

## ***Deep Space 2 Newsflash December 2025***

### **Introduction**

The DS2 Newsflash is meant to inform the crew about what happened last month, what is going to happen, and what is planned for the near future. The DS2 Newsflash in PDF Format for Acrobat Reader, often contains pictures, while the text version does not. You can read and download this DS2 Newsflash in PDF Format with this direct link:

<http://arthurvanrhee.be/ds2archieff/flash1225.pdf>

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## **1. A word from the DS2 CO**

Hi all,

Deep Space 2 members went to:

Razor Reel Flanders Film Festival  
October 23 October - November 1, 2025  
Sint-Lodewijkscollege, Magdalenastraat 30, 8200 Sint-Andries (Brugge)  
<https://www.razorreel.com/>

F.A.C.T.S.  
November 1-2, 2025  
Flanders Expo, Maaltekouter 1, 9051 Gent, Belgium  
<https://www.facts.be/en/>

Guests:

Andrew Scott, Mary Mouser, Tanner Buchanan, Simon Pegg, Andy Lanning, Steve Leialoha, John McCrea, Paco Rodriguez, Matt Banning, Adam Gorham, Javier, Fernandez, Jorge Fornés, Francis Portela, Alba Glez, Alex Sierra

You can find pictures in this Deep Space 2 Newsflash and on the deep space 2 website ([www.ds2.be](http://www.ds2.be)).

Enjoy!

Arthur

## **\*UFP News\***

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UFP on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mikeferg1>  
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**\*\*\*Star Trek Online Screenshots (Pictures PDF Version only)\*\*\***

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**Star Trek Online: Unleashed**

**Latest episode: Best Laid Plans**



Star Trek Online:

The year is 2409. Over a century has passed since the events of Star Trek: Discovery and thirty years since the events of Star Trek: Nemesis. The Romulan Empire has fractured after the destruction of their homeworld; covert meddling by the Undine and Iconians has forced the Federation and Klingon Empire into war with each other once again; and remnants of the Cassian military and Alpha Strain Jem'Hadar disrupt the peace near Deep Space Nine. The galaxy is in turmoil and it's up to you and your crew to save it!

For more info on Star Trek Online (free to play):

<https://www.playstartrekonline.com/>

## **2. Announcements**

There can be some changes to the guestlists and some guests only come on a particular day during the convention. Please visit the websites for the latest news.

### **Comic Con Dortmund**

December 6-7, 2025

Messe Dortmund, Rheinlanddamm 200, 44139 Dortmund, Germany

<https://germanfilmcomiccon.com/>

Guests:

Eric Winter, Melissa O'Neil, David Arquette, John Stamos, Gavin Casalegno, Denise Richards, Dominic Sherwood, Katherine McNamara, Richard Armitage, Jonathan Hyde, John Hannah, Bailee Madison, Rose McGowan, Joseph Mazillo, Dave Coulier, Manu Bennett, Charles Wright, Fred Ottman, Bushwhacker Luke, Sylvester McCoy, Addy Miller, Drew Fuller, Holly Marie Combs, Brian Krause, Kristanna Loken, Adam Bomb, Temuera Morrison, Erin Gray, Alex Wright, Erwin Leder, Ralf Richter, Heinz Hoenig, Martin May, Ilja Richter

### **Fanexpo New Orleans**

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, United States

January 9-11, 2026

<https://fanexpohq.com/fanexponeuorleans/>

Guests:

Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Dominic Monaghan, Billy Boyd, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Helen Hunt, Cedric Yarbrough, Thomas Lennon, Ernie Reyes JR., Judith Hoag, Francois Chau, Kenn Scott, Brian Tochi, Mike Colter, Robbie Rist, Alessandro Juliani, Josh Holloway, and many more

### **Fanexpo Portland**

Oregon Convention Center, Oregon, United States

January 16-18, 2026

<https://fanexpohq.com/fanexpoportland/>

Guests:

Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Dominic Monaghan, Billy Boyd, Jonathan Frakes, Cedric Yarbrough, Thomas Lennon, Mike Colter, Judith Hoag, Brian Tochi, Ernie Reyes JR., Judith Hoag, Francois Chau, Kenn Scott, Robbie Rist, and many more

### **Fanexpo Vancouver**

Vancouver Convention Center – West Building, 1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 0C3, Canada

February 14-16, 2026

<https://fanexpohq.com/fanexpovancouver/>

Guests:

Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Dominic Monaghan, Billy Boyd, Ron Perlman, and many more

### **Comic Con, London, Spring**

February 28 – March 1, 2026

[Olympia](https://www.showmastersevents.com/event/london-comic-con-spring-5/), Hammersmith Road, London, London W14 8UX, UK

<https://www.showmastersevents.com/event/london-comic-con-spring-5/>

Guests:

TBA

FedCon

Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany

May 22-24, 2026

<https://www.fedcon.de/>

Guests:

Jess Bush, Melissa Navia, Martin Quinn, Tim Russ, Christina Chong, MTBA

Comic Con London

ExCeL London, Royal Victoria Dock, 1 Western Gateway, Royal Docks, London E16 1XL, UK

May 22-24, 2026

<https://www.mcmcomiccon.com/london>

Guests:

TBA

Discworld Convention

The Discworld Convention is a gathering for fans of Sir Terry Pratchett and his Discworld series. It usually happens in the UK once every two years. This is an event organised by fans, for fans. Any profit the event makes is donated to our nominated charities.

August 7-10, 2026

[Leonardo Hotel, Hinckley Island, in Leicestershire, UK](#)

<https://www.dwcon.org/>

Guests:

Andrew Baker, Stephen Briggs, Marc Burrows, Diane Duane, Jan Harkin, Pat Harkin, Gabrielle Kent, Phil Masters, Joe McLaren, Colin Smythe, Ian Stewart, David Lloyd, Madam Misfit

Lacon V (Worldcon 84)

August 27-31, 2026

The Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI) Inc. 16835 Lahey Street, Granada Hills, California 91344 USA

<https://www.lacon.org/>

Guests:

Barbara Hambly, Ronald D. Moore, Colleen Doran, Dr. Anita Sengupta, Tim Kirk, Geri Sullivan, Stan Sakai, Ursula Vernon



**Conventions organised by Creation Entertainment (Mostly US/CAN/UK)**

<https://www.creationent.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CreationEntertainment>

Not all guests are appearing during the entire convention.  
Check website for guest day of appearance.

The Road So Far...

The Road Ahead

Creation Tour

January 16-18, 2026

Rio Las Vegas Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

Jensen Ackles, Misha Collins, Mark Sheppard, Alexander Calvert, Richard Speight JR., Rob Benedict, , Felicia Day, Ruth Connell, Alaina Huffman, Kim Rhodes, Briana Buckmaster, Samantha Smith, Jake Abel, DJ Qualls, David Haydn-Jones, Matt Cohen, Emily Swallow, Jason Manns, Emmanuelle Vaugier, Jessica Camacho

The Road So Far...

The Road Ahead

Creation Tour

January 30 – February 1, 2026

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel, Norfolk, VA

Jensen Ackles, Jared Padalecki, Misha Collins, Mark Sheppard, Ruth Connell, Richard Speight JR., Rob Benedict, Kim Rhodes, Briana Buckmaster, DJ Qualls, David Haydn-Jones, Jake Abel, Jason Manns

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**\*\*\* Convention/Exhibition/Festival Report \*\*\***

Razor Reel Flanders Film Festival

October 23 October - November 1, 2025

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Pictures have been uploaded on the Deep Space 2 website:

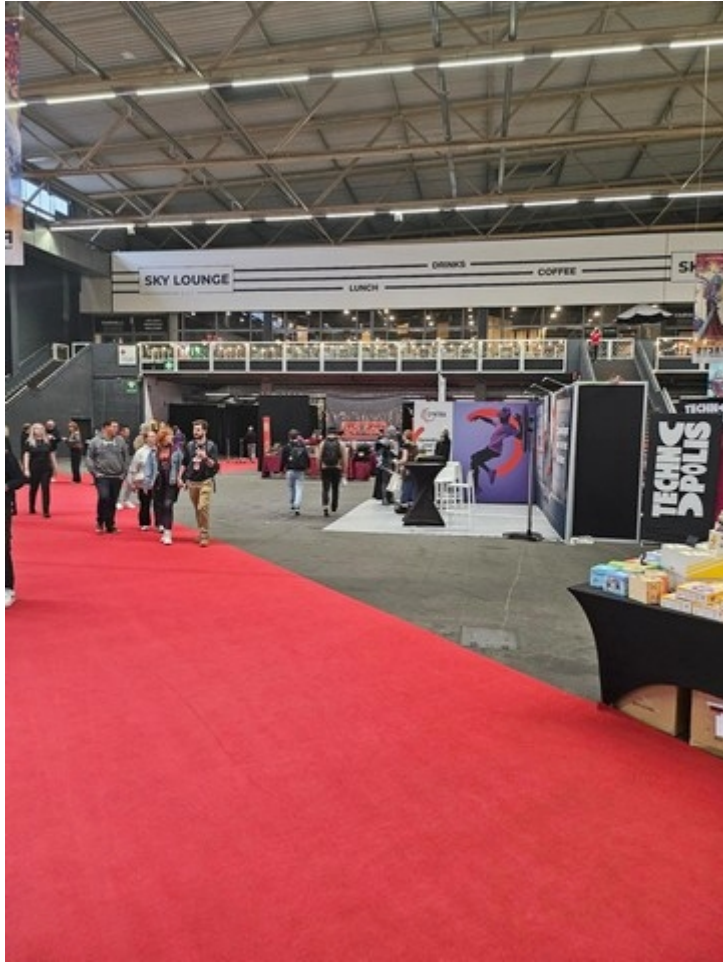
<http://ds2pics.blogspot.be/>

Deep Space 2 members attended to the FACTS Fall 2025 Convention. Some went on Saturday, some went on Sunday, some went the entire weekend. And some even had an early bird ticket, which are like VIP tickets. Entry is an hour before opening, priority at food stands, restrooms, etc. An early bird ticket costs more, but is recommended if you don't want to wait.



F.A.C.T.S. is the biggest science fiction, fantasy, anime & comics convention in the Benelux.

- a crowd favorite: the cosplay competition
- the game zone with a/o Game Mania, Nintendo, PS4, Ubisoft, Marvel, retro gaming, pinball machines, and much more
- there were large screen screenings, Q&A sessions, chill out zones, grime sessions, and so much more
- artists workshops, cosplay workshops, tech workshops



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### **3. Community Service**

The Charity Link on the DS2 Blog will change every first of every month. The October 2025 Charity Link on the DS2 Blog is: OXFAM

<https://www.oxfam.be/>

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From <http://www.wwf.org>

(World Wildlife Fund)

Tropical forests explained: What's at stake and what we can do

When you sip a cup of [coffee](#) or use a [rubber band](#), you're benefiting from tropical forests. These lush

ecosystems provide countless products we rely on daily — from food to materials like wood and paper. But tropical forests do far more than stock our shelves: they store vast amounts of carbon, regulate rainfall, and shelter most of the planet's land-based wildlife. Despite their importance, these forests are disappearing fast. With just five years left to meet global promises to end deforestation by 2030, the question is urgent: can we protect the forests that sustain our lives before it's too late?

Read more:

<https://www.panda.org/?15086466/Tropical-forests-explained-Whats-at-stake-and-what-we-can-do>

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#### **4. DS2 Monthly Chapter Report**

Deep Space 2 Monthly Chapter Report November 2025

UNITED FEDERATED PLANETS

CHAPTER REPORTING FORM

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF:  
November 2025

CHAPTER NAME:  
Deep Space 2  
UFP Chapter Charter: September 1997

CHAPTER PRESIDENT:  
Arthur van Rhee

CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT:  
Jan Theys

TYPE OF CHAPTER (ENTER BELOW):  
ENTER TYPE OF CHAPTER HERE:  
STARFLEET COMMAND

IF ALIEN FLEET, WHICH RACE:  
N/A

NEWSLETTER NAME:  
Deep Space 2 Newsflash (produced monthly)

CHAPTER MAILING ADDRESS:  
Deep Space 2  
Tessengerloseweg 149  
2431 Laakdal  
Belgium



E-MAIL ADDRESS:

contact@ds2.be

WEB SITE:

Deep Space 2

<http://www.ds2.be>

Deep Space 2 Marines

<http://marines.ds2.be>

NEW MEMBERS OF CHAPTER:

Curently 27 members

PROMOTIONS/AWARDS

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:

\* DEEP SPACE 2 BLOG

<http://ds2blog.ds2.be>

\* Conventions/Exhibitions/Festivals

Deep Space 2 members went to:

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Reports and pictures can be found in the Deep Space 2 Newsflash and on the DS2 website ([www.ds2.be](http://www.ds2.be))

\* DS2 CHARITY

Regular charity is done by donations, writing letters, going to the people and asking to sign petitions. The main DS2 charity projects are World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders.

Every month there is a new "charity link" posted on the DS2 Website.

\* DS2 SETI PROJECT

Since March 1, 1999

[http://setiweb.ssl.berkeley.edu/team\\_display.php?teamid=41642](http://setiweb.ssl.berkeley.edu/team_display.php?teamid=41642)

SETI BOINC Credits:

These are last month's results:

Total credit: 17,505,526

Recent average credit: N/A

SETI@home: SETI@home hibernation

On March 31 2020, the volunteer computing part of SETI@home has stopped distributing work and has gone into hibernation.

\* DS2 RPG

The Deep Space 2 RPG has entered it's 328th chapter.

\* DS2 NEWSLETTER

\* The Deep Space 2 Monthly Newsflash has been distributed among the DS2 crew.

\*DS2 STORY

\* The Deep Space 2 Story : Will continue in December 2025 (Page 345)

<http://ds2story.ds2.be>

\* DS2 Trivia

DS2 has set up a trivia about Star Trek.

<http://ds2quiz.ds2.be>

Every month there is a new Trivia competition.

Every day there are new questions. Daily scores are cumulated.

OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

Promotion:

ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS:

ANY SUGGESTIONS:

ANY UFP AWARDS REQUESTED FOR SPECIFIC CHAPTER MEMBERS:

SIGNATURE OF CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

Arthur van Rhee



arthur.van.rhee@telenet.be  
sky94962@yahoo.com  
December 1, 2025

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## **SETI@home News**

### **SETI@home: SETI@home hibernation**

On March 31 2020, the volunteer computing part of SETI@home has stoppped distributing work and has gone into hibernation.

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## **5. Birthdays**

Johan Michielsens: December 16

Geert Van Nieuwenhove: December 20

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## **6. DS2 Quiz**

*Deep Space 2 Trivia Quiz December 2025*

Array 1

1. In which episode Quark is shot and Rom admits to Odo that he and Quark had just retrieved a list of Bajoran names ?

- A( ) Cardassians (DS9)
- B( ) Shadowplay (DS9)
- C( ) Necessary Evil (DS9)

2. What is the name of the commander of the starship Thomas Paine ?

A( ) Captain Rizzo

B( ) Captain Rixx

C( ) Captain Rivan

("Conspiracy") TNG

### 3. Who was Gowron's arbiter of succession ?

A( ) Worf

B( ) Picard

C( ) Duras

("Redemption") TNG

4. What is the name of the major center for science and technology in the 24th century ?

A( ) Daystrom Institute

B( ) Estragon Institute

C( ) Institute for Technological Sciences

("The Measure of a Man") TNG

5. What was the name of the actor who played Daimon Bok ?

A( ) Corey Allan

B( ) Joy Garrett

C( ) Lee Arenberg

("Blood Lines") TNG

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#### ANSWERS

- 1.C
- 2.B
- 3.B
- 4.A
- 5.C

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### **7. DS2 Story and RPG Monthly Status Report**

## **DS2 Story**

*Current Episode: New Technology*

## **The Continuing Story of Deep Space 2: Page 345**

USS Oregon Mission Log – Captain Kira Sato

Stardate 66150.2

Location: Cornia Nebula – Central Core Region, Sector XR-12

Status: Investigating artificial structure (“The Silent Ring”)

Chapter: The Ring and the Resonance

The USS Oregon has maintained station-keeping around the Silent Ring for thirty-two hours. During that time, we have conducted every non-invasive analysis available to Federation science — particle density mapping, gravimetric flux readings, and multi-spectrum pulse scans.

Each time, the result is the same: the structure is not dead, merely dormant.

Lieutenant Commander Marcus Turner likened it to “a sleeping machine.” The metallic ring absorbs nearly all electromagnetic energy directed at it, re-emitting only faint subspace ripples — the same modulated signal that first drew us here.

The decision was made to deploy a Mark-VIII autonomous reconnaissance probe, designated Ariel-1, to make a close approach.

Science Deck Log – Lt. Commander Turner & Lt. Mei Lin

Turner: “Telemetry stable. Ariel-1 has entered the outer magnetic shell of the structure.”

Lin: "I'm picking up faint harmonics from the inner surface — almost as if it's resonating in response to our probe's thruster emissions."

Turner: "That's impossible. It's reading our impulse signature?"

Lin: "Not reading — mirroring. Every frequency we emit is returned inverted."

At 0914 hours, Ariel-1 moved to within 500 meters of the inner circumference. As it began its sensor sweep, the ring responded.

A pulse.

A gentle, controlled wave of energy radiated outward, rippling through the nebula like a stone dropped in calm water. It wasn't hostile — but it was deliberate. The probe's sensors recorded a cascade of encoded data, transmitted in a compression pattern unseen in any known Federation or alien technology.

For approximately six minutes, the Silent Ring spoke.

Then, it went silent again.

Bridge – 0930 hours

Ramirez: "We're decoding the pulse. It's not language, not exactly... more like stored data compressed into fractal sequences."

George Turner: "Can you extract meaning?"

Ramirez: "I can translate the first layer. It's a timestamp... and a warning beacon."

Sato: "A warning of what?"

Ramirez: "The pulse identifies an impending stellar event. A supernova signature — but the coordinates are far beyond the nebula."

Lin: "Captain... those coordinates point to the Funore system."

The bridge fell silent. Weeks earlier, Deep Space 2 had coordinated a delicate operation with the Funore species to prevent their star from going supernova. Had the ring known about it? Or worse, was it connected to it?

Medical Bay – 1015 hours

Dr. Jane West has continued to monitor Lt. Maya Kaur's unusual bio-energy patterns. Since the ring activated, those readings have intensified. Neural scans show bursts of synchronized theta activity, corresponding exactly to the ring's energy pulse duration.

Dr. West:

"It's as if she's linked to the structure. Every time it emits a pulse, her neural resonance follows suit — not involuntarily, but almost... harmoniously."

Kaur herself reports vivid impressions — not hallucinations, but images: vast corridors of light, and a sense of "many minds intertwined, whispering."

Sato ordered her temporarily relieved of duty for observation, though Kaur protested.

"Captain, I don't think it's harming me," she insisted. "It feels like the ring is remembering through me."

Dr. West later discovered trace residuals of the viral exposure from planet F-33 within Kaur's blood — inactive, harmless, but reacting subtly to the energy emissions from the ring.

Could the F-33 virus have been engineered — or altered — to interact with technology of this kind?

#### Science Lab – Later That Evening

The decryption continued. Lt. Ramirez, with assistance from Commander Turner, discovered that the data pulse was part of a repeating sequence. Every 4.3 hours, a new layer began transmitting from within the ring — like pages of a story unfolding.

The current layer displayed patterns resembling spatial coordinates spread across multiple dimensions — a kind of star map, but far more complex. Some points corresponded to known systems; others led deep into uncharted space beyond Federation reach.

Lt. Lin theorized the ring was one of many — part of a network, scattered across galaxies, monitoring or recording cosmic events over millennia.

Lin: "If that's true, this could be the work of a civilization millions of years old. Perhaps even predating the first warp civilizations in the Alpha Quadrant."

#### Captain's Log – 2300 hours

I've consulted with Admiral Arthur via long-range encrypted channel. His response was measured but clear:

"Continue the investigation, but under no circumstances attempt to activate or tamper with the ring's inner systems. Observation only."

Admiral Arthur suspects the structure might hold ancient importance — perhaps even connected to the origins of subspace communication itself.

But my concerns lie closer to home — to Lieutenant Kaur.

Dr. West reports that Kaur's neural activity spikes precisely every time the ring emits a low-energy wave, even when she's asleep. When the ring fell dormant again at 1920 hours, the connection ceased instantly.

Coincidence? I no longer believe in coincidences.

I can't shake the feeling that the virus from planet F-33 wasn't a random biological event, but a trigger — perhaps designed to attune certain lifeforms to these ancient devices.

If that's true, we may be dealing with technology so old and so advanced that it manipulates biology as effortlessly as it does energy.

#### Last Entry – 2358 hours

As I record this, the ship drifts silently against the glow of the nebula. The Silent Ring remains unmoving, majestic, and enigmatic.

Lt. Kaur is resting in the medical bay. Dr. West assures me she's stable. Yet as I pass the observation window, I swear I see the faintest shimmer of golden light beneath her skin — the same hue as the ring's inner glow.

And then the ring pulses again.

A second wave, stronger than before.

Every console on the bridge flickers, and the Oregon's long-range sensors detect something impossible: another signal, identical in structure — this one coming from far beyond the nebula, deep in the void.

A second ring.

And it's... responding.

End Log

USS Oregon – Continuing Mission

Next Objective: Investigate secondary signal origin – beyond Federation space.

## **DS2 RPG General Status Report November 2025**

### USS Earth/Starbase 44

Aboard the USS Runner, Captain Djavis

#### The Signal in the Dark

The lights of Starbase 44 flickered again, stabilizing only after emergency power routed through secondary conduits. The crystalline sphere floated silently within its reinforced containment chamber, glyphs shifting like liquid gold.

Admiral Christine Steichen stood at the observation console, fists clenched behind her back. She had already made her choice — continue studying the sphere and attempt to intercept the signal it had broadcast into the void.

The risks were unimaginable.

The alternative... worse.

Dr. Arlen Voss spoke rapidly as he typed commands into the console.

"We're tapping into the sphere's subspace transmission band. It's broadcasting on a frequency I've never seen — beyond the transwarp band, beyond Borg carrier frequencies... Admiral, this is technology no species in this quadrant has ever used."

"Can you translate it?" Steichen asked.

"We're trying. It's layered on nine simultaneous quantum channels — each transmitting different information."

Captain Laura Djavis, watching from the viewport, added, "That's not communication... that's coordination. This is how a machine intelligence would speak to itself. Or how a civilization would warn its outposts." The sphere pulsed again.

The station shook.

A tone reverberated through every deck — deep, resonant, ancient.

"Admiral!" a comm officer shouted over the channel. "Long-range sensors have detected something responding to the sphere's signal!"

"Define 'something'," Steichen demanded.

"It's not a ship. Not an energy wave. It's more like... a distortion. A tear in subspace large enough to swallow a starship. It's forming hundreds of light-years away — but moving toward us."

Dr. Voss paled. "The Veil... whatever destroyed the Ka'rel. They've heard the call."

Steichen exhaled sharply. "Can we intercept the signal's return message?"

"We can try," Voss said. "But Admiral... if we interface directly with the sphere, it might interpret us as... interacting with it. It could open more channels. It could open a door."

"Or reveal what the Veil actually is," Djavis countered. "If we don't understand them, we can't defend against them."

Voss hesitated. "If we're too aggressive, we risk triggering a response. If we're too passive, we learn nothing."

Steichen nodded grimly. "We proceed. Carefully."

### Interception Attempt

The chamber filled with low harmonic tones as the science team connected a quantum decryptor to the sphere's emission field. Streams of alien data appeared on holographic displays, symbols rearranging into patterns no one could decipher.

Steichen leaned forward. "Do we have anything?"

Voss swallowed. "Something. A fragment. A... word?"

The symbols rearranged.

"Observe."

Djavis frowned. "Is that a command? A request?"

Before anyone could speculate, the sphere ignited with a brilliant surge of light. Monitors shorted. Bulkheads groaned. And then—  
A holographic projection appeared.



Not Admiral Arthur.

Not Lorem.

A silhouette, humanoid in shape but smooth as glass, featureless, its body composed of shifting shadow and light. Its presence was unsettling—beautiful and terrifying at once.

Its voice echoed like two tones speaking at once:

*"We are the Veil. We see your light. We are coming."*

The projection faded. The sphere quieted.

And suddenly, every console on Starbase 44 beeped urgently.

Djavis checked the incoming data—her breath caught. "Admiral... the subspace tear we detected earlier? It's accelerating. At its new speed... it will reach Federation space in months."

Steichen looked around at her officers. Panic threatened beneath the surface, but she held steady.

"This sphere," Voss said softly, "may be our only hope of understanding them. Or stopping them."

Djavis countered, "Or it's a beacon that will doom us if we keep using it."

Steichen knew what came next.

#### The Admiral's New Dilemma

Two choices materialized in Steichen's mind — both perilous:

##### Choice A:

Deepen the connection with the sphere.

Attempt full communication with the Veil — at the risk of drawing them faster, or allowing them into Federation systems through the sphere's channels.

##### Choice B:

Cut off the connection immediately.

Shut down the sphere, isolate it, and prepare militarily for the arrival of the Veil — but sacrifice any chance of learning their intentions, weaknesses, or nature.

The sphere pulsed softly in its containment, as if waiting for her next move.

Admiral Steichen stared into its light, knowing the fate of millions might hinge on her next command.

To be continued...

Aboard the USS Token, Captain Sarah Reynolds in Command

Captain Reynolds stood at the center of the dim bridge, the hum of damaged systems thrumming beneath her boots. Her crew waited—tense, silent, trusting her with their lives.

“All right,” she said finally. “We rebuild the rift.”

Gasps rippled through the bridge. Tovak raised an eyebrow—a Vulcan’s equivalent of shouting *Are you out of your mind?*

Reynolds continued, her voice steady. “The data we collected from the anomaly gives us a mathematical framework. If we can amplify a subspace shear with the deflector array and synchronize it with the magnetic flux pockets around us, we might be able to punch open a temporary passage.”

“Or tear the ship apart at the molecular level,” Jin muttered.

“Let’s focus on the positive outcome,” Reynolds replied with an unconvincing smile.

### Preparing the Impossible

Engineering became a frenzy of activity. Plasma conduits were rerouted by hand. The deflector’s oscillation chamber was recalibrated beyond Starfleet safety tolerances. Auxiliary reactors were coaxed back to life with improvised bypasses.

Chief Engineer Marrek wiped sweat from his brow. “Captain, the deflector can handle the strain... for about twenty seconds. After that, we risk cascading failure across half the ship.”

“Twenty seconds might be all we need,” Reynolds said.

### The Attempt

The *Token* drifted into a region of twisted subspace filaments—beautiful, shimmering strands of light dancing like cosmic threads.

“Begin the sequence,” Reynolds ordered.

A low vibration filled the deck plates.

The deflector dish glowed blue-white.

Energy arced across the bow like lightning trapped in a cage.

“Field integrity at sixty percent and dropping!” Tovak announced.

“Keep it steady!”

A tear formed in space ahead of them—thin as a razor, flickering violently.

“That’s a rift,” Jin said breathlessly. “A real one!”

“Impulse thrusters, ahead!” Reynolds commanded.

The *Token* surged forward—

The lights dimmed—

A shriek echoed through the hull—

For a terrifying moment, reality itself seemed to ripple. Half the ship felt stretched, the other half compressed. Time slowed to a syrupy crawl.

Then—

They were through.

The *USS Token* burst out of the rift, alarms screaming. Space around them was calm—normal—stars in recognizable constellations.

“We’re back...” Jin whispered. “This is the outer Talos Sector. We’re only twenty light-years from Federation space.”

Relief washed over the bridge. A few crew members openly cried. Reynolds felt her knees weaken, but she kept standing.

“We did it,” she breathed. “We actually—”

Her words were cut off by a piercing sensor alert.

“Captain,” Tovak said, “a vessel has emerged several million kilometers behind us.”

Reynolds frowned. “What kind of vessel?”

Tovak hesitated. “It appears... the *HMW Cord* was pulled through the rift with us. But their ship is heavily damaged—life support failing.”

The viewscreen flickered, showing the small Mli scoutship drifting dark in space, barely holding together.

## A New Dilemma

Captain Reynolds felt her heart sink. They had escaped the nightmare—but the Mli had paid a terrible price following their wake.

Now she faced a new choice:

1. Attempt a full rescue mission, towing the *HMW Cord* to the nearest starbase—risking further strain on the already battered *Token*.
2. Transmit emergency coordinates and leave immediately, trusting the Mli to summon their own people—preserving the *Token* but abandoning Captain Tro at a fragile moment.

Reynolds stared at the dying ship on the screen.

Their survival had come at a cost.

What would she choose now?

The Lorem Building the Future Ship

Admiral Steichen stood in the command center of Starbase 44, staring at the reports from her starships. The search for new technology had become the singular purpose of her mission, dictated by the cryptic riddles of the Lorem. But the question gnawed at her: *Was this technology meant for the Federation, or for the Lorem themselves?* And what would be the cost of continuing this relentless search?

#### A Question for the Lorem

Determined to get answers, Steichen initiated a direct communication with the Lorem once again. The shimmering mass of colors and patterns appeared in the center of the room, their voices layered and enigmatic.

She spoke with resolve. "Lorem, I must know. Is this technology meant for the Federation, or for you?"

The Lorem's colors swirled, and their response came in the form of a riddle:

*"Stars need no fire, rivers need no path.  
We are the wind that whispers past.  
What is forged is not for the forge;  
The hand that holds it shapes its course."*

Steichen furrowed her brow. *The Lorem do not need technology—they are omnipotent by their nature.* The realization settled over her like a weight. Then, the implication struck her. *If the technology is not for the Lorem, then it is for us. But for what purpose?*

#### The Second Wave of Exploration

The same ships set out once more, with mixed success. While USS Endeavor found fragments of an ancient, highly efficient power grid, and USS Celestial discovered a new type of fuel that could revolutionize engine systems, the other vessels returned empty-handed.

#### Building the Future Ship

Admiral Steichen ordered the construction of a new starship that would incorporate all the discovered technologies. To avoid wasting resources on obsolete systems, she chose Option 2: halt construction on sections where new technology had not yet been found.

Progress was slow, but steady—until a discovery changed everything.

#### A New Mystery During Construction

Midway through the second month, engineers testing the integration of the displacement device triggered an unexpected reaction. A localized anomaly appeared inside the ship's unfinished corridors—a distortion of space-time itself.

Objects placed into the anomaly vanished, reappearing seconds or minutes later in random locations across the drydock, sometimes outside the station entirely. The phenomenon grew stronger each time the device was tested, feeding on the ship's power systems.

Science teams urged caution, even recommending a full halt to construction until the anomaly could be understood.

#### Steichen's Decision

Admiral Steichen listened to every argument but made her choice.

"Continue integrating the device," she ordered firmly. "We trust our crews. Understanding comes from progress, not fear."

The shipyards came alive with activity. Engineers worked tirelessly to stabilize the anomaly, installing containment fields, redundant systems, and power buffers. For a time, it appeared to work—the anomaly stabilized, shrinking to a faint distortion, almost invisible to the naked eye. Relief spread through the teams.

But the peace did not last.

A week later, during a systems synchronization test, the anomaly pulsed violently. Instruments across Starbase 44 flickered, gravity fluctuated for nearly ten seconds, and several engineers were thrown across the deck. When the chaos subsided, they discovered that the anomaly had grown larger—much larger.

The readings were disturbing. The anomaly appeared to be *learning*, adapting to every attempt to control it. The containment fields no longer held as steadily as before. Even worse, it began emitting low-frequency signals—patterns that almost resembled language.

Steichen's science officers speculated that the device might not be a simple transport mechanism but something far more complex—perhaps even sentient. Yet despite the danger, Steichen refused to abandon the project. Too much had been invested, and the potential benefits were too great.

### The New Dilemma

Now, the anomaly thrummed deep within the ship's half-finished core, its energy signature pulsing like a heartbeat. The crew worked around it, cautious but determined, even as the station's power systems showed increasing strain.

Admiral Steichen stood at the observation window once again, watching the growing ship and its strange glow from afar. Her decision weighed heavily on her.

If the anomaly could be stabilized, it would mark a new era of Federation technology. But if it continued to evolve beyond control, it could tear Starbase 44—and everyone aboard it—apart.

She faced yet another choice:

1. Proceed with full power integration, hoping to finally control and understand the anomaly before it grows beyond reach.
2. Shut down the project, risking the loss of months of progress but potentially saving thousands of lives.

Behind her, the distant hum of the anomaly echoed through the corridors—almost like it was waiting for her decision.

Admiral Steichen stood in the dim glow of the integration chamber as technicians prepared the displacement device for its first full-power linkage. The anomaly pulsed behind its containment field—faster now, brighter, as though aware of what was coming.

"Begin phase-three power routing," she ordered.

The lights flickered. Consoles shuddered. A vibration ran through the deck plating like the heartbeat of something waking.

The moment the conduits connected, the anomaly surged—expanding outward one meter, then snapping back with a violent recoil. Several engineers were thrown off their feet. A low, harmonic tone filled the air, almost like a whisper trying to form words.

"Containment at eighty percent and dropping!" someone shouted.

But then—just as suddenly—the field stabilized. The anomaly shrank, condensed, tightened into a sphere no larger than a fist... and became completely still.

Captain Lorne from Engineering stepped beside Steichen, breathing hard. “Admiral... whatever we just did, the device and the anomaly have synchronized. They’re acting as a single system now.”

“And what does that mean?” Steichen asked quietly.

Before he could answer, the anomaly pulsed once—softly—and every powered system on Starbase 44 flickered offline for a brief instant. In that moment of blackout, the anomaly emitted a pattern of lights—three pulses, each a different hue.

When the power returned, the technicians were pale.

“Admiral... that wasn’t random.”

Steichen stared at the anomaly, now glowing faintly in rhythm with the station’s power grid.

It had communicated.

And it had offered... three responses.

A message? A warning? A request?

No one could tell.

Yet the meaning was clear: their next move mattered.

**DILEMMA** — Admiral Steichen must interpret the anomaly’s tri-pulse signal. Which path does she choose?

1. Engage the anomaly directly, attempting to decipher its message and establish full communication.
2. Isolate the anomaly immediately, cutting its connection to station systems before it gains more influence.
3. Redirect the anomaly into the nearly completed starship, risking everything on the chance that it was meant to be integrated there all along.

*Players: CS*

### Starbase 88

Location: Starbase 88 — Strategic Command Center  
Commander: Admiral Van Nieuwenhove

Admiral Van Nieuwenhove reviewed the anomaly reports from Filla3 again and again. Each new scan from the USS Celestial Voyager painted the same disturbing picture: something beneath the planet’s surface was emitting structured, rhythmic subspace pulses. But with the Huranon still sensitive and on edge, the wrong move could trigger catastrophic consequences.

The Admiral rubbed his forehead, exhaling slowly.  
Admiral Van Nieuwenhove:

"If we act too quickly, the Huranon may believe we are altering the planet or hiding something. Defensive monitoring only. No landings, no probes, no ground teams. The Celestial Voyager is to hold orbit and observe."

The order was sent.

#### USS Celestial Voyager — Passive Orbit

Captain Dora Jenkins acknowledged the directive with professional calm, though her crew exchanged worried glances.

Jenkins' Log:

"We remain in high orbit as ordered. Sensors are set to maximum passive sensitivity to avoid any signal amplification that might be detected by the Huranon. The anomaly below continues to pulse... methodically. It is almost as if it is waiting for something."

Lieutenant Oren ran silent diagnostics.

Lt. Oren:

"Captain, the pulses are increasing in amplitude. Not enough to cause atmospheric disruption—but enough that I believe they may be approaching a threshold event."

Jenkins frowned.

Jenkins:

"Meaning something might happen soon?"

Oren:

"Yes, Captain. And we won't know what until it does."

The Huranon, meanwhile, maintained partial retreat. Their nearest ships held position several million kilometers away, observing. They made no aggressive moves—but neither did they reply to diplomatic queries.

The uneasy calm endured.

#### Starbase 88 — The Admiral's Uneasy Questions

The Admiral monitored the situation closely. With no response from the Huranon and an unknown force awakening beneath Filla3, he knew he was sitting on a fragile balance.

If the anomaly escalated into something dangerous while the Federation did nothing, the colonies—and the Celestial Voyager—would be in jeopardy.

If he acted too soon, the Huranon might interpret it as a violation of trust.

The silence from both the anomaly and the Huranon was unnerving.

Then—A Sudden Change

A new alert chimed.

Sensor Officer:



“Admiral, new telemetry from Celestial Voyager. The anomaly’s pulses are synchronizing with the planet’s magnetic poles. Correlation is 98 percent and rising.”

A chill moved through the command deck.

If the anomaly was intelligent—or programmed—it might be attempting to activate something on a planetary scale.

#### New Dilemma for Admiral Van Nieuwenhove

With danger possibly imminent, and diplomatic stability still fragile, the Admiral now faced two stark options:

##### Option A: Raise Alert Condition and Prepare for Immediate Evacuation of Filla3

Begin emergency extraction protocols for the colonists and prepare the Celestial Voyager for rapid response.

\* Pros: Protects Federation citizens if the anomaly is dangerous.

\* Cons: A large-scale evacuation could be seen as an aggressive mobilization by the Huranon, risking renewed tension—or conflict.

##### Option B: Maintain Full Passivity and Continue Monitoring

Do nothing that could escalate tensions. Allow the anomaly to proceed naturally while gathering data.

\* Pros: Minimizes diplomatic risk and upholds non-provocative posture.

\* Cons: If the anomaly triggers a catastrophic event, the colony and the Celestial Voyager may have no time to escape.

*Players: GVN*

#### USS Thunderbolt/The Borg Collective

Spoiler alert!

Attention! This part of the DS2 RPG contains spoilers for those who have not seen Star Trek Picard Season 1-2-3!

The Borg King stared into the data streams.

“We control space itself,” he said quietly. “But... what if these corridors lead beyond our galaxy? Beyond our dimension?”

Master One turned to him.

“Then we stand at the gates of infinity itself, my King.”

The Borg King considered in silence.

*Players: FK*

## USS Vertigo / USS Gdonsk

Day 439 14.37

The familiar crest of the Federation shimmered onto the main viewscreen, followed by the calm yet concerned face of Admiral Nieren, head of Fleet Operations.

"Report, Commodore," the Admiral said.

Slater took a measured breath. "We've encountered something... unprecedented. A massive alien construct within the Orion Drift Nebula. It is awakening, and it has already deployed a fleet of ships unknown to Federation records. We avoided engagement, but they are hostile. We also have a civilian vessel, the SS Geleon, trapped near the structure. Unknown if crew remains intact. Requesting immediate reinforcement."

Day 439 14.37

The Admiral's expression darkened. "Understood, Commodore. We cannot underestimate a threat of this scale. I am dispatching the nearest available task forces—sixty starships of mixed classes will converge on your coordinates. Hold position at a safe distance until reinforcements arrive. And Slater..."

"Yes, Admiral?"

"Do not engage until the fleet is assembled. We cannot afford unnecessary losses."

Day 439 14.38

The channel cut, and the bridge crew quietly exhaled relief at the prospect of backup.

*Players: NP*

## USS Atlantis/Starbase 99

"Through the Silent Void" — The USS Kilimanjaro

The USS Kilimanjaro, a sleek deep-space exploration cruiser under the command of Captain Kelly Negter, cut through the stars en route to Starbase 99. The ship had just completed a month-long survey mission in the Talrun Expanse, and the crew was looking forward to shore leave, maintenance, and—above all—real coffee.

But fate had other plans.

The Anomaly

It appeared without warning—a shimmering, translucent rift stretching across their path like a cosmic tear. Before the helm could adjust course, a sudden gravitational surge dragged the Kilimanjaro in. The ship shook violently, lights flickering out, consoles exploding with sparks.

"All hands brace!" Captain Negter shouted, gripping the armrests of her command chair.

With a wrenching lurch, the ship burst out the other side of the anomaly... and into total silence.

One by one, the bridge consoles went dark. Warp core offline. Impulse offline. Shield grid gone. Navigation—dead. Only the soft hum of life support, running on isolated auxiliary power, remained.

"Report," the captain ordered.

Lieutenant Haro swallowed hard. "Captain... we've lost everything."

Dark Ship

Within minutes, emergency glowpanels lit the corridor walls, casting long shadows over a ship that suddenly felt far too large and far too quiet. The crew moved cautiously, working by hand lights, patching ruptured EPS conduits, and manually pulling open access panels. In Engineering, Chief Ren Iwata emerged covered in grease and frustration.

"That anomaly fried half our power relays and scrambled the whole distribution net. We've got a ship intact but with no heartbeat."

Captain Negter joined her, sleeves rolled up, determination burning in her eyes.

"Then we give it CPR."

The crew worked relentlessly. Every time they restored a subsystem, another overloaded and failed. One attempt to restart the warp core ended with a conduit flareout that nearly vented half the deck. A manual reboot of the impulse engines short-circuited, knocking out their makeshift internal comms.

Failure after failure. Hours into the ordeal, exhaustion ran deep. But the captain never faltered.

"We're not dying out here," she told her crew. "Not today."

### A Spark of Hope

Finally, after isolating hundreds of damaged circuits and rerouting power manually through decades-old backup pathways, Chief Iwata's voice came through the static-laced emergency speaker.

"Captain... try it now."

Kelly hit the authorization panel.

For a moment, nothing happened.

Then—

a soft rumble.

A vibration beneath their feet.

A faint thrum returning to the decks.

"Impulse engines at five percent power," Iwata said with a trembling laugh. "It's not pretty, but it's propulsion."

A cheer went up across the ship.

### The Slow Journey

The Kilimanjaro crawled toward Starbase 99 at a speed so slow Captain Negter joked they could deploy a shuttle and push. Auxiliary power dwindled hour by hour. Life support reports grew bleaker. Temperature dropped. CO<sub>2</sub> scrubbers fought to keep up.

But the starbase beacon finally appeared, faint but steady, on the one flickering display they had coaxed back to life.

"Helm," the captain said, "bring us home."

### Just in Time

As the crippled Kilimanjaro drifted into the docking cradle, the last caution lights on the bridge flickered red. The hum of life support guttered... sputtered...

And died.

Silence filled the ship once more.

But outside the windows, they saw docking clamps engage. Rescue crews swarmed in. And as Captain Kelly Negter led her weary crew onto the brightly lit deck of Starbase 99, she allowed herself a rare, relieved smile.

"All hands accounted for, Captain," her XO reported.

She nodded. "Good. Then write this in the log."

All hands are safe.

*Players: JM & CP*

#### Ovion (Hirogen/Ori/Replicator Vessel)

##### The Death of the Guardian

Lokarn planted explosives around the core while Teyva channeled the storm-like energy from her gauntlets, destabilizing the Guardian's defenses. Nyrak, realizing the core's energy pulses were synchronized to the Eternal Prey's prison, used his knowledge to disrupt the pattern. With one final coordinated strike from the fleet and the infiltration team, Ka'Leth let out a mechanical scream, its entire structure collapsing in on itself like a dying star.

But before its destruction, Ka'Leth transmitted one last message:

"You have passed the first chain. But every chain broken brings the Eternal Prey closer to awakening. Beware... for the prey you seek does not run. It waits... and it knows you.

*Players: TvR*