

= Home ( Star Trek : Enterprise ) =

" Home " is the third episode of the fourth season of the American science fiction television series Star Trek : Enterprise . It first aired on October 22 , 2004 , on the UPN network in the United States . It was the second episode of the season directed by Allan Kroeker and the first in season four to be written by Michael Sussman .

Set in the 22nd century , the series follows the adventures of the first Starfleet starship , Enterprise , registration NX @-@ 01 . This episode brought to a close the Xindi story arc that ran throughout Season 3 , with the crew returning to Earth after the successful mission . It features three stories ; Captain Jonathan Archer ( Scott Bakula ) coming to terms with the psychological impact of the previous mission , Doctor Phlox ( John Billingsley ) finds that the people on Earth have become hostile to aliens , while Commander Charles " Trip " Tucker ( Connor Trinneer ) and Sub @-@ Commander T 'Pol ( Jolene Blalock ) travel to Vulcan for her arranged marriage .

The episode featured the return of several recurring characters , such as Vaughn Armstrong as Admiral Maxwell Forrest and Gary Graham as Ambassador Soval . Others who made their first of several appearances included Michael Reilly Burke , Ada Maris , Jack Donner and Joanna Cassidy as T 'Pol 's mother . Filming took seven days , during which time the standing sets used for the interior of Enterprise were redressed to appear as its sister ship , Columbia ( NX @-@ 02 ) , and location filming was conducted at Malibu Creek State Park . " Home " received a mixed reception from critics , and was watched by 3 @.@ 16 million viewers on first broadcast .

= = Plot = =

Captain Archer and the crew are welcomed back to Earth following the successful Xindi mission . As Enterprise undergoes repairs and refitting , Archer is reunited with a former girlfriend , Captain Erika Hernandez , who has been appointed to Starfleet 's second Warp 5 starship , Columbia ( NX @-@ 02 ) . Archer is debriefed by Admiral Maxwell Forrest and Ambassador Soval . After reacting in anger when Soval asks pointed questions about the Seleya incident , he is ordered by Forrest to take some relaxation leave .

He chooses to go mountain climbing ; to his initial annoyance , Hernandez invites herself along . That night , Archer dreams that he is attacked by Reptilians , and Hernandez tries to help him come to terms with his memories and new @-@ found adulation . In return , Archer tries to caution her that space exploration is not as idealistic as she thinks it is . In spite of this , the two manage to rekindle their romance . Returning to Starfleet Command , Archer is able to keep his emotions in check , and ultimately receives an unexpected thanks from Soval . Elsewhere , Doctor Phlox learns that some humans still hold a grudge over the Xindi attack , xenophobically blaming all aliens , and Phlox 's presence in a bar results in a brawl .

Meanwhile , Sub @-@ Commander T 'Pol ? who has been invited to accept a Starfleet commission ? takes the opportunity to travel to Vulcan to visit her mother , T 'Les . When Commander Tucker mentions that he does not have a home to go to , T 'Pol invites him along . On Vulcan , after a tense homecoming , she learns that her mother has resigned from the Vulcan Science Academy as indirect punishment for T 'Pol 's actions at the P 'Jem sanctuary . One logical way for T 'Pol to restore her mother 's position is to honor her engagement to Koss , a member of an influential family . Despite Tucker 's feelings , who admits to T 'Les ' observation that he is in love with T 'Pol , she consents to marry Koss . Just before the ceremony begins , however , T 'Pol quickly kisses Tucker on the cheek .

= = Production = =

When predicting what would be in store for season four , Scott Bakula suggested that he would like to see the crew come to terms with the emotional scars of the mission they had against the Xindi in the third season . He wanted several questions to be covered , such as " How do they come back into society , how do they re @-@ adjust their behaviors ? What has happened to them will always

be inside of them , every time they 're confronted with new situations . " Following the resolution of the mission in " Zero Hour " , he wanted the crew to receive " a great reception " on their return to Earth . He was pleased with how this was handled in the series , describing " Home " as " a great episode " . When actress Jolene Blalock revealed that her character would be getting married in " Home " , she joked that she wouldn 't need to fight someone ? a reference to the Star Trek : The Original Series episode " Amok Time " . Dominic Keating summed up the plot of the episode in an interview with Cult Times magazine , saying " Our heroes find that their world has changed after the Xindi annihilation of Florida at the end of the second year . "

The episode featured the return of several recurring characters , such as Admiral Forrest played by Vaughn Armstrong , who hadn 't appeared on the show for more than a year . Meanwhile , Gary Graham returned as Soval after a single appearance in the third season , and Jim Fitzpatrick made a third appearance as Commander Williams . There were several actors who appeared in the series for the first time including Jack Donner , although he had appeared as Subcommander Tal in The Original Series episode " The Enterprise Incident " . He described in an interview with TrekNation that he had been seeking to return to the Star Trek franchise for a while , having previously been overlooked for a part on Star Trek : Voyager . He said that his casting was directly linked to showrunner Manny Coto 's desire to link Enterprise more to The Original Series and was pleased to say that they had ask him back to appear later in the season .

Also making an appearance was Michael Reilly Burke as Koss ? a character who was first mentioned in the first season episode " Breaking the Ice " . Burke had previously appeared as a Borg in Star Trek : The Next Generation and a Cardassian in Star Trek : Deep Space Nine . Also making their first appearances in the show were Ada Maris as Captain Erika Hernandez and Joanna Cassidy as T 'Pol 's mother , T 'Les . Donner , Burke and Cassidy would go on to appear in the Vulcan @-@ arc episodes later in the season , while Maris appeared in the Klingon two part story comprising " Affliction " and " Divergence " .

Filming began on August 4 for seven days , finishing on August 12 . The Enterprise standing sets were re @-@ dressed to appear as the interior scenes on the USS Columbia and a variety of swing sets were used . There was exterior shots filmed at Malibu Creek State Park for the scenes with Archer and Hernandez . One area which had only previously been mentioned in Star Trek was the Fire Plains on Vulcan ? in the Star Trek : Voyager episode " Innocence " , which was created in " Home " using computer @-@ generated imagery . Allan Kroeker directed " Home " , his second of the season after the first episode of " Storm Front " ? although he had directed numerous episodes during the first three seasons , and " Home " was written by Mike Sussman , who wrote five episodes during the previous season .

= = Reception and home media release = =

" Home " first premiered on UPN in the United States on October 22 , 2004 . It was watched by an audience of 3 @.@ 16 million viewers , an increase over the previous week 's episode , the second part of " Storm Front " which was watched by 3 @.@ 11 million . This was part of an overall increase in viewers during the first six episodes of Enterprise , with each episode being watched by a greater number of viewers than those before it . According to the Nielsen ratings received for " Home " , the episode placed fifth in its timeslot , with a rating of 1 @.@ 7 / 3 percent . This means that it was seen by 1 @.@ 7 percent of all households , and 3 percent of all those watching television at the time of broadcast . It gained higher ratings than The WB , who aired What I Like About You and Grounded for Life .

Prior to broadcast , " Home " was listed as one of the programmes on Entertainment Weekly 's " Tonight 's Best TV " for October 22 . In another preview , IGN Filmforce described the episode as a " yawner " , and described the writers as " lazy " because of the trade off between character development and a general plot ? the latter of which they said was absent in this episode . However , the review praised the additional attention given to Linda Park as Hoshi , saying that she is " possibly the most under @-@ utilized actor on the show and shows the most potential . " Overall it said that " the episode hints at promise for the rest of the season but is dull as dishwater on its own .

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Ryan Britt , while writing for Tor.com , thought more favourably of " Home " , including it in a list of six episodes from Enterprise which are comparable to the best of the other Star Trek series . It was described as " the sort of episode that either rewards someone who liked the characters on this show , or could potentially get you to like them if you didn ' t really know what was going on . " Britt 's only complaint was that the romance between T 'Pol and Tucker wasn 't further developed as it brought out the best in Blalock and Trinneer .

The first home media release of " Home " was in the season four DVD box set of Enterprise , originally released in the United States on November 1 , 2005 . The Blu ray release of the final season of Enterprise was on April 29 , 2014 .