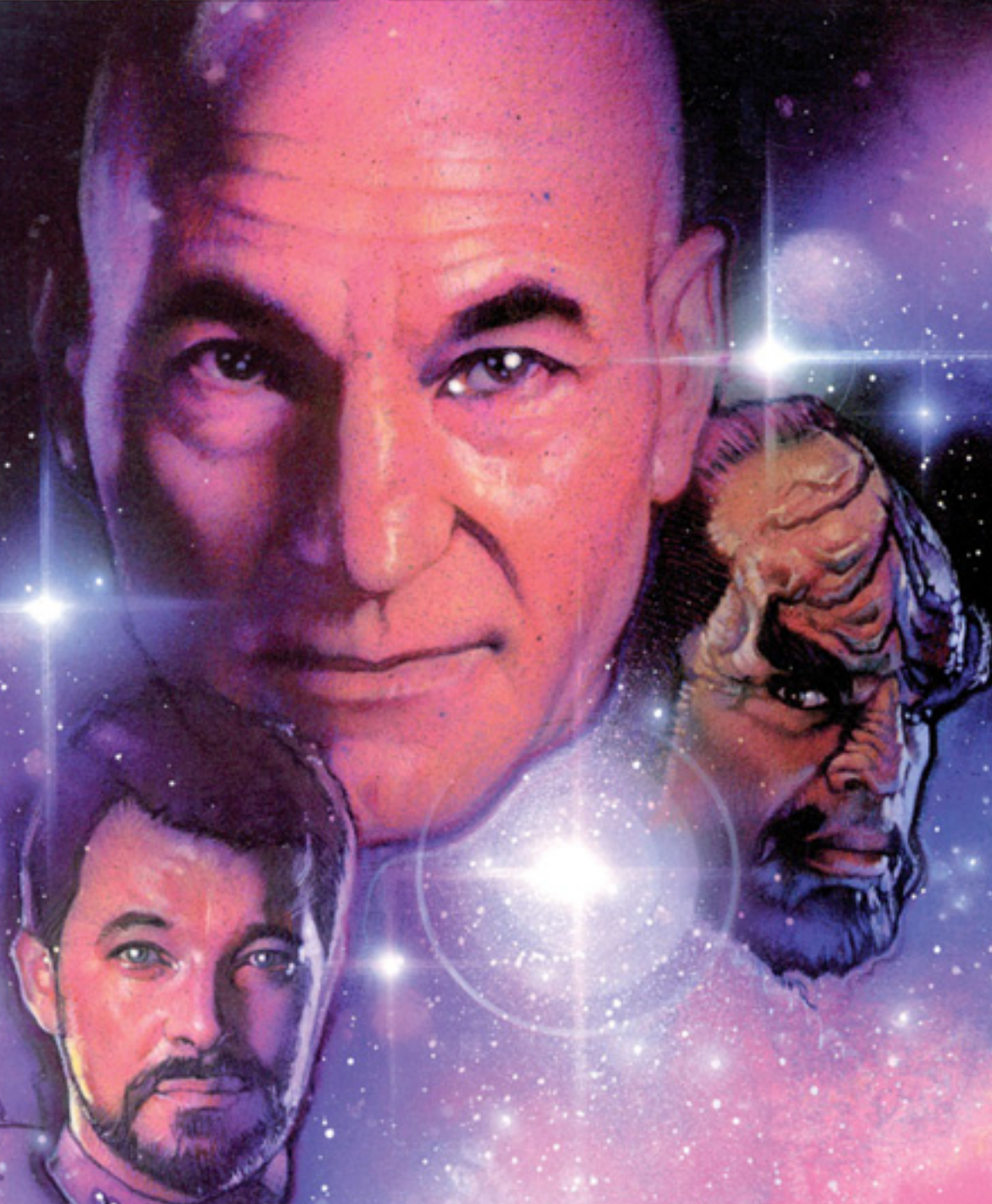


STAR TREK

THE NEXT GENERATION




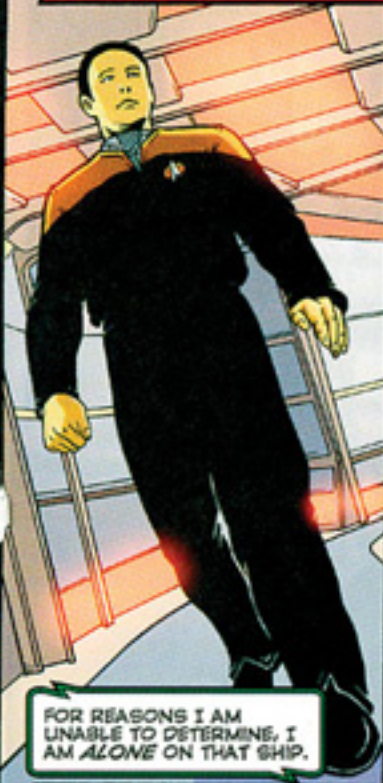
ENEMY UNSEEN

Tales of Captain Picard and crew written by Keith R. A. DeCandido, Christopher Golden and Tom Sniegoski, and Scott Ciencin



MY NAME IS DATA.


I AM A LIEUTENANT COMMANDER IN STARFLEET, PRESENTLY ASSIGNED AS SECOND OFFICER ON THE U.S.S. ENTERPRISE, REGISTRY NUMBER NCC-1701-D.



IN ADDITION, THE SHIP APPEARS TO BE AT RED ALERT, THOUGH I AM UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHY THAT IS, EITHER.

FOR REASONS I AM UNABLE TO DETERMINE, I AM ALONE ON THAT SHIP.

SINCE, OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF SENTIENT BEINGS OCCUPYING THIS SHIP HAS BEEN 1008.765, THIS IS QUITE PECULIAR.




I AM NOW PROCEEDING TO MAIN ENGINEERING IN THE HOPES THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO ANSWER SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS.

I AM APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THIS TRIP TO ENGINEERING.



SINCE I DO NOT FEEL EMOTIONS, THIS IS RATHER ANOMALOUS.



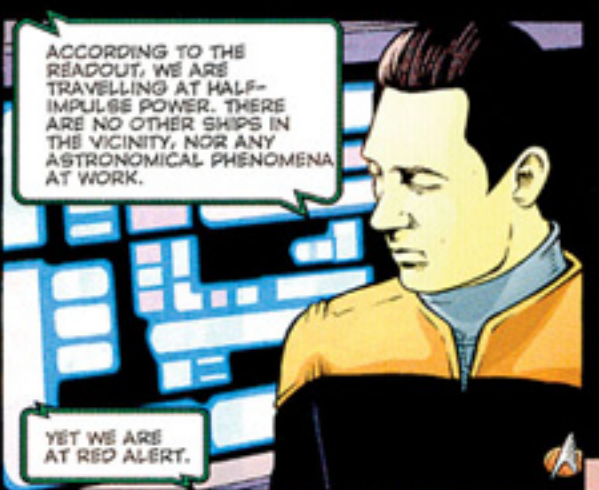
ODD. THERE ARE PEOPLE IN
ENGINEERING, EVEN THOUGH
I HEARD NO NOISES UNTIL I
ENTERED THE ROOM.

NO ONE SEEMS
TO BE AWARE OF
MY PRESENCE.



GEORDI AND
THE OTHERS ARE
IGNORING ME.

THE NUMBER OF ANOMALIES
CONTINUES TO INCREASE.
AS DOES MY APPREHENSION.



ACCORDING TO THE
READOUT, WE ARE
TRAVELLING AT HALF-
IMPULSE POWER. THERE
ARE NO OTHER SHIPS IN
THE VICINITY, NOR ANY
ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA
AT WORK.

YET WE ARE
AT RED ALERT.



SOMETHING HAS
HAPPENED.

THE READOUTS HAVE NOT
CHANGED, BUT EVERYONE IN
THE ROOM APPEARS TO HAVE
LOST CONSCIOUSNESS.



I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.



AND I AM FRIGHTENED.



THIS IS, ON THE FACE OF IT, IMPOSSIBLE. I HAVE NO EMOTIONS. I CANNOT FEEL FEAR, NOR ANXIETY.

YET I AM QUITE SURE THAT THIS IS WHAT I AM FEELING NOW.



WARNING: THE ENTERPRISE WILL CRASH INTO THE PLANET BELOW IN A FIERY CONFLAGRATION UNLESS YOU DO SOMETHING, COMMANDER.

ANOTHER ANOMALY. THE COMPUTER NEVER USES SUCH CASUAL LANGUAGE.

ALERT

BUT ITS CONCLUSIONS ARE ACCURATE. THE ENTERPRISE IS ABOUT TO CRASH INTO THE PLANET.



AND I CAN DO NOTHING TO STOP IT. THE COMPUTER WILL NOT RESPOND TO MY COMMANDS.

I AM FRIGHTENED!



I DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO!

SOMEBODY, PLEASE HELP ME!



HELP ME!