young lady...

BASHIR

(embarrassed)

Well, my lunch with Garek is a tradition. I think I'm the only real friend he has...

Albert understands and is proud of his son's position.

ALBERT

Cardassians still aren't very... popular, are they? I'm glad Garek has you for a friend.

Bashir is embarrassed again, he changes the subject.

BASHIR

Why have you come so far? Why didn't you call first?

ALBERT

I wanted the visit to be a surprise. Besides, subspace communications are too impersonal, sometimes it's better, face to face, agreed?

He smiles at his father's reasoning and nods in agreement.

CUT TO:

OPS - WIDE ANGLE

Sisko is watching the daily routine when Odo enters and approaches.

ODO

(moving)

Captain, I have something for you.

SISKO

Constable? I take it by your manner it's not good news.

ODO

Unfortunately, you're right.

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND ODO

ODO

(continuing)

Fernal Redik has just arrived on the station.

It's obvious that Sisko recognizes the name, but he's still lost.

SISKO

The name's familiar, but...

ODO

He's supposed to be a professional ore dealer and prospector, but his trade could best be described as a 'professional trouble maker'.

SISKO

(realizing)

Isn't he the one you told me about? Several fights, assaults and such.

ON ODO

ODO

(exasperated)

The same. I wanted to put him away but could never get anyone to press charges. It's the same way elsewhere. Most authorities are happy just to see him go.

(beat, distant)

I believe he was involved in the death of a Bajoran citizen. But it was during the occupation and they didn't care about the death of a Bajoran. In fact, the Cardassians wanted him to check out Bajor for potential mineral resources.

ON SISKO

Sisko nods in understanding.

SISKO

They turned a blind eye to further their own interests.

(beat, thoughtfully)

Is there any reason he should stay on the station?

ODO (V.O.)

(o.c.)

The Bajorans want him to conduct a survey on their natural satellites.

SISKO

Then let's make sure he gets there at the earliest opportunity. When it leaves, put him back on the ship and give him a warning not to come back.

(beat, smiling)

Is that what you had in mind?

TWO SHOT - SISKO AND ODO

The changeling seems happy with the recommendation.

ODO

That's why I like working with you, Captain. We think so much alike. He will be gone as soon as possible.

Odo hurries off and Kira makes an appearance.

KIRA

(happily)

Did you hear about our visitor?

SISKO

Sure did. Odo is getting ready to throw him off the station.

Kira is very surprised.

KIRA

He's going to do what?

Sisko is surprised by her reaction.

SISKO

(matter-of-factly)

Odo is going to have him removed from the station, why?

KIRA

As a joke or don't you like family members to visit the station?

Now Sisko is confused.

SISKO

Fernal Redik has family members on this station?

KIRA

(confused)

Redik, the troublemaker? What's he got to do with it? I was talking about Julian's father.

OPS - WIDE ANGLE

Just as the two sort out the misunderstanding, Bashir walks in with his father. Bashir seeks out Sisko and hurries over to see him.

BASHIR

(smiling)

Captain, I'd like you to meet my father, Albert.

Sisko and Kira exchange looks and Sisko makes the connection.

SISKO

(smiling)

Happy to meet you, Albert. May I introduce my First Officer, Major Kira Nerys.

Albert is very friendly and greets Kira with enthusiasm

ALBERT

Very nice to meet you, Major.

(beat)

Somehow it doesn't seem right to address such a pretty lady by a military rank.

Kira is a bit uncomfortable with the statement, but Albert isn't finished and he redeems himself in her eyes.

ALBERT

Still, from what Julian tells me, you're one of the most capable officers in the Bajoran military.

Kira gives Bashir an eye. Bashir is now embarrassed. Dax, O'Brien and Worf have moved closer to the group, interested by the informal gathering. Sisko sees them and begins introductions.

SISKO

Allow me to introduce the rest of my senior officers. Dax, our science officer.

Dax nods to the older Bashir and smiles.

DAX

Pleased to meet you. Now we know where Julian gets his good looks.

Julian is again embarrassed by the comment. Albert sees this and makes a comeback.

ALBERT
(smiling)

Perhaps, but fortunately he got his mother's intelligence.

The group shares a laugh, then Sisko continues

SISKO

This is Miles O'Brien, chief of operations.

O'Brien shakes hands with the elder Bashir and smiles.

O'BRIEN

Pleasure to meet you, sir. If you'd like it, I could arrange a tour of the station...

ALBERT
(enthusiastic)

I'd like that. Maybe after Julian and I catch up on things...

As Albert's voice trails off, Sisko finishes.

SISKO

And this is Lieutenant Commander Worf.

Albert studies Worf for just a moment then speaks.

ALBERT
(in Klingon)

Greetings, honorable warrior.

WORF
(in Klingon)

Welcome, honorable elder.

Worf seems pleased with Albert's use of Klingonese and as the others wonder what has been said, Bashir speaks.

BASHIR

Well, you're all invited to an informal get together, tonight.

KIRA
(excited)

Where will it be?

BASHIR

I'm still working on the details, but I'll let you know.

DAX
(smiling)

I can't wait. At last we will get the inside story on Julian. I often wondered what he was like as a child.

ON ALBERT

Sensing an opportunity to relate a story about his son, he launches into a tale.

ALBERT

You mean like the time I forced him to take tennis lessons?

(beat)

He was terribly undisciplined back then, I thought the lessons would force him to focus on his goals.

(beat)

I told him, he couldn't quit until he could beat me.

AS BEFORE - WIDE ANGLE

Dax is watching Bashir closely. Rather than looking embarrassed, he seems proud of his father.

KIRA
(interested)

So, did he ever beat you?

ALBERT
(smiling, proud)

I'll say! After only a year of lessons, he was unbeatable.

(beat)

By then he was totally involved in the game, very competitive!

SISKO
(smiling)

And that was your idea of a punishment?

ALBERT

No, not really. But it sure did work. I could hardly separate him from his racquet afterwards.

O'BRIEN

So why didn't he pursue a professional career. I can't get a straight answer from him.

Albert sighs heavily and stares off into space.

ALBERT

Neither can I.

CUT TO:

MAIN PROMENADE - GENERAL MERCHANDISE KIOSK

Odo is searching for someone and finds him in the small kiosk, full of general merchandise. It's Redik, and seems to be engaged in business. Odo goes directly to him for a confrontation, the owner remains in the B.G.

ODO

Redik! I've been looking for you.

Redik is startled by Odo's presence. He looks nervous and guilty. He tries to cover.

REDIK
(mocking)

Why Odo, two visits in one day. You must really care.

Odo is not amused

ODO
(stern)

I suppose you didn't know I have been looking for you for the past hour.

REDIK
(sarcastic)

I had some shopping to do.

Odo looks around the small shop and notices the closest item is a child's toy and points to it.

ODO
(sarcastic)

Aren't you just a little old?

REDIK

For my, 'niece'

Odo doesn't believe it for a minute and it shows.

ODO

Since you've finished shopping... Be prepared to

take your original ship off this station. The Blue Horizon will be leaving tomorrow. You will be on it.

Redik starts to protest, but Odo cuts him off.

REDIK

But I'm not finished --

ODO

You will be finished on this station, tomorrow. Captain Sisko's orders. If not, I can arrange permanent quarters, in my brig.

Redik is defensive and regards Odo with contempt, but he knows better to argue the point.

REDIK

(resigned)

All right. When does the Blue Horizon leave?

ODO

Sixteen hundred. You be there or I'll come looking for you again, and this time I won't be 'nice'.

Odo's expression shows he means business.

Off Odo's expression...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

THE END

Science Report

By Elaine Pischke

Global warming is a fact. The average temperature of the Earth has risen 1 degree Fahrenheit in the past 100 years. Whether this is the result of human activity or part of a natural cycle is debatable, but most scientists are confident that people are responsible for some, if not most, of the change in climate. It is almost certain that, if we do not halt the trend, we are in for some rather unpleasant consequences in the coming decades.

It is also clear that the burning of fossil fuels and the resulting greenhouse gases appear to be a huge factor in this global warming trend. So, what can we do? Even if there were no environmental consequences, most of us should be motivated by the skyrocketing cost of gasoline to try to cut back. We all know by now that we should make our next vehicle something more gas efficient, try to consolidate our errands so we don't drive as much, keep tires properly inflated, etc. But did you know that you can actually save gas by avoiding left turns? This is something I have done for years just because of the hassle of

taking left turns. But UPS has discovered that by re-routing their trucks to avoid left turns whenever possible, they have actually saved a substantial amount on their fleet fuel consumption. The same could work for you (on a much smaller scale, of course, but these things add up). The reason, of course, is less time idling and waiting for the light or traffic to be favorable.

So, what about biofuels? Minnesota, Wisconsin, Montana and Hawaii have all mandated that all fuels be blended with 10% denatured ethanol. Use of ethanol can cut emissions of cancer-causing benzene and butadiene by more than 50% (US EPA), it poses no threat to surface water or ground water, rapidly biodegrades, makes no noticeable difference in vehicle performance, reduces dependence on foreign oil, and reduces carbon monoxide emissions, so what's not to love? Well, according to Time magazine, plenty. It appears that places like Brazil cannot raise rain forests fast enough to accommodate the demand for biofuels. The diversion of food crops to biofuel production has helped to drive food prices up globally 45% in the last nine months. That's a pain in the wallet for us, but life-or-death in some parts of the world. And while biofuels burn cleaner than fossil fuels, the production is hardly a 'clean' process, and the net result may actually be more pollution in the air. So, what's my point? I'm not sure. But I don't think biofuels are the answer, despite what the president of Brazil or farmers in Iowa might want us to believe.

U.S.S. Bonaventure Anniversary Party details

This is our mother ship and it would be nice if as many of us can make could join the party. It's a covered dish & cookout. [Ed. note -- contact J.R. with any questions about the party.]

Gibson Park, shelter #2
5207 West Wendover Ave
High Point, NC 27265

Upcoming Events

May	3	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home
Jun	7	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home
	14	2-6 p.m. <i>U.S.S. Bonaventure</i> Anniversary Party, High Point (see page 8 for details)

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR STARFLEET STATUS

THE WRIGHT STUFF
U.S.S. KITTY HAWK
P.O. BOX 52112
RALEIGH NC 27612-2112