

STAR TREK VOYAGER®

EPISODE #240

“GOOD SHEPHERD”

Janeway must tend to her flock when she finds three misfit crewmembers need some special attention.

Seven's efficiency ratings of Voyager show three young crewmembers are not performing to their full potential. Herrin has five advanced degrees, which are useless in his plasma relay post; Telfer is a hypochondriac held back by his own fears, and Celeste is not as familiar with the ship's systems as she should be in her astrometrics duty. Janeway decides the trio should be sent on an astronomical survey mission to build each member's confidence and make full use of their untapped talent.

With Janeway piloting the Delta Flyer, Celeste mans sensor analysis of the cluster, Herrin researches subspace particle decay, and Telfer looks for signs of life. Janeway's initial attempts at getting to know Herrin are futile, as he blames her for Voyager being lost in the Delta Quadrant, which delayed his cosmology studies. Suddenly, the shuttle encounters an unknown spatial fluctuation.

Propulsion is knocked off-line, and a section of the Flyer's hull has been torn off. Without enough warp drive power, it will take them 10 years to rendezvous with Voyager. Herrin theorizes that a dark matter proto comet has neutralized the anti-matter in the warp core. If they don't jettison the rest of the core, they will be hit again. Janeway hesitates to take such drastic action without hard evidence, and a scan of the retrieved hull is inconclusive. A radiogenic gas giant lies ahead, and the Captain plans to use it to re-initialize their warp reaction. Suddenly, they encounter another fluctuation. Telfer de-materializes and appears again a few seconds later. He is incoherent, but they all see something crawling underneath his skin.

Unable to get a lock on whatever is inhabiting Telfer's body, Janeway returns to piloting the shuttle. Just then, the alien form bursts through Telfer's skin and onto the controls. Janeway orders Herrin to hold his fire, but the young crewman doesn't listen. Seeing the alien access the environmental controls, Herrin assumes it will harm them and kills it, destroying any chance of making first contact. After another piece of hull is lost, Janeway orders a course set for the radiogenic rings.

With the aliens in pursuit, Janeway orders her crew into the escape pods. She plans to launch a phaser volley, hopefully igniting the radiogenic particles. Celeste and Telfer refuse to abandon their Captain, but Herrin sets off. To their surprise, he intends to distract the aliens while the Flyer escapes. Janeway won't tolerate it, however, and locks on to his pod while they use full thrusters to escape the shock wave. As she regains consciousness aboard Voyager, she finds her shuttle crew is safe and sound, and there is no sign of the aliens.



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CAST

CAPTAIN KATHRYN JANEWAY
CHAKOTAY
B'ELANNA TORRES
TOM PARIS
NEELIX
THE DOCTOR
TUVOK
SEVEN OF NINE
HARRY KIM

KATE MULGREW
ROBERT BELTRAN
ROXANN DAWSON
ROBERT DUNCAN MCNEILL
ETHAN PHILLIPS
ROBERT PICARDO
TIM RUSS
JERI RYAN
GARRETT WANG

GUEST STARRING

HERRIN

JAY UNDERWOOD
MICHAEL REISZ
KIMBLE JEMISON
ZOE MCLELLAN

Teleplay by:

DIANNA GITTO &
JOE MENOSKY

Story by:

DIANNA GITTO

Directed by:

WINRICH KOLBE

HIGHLIGHT LISTING

STAR TREK: VOYAGER: "Good Shepherd"—Janeway must tend to her flock when she finds three misfit crewmembers in need of special attention.

ADVERTISING HEADLINE

TEST OF COURAGE

Will Voyager's newest crewmembers rise to the occasion...
or die trying?

