

= Regeneration (Star Trek : Enterprise) =

" Regeneration " is the forty @-@ ninth episode of the American science fiction television series Star Trek : Enterprise , the twenty @-@ third episode of the second season . It first aired on May 7 , 2003 on the UPN network in the United States . The episode was written by Mike Sussman and Phyllis Strong , and was directed by David Livingston . It was a follow @-@ up to the feature film Star Trek : First Contact , and a prelude to the Battle of Wolf 359 (as seen in " The Best of Both Worlds " .)

Set in the 22nd century , the series follows the adventures of the first Starfleet starship Enterprise , registration NX @-@ 01 . In this episode , several cybernetically enhanced aliens are accidentally reanimated by a research team in the Arctic . The aliens assimilate the researchers and their ship before escaping into space . The Enterprise pursues the ship and is attacked , forcing Archer to destroy the vessel . Afterwards they discover that the aliens sent a message into the Delta Quadrant containing the coordinates of Earth , a message that will not arrive until the 24th century .

The episode utilised props and costumes from previous Star Trek series in order to represent the Borg and is where they make their last canon appearance . The guest cast including Bonita Friedericy , the wife of main cast member John Billingsley . The ratings received by the episode were similar to those received during the previous week , and the number of viewers were one of the highest for the year . The critical response to " Regeneration " was mixed , with concerns directed at potential continuity problems , and that the appearance of the Borg was a little obvious . A follow @-@ up episode to " Regeneration " featuring the return of Alice Krige as the Borg Queen was pitched for the fifth season of Star Trek : Enterprise but the show was cancelled before the fifth season could be released and thus the episode never aired .

= = Plot = =

A team of researchers discover remains of a crashed spaceship in the Arctic Circle , finding several humanoids with cybernetic implants frozen in the wreckage . Two bodies are taken to a nearby compound to be studied . The scientists marvel at the nanoprobes that begin to repair the long dead aliens . Suddenly one of the seemingly dead subjects attack the scientists , assimilating them . Using scavenged wreckage to enhance the transport , they then escape into space , upgrading it with a faster than standard warp drive and weapons .

Admiral Forrest orders Enterprise to rescue the " kidnapped " researchers . They soon receive a distress call from a Tarkalean freighter , and they arrive to discover the ship under attack from the enhanced transport . Captain Jonathan Archer tries to disable their weapons , but the ship jumps to warp speed . Archer brings the survivors to Sickbay , and finds their situation reminiscent of a Zefram Cochrane story he remembers (relating to first contact) . The assimilated crew soon awaken , and in the ensuing melee Doctor Phlox is infected with nanoprobes . They escape , and Lieutenant Reed then finds them modifying ship 's systems , and learns their phase pistols are ineffective . Archer , left with no other options , orders the section to be de @-@ pressurized . Reed then begins upgrading the pistols , while Phlox treats himself with " omicron radiation " to destroy the nanoprobes .

Enterprise again catches up with the transport , but the recent modifications suddenly activate and shut down weapons and propulsion . Soon after the aliens hail Enterprise and say , " You will be assimilated , resistance is futile " . In response , Archer and Reed board the ship with upgraded pistols , plant explosives , and beam out . Commander Tucker troubleshoots the alien modifications thereby restoring main power to Enterprise . With the transport crippled , Archer realizes the altered crew members are too far gone and orders the transport 's destruction . Later , a recovering Phlox informs Archer that while infected he kept hearing a repeating numerical sequence - Earth 's coordinates sent somewhere into the Delta Quadrant . Sub @-@ Commander T 'Pol states it would take almost 200 years to reach its destination , but Archer remains troubled .

= = Production = =

Filming took place between February 27 , 2003 and while principal photography completed on March 8 , the B unit shoot for the episode was not completed until March 11 . This coincided with the commencement of filming on the following episode , " First Flight " . The Borg in the episode were all played by stuntmen who had previously worked on Enterprise , with four main " Stunt Borg " and four additional Borg for background shots . Bonita Friedericy was cast as Rooney , one of the researchers that discovered the aliens . Friedericy is the wife of main cast actor John Billingsley , but did not share any scenes in the episode with her husband or film on the same days . Billingsley had suggested at one point during the filming of Enterprise that Friedericy should play all of his in @-@ character wives . Director David Livingston is one of the more prolific Star Trek directors , and directed two other episodes in season two of Enterprise alone , " Stigma " and " The Crossing " . The Borg make @-@ up applied to Billingsley slowed down production , as there was discussion on set regarding how far the assimilation process on the character should progress .

" Regeneration " was intended to follow up on the events depicted in film Star Trek : First Contact which features a Borg sphere being destroyed whilst in orbit of 21st century Earth . Executive producer Brannon Braga initially refused to feature the Borg in Enterprise , calling it a " cheap trick " . He agreed for them to appear when the premise for " Regeneration " was suggested , saying that " it was such a great concept I couldn't resist it " . The set pieces and costumes for the Borg were reused from earlier Star Trek productions , and had not been used since the series finale of Star Trek : Voyager , " Endgame " . The Borg costume worn by Friedericy had been previously used by Roxann Dawson in the episode " Unimatrix Zero " . For the sequence where the Borg debris is discovered , several other pieces of sets were re @-@ purposed to act as debris . This including part of the saucer section of the USS Enterprise (NCC @-@ 1701 @-@ E) , which first appeared in First Contact . Brian Tyler produced the film score for " Regeneration " , one of only two episodes of Enterprise he produced music for . The other episode was the earlier season two episode " Canamar " .

Writers Judith and Garfield Reeves @-@ Stevens pitched a story to be used for season five of Enterprise which would have followed up on the events in " Regeneration " . They intended to bring actress Alice Krige back to Star Trek as a Starfleet medical technician who makes contact with the Borg seen in this episode . This was to result in the creation of the Borg Queen first seen in First Contact , which was played by Krige .

= = Reception and home media release = =

" Regeneration " was first shown in the United States on May 7 , 2003 on UPN . It received a 2 @. @ 7 / 4 % share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . This means that it was seen by 2 @. @ 7 percent of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds , and 4 percent of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds watching television at the time of the broadcast . The ratings were the same as the previous episode , " Cogenitor " , but saw an increase in overall viewing numbers from 4 @. @ 08 million viewers to 4 @. @ 12 million . This meant that " Regeneration " was the fourth highest viewed episode of Enterprise at the time of airing in 2003 .

Michelle Erica Green reviewed the episode for TrekNation , and was concerned by the continuity issues that the events in the episode presented , such as why Captain Jean @-@ Luc Picard of the USS Enterprise (NCC @-@ 1701 @-@ D) didn't have a record of Archer and the crew 's encounter with some nameless technologically enhanced aliens who assimilated people when he met them for the first time in " Q Who " . She thought that there were good performances by Linda Park and John Billingsley , but thought that Billingsley as Phlox could have been more emotionally affected by his partial assimilation . Jamahl Epsicokhan at his website " Jammer 's Reviews " gave the episode a score of three and a half out of four , saying that it was " a deviously clever premise , with the best @-@ executed action of the season " , but that the show was " doing itself few favors by reaching into the obvious Trekkian bag of tricks " . " Regeneration " was listed as the third best episode of Enterprise behind " In a Mirror , Darkly " and " Carbon Creek " by James Hunt at the website Den of Geek .

The first home media release of the episode was as part of the season two DVD boxset , released in the United States on July 26 , 2005 . One of the extras included on the sixth disc of the set was audio commentary on " Regeneration " by writers Michael Sussman and Phyllis Strong . A release on Blu @-@ ray Disc for season two occurred on August 20 , 2013 .