

= Divergence (Star Trek : Enterprise) =

" Divergence " is the sixteenth episode of the fourth season of the American science fiction television series Star Trek : Enterprise . It originally aired on February 25 , 2005 in the United States on UPN . It was the fourth episode of Enterprise to be written by Judith and Garfield Reeves @-@ Stevens , and was the first episode of a Star Trek series directed by David Barrett . " Divergence " is the second part of a two part story , following on from " Affliction " .

Set in the 22nd century , the series follows the adventures of the first Starfleet starship Enterprise , registration NX @-@ 01 . In this episode , Columbia arrives so that Commander Tucker can be transferred to conduct repairs on Enterprise 's warp engine before it overloads . The two ships then pursue a lead to a Klingon research outpost where Phlox is under pressure to cure the virus that the Klingons created from augmented Human DNA .

Filming took eight days , with a two @-@ week seasonal hiatus towards the end of December . In addition to the guest stars who appeared in " Affliction " , they were joined by Wayne Grace as Admiral Krell . The episode received Nielsen ratings of 1 @. @ 7 / 3 percent , which were lower than the previous week 's episode . The critical response was negative , directed mainly at plot holes and characterisation . However , the two @-@ part story has been named as one of the best storylines seen in Enterprise .

= = Plot = =

With the ship unable to decrease speed below warp 5 , and the warp core reaching dangerous levels , Columbia and Commander Tucker rendezvous to provide assistance . However the crew realise that the transporter cannot be used at warp , so the ships will need to maneuver in close proximity in order for Tucker to be transferred . Captain Archer releases Lieutenant Reed from the brig to perform the transfer . Once on Enterprise , Tucker successfully performs a rapid non @-@ standard cold boot on the warp drive , which purges the Klingon subroutines .

Meanwhile , physician Antaak and a badly beaten Doctor Phlox update General K 'Vagh on their progress . K 'Vagh contacts Admiral Krell , who tells him that if a cure is not completed soon , the facility will be eradicated in order to contain the disease . Back on Enterprise , Archer questions Reed about his recent actions , and is contacted by Harris from Section 31 , a secretive agency within Starfleet . Harris reveals that Phlox is on an important mission and little else , but Reed reveals his location as Qu 'Vat ; Harris contacts Krell , to inform him that Enterprise is on the way , and Krell reveals that he used Harris . Enterprise arrives at the colony , and Archer beams down to the base with Marab to confront the Klingons and Phlox .

Krell 's Klingon battle @-@ cruiser and two Birds of Prey arrive in orbit and Krell orders the ships to destroy the colony . Enterprise attempts to intervene but is engaged by the Birds of Prey . Columbia arrives and joins combat with the two Birds of Prey , while Enterprise impedes the battle @-@ cruiser . Meanwhile , Phlox infects a restrained Archer , as he needs human antibodies for the cure . Antaak then transports a canister of the virus onto the battle @-@ cruiser which infects the crew , including Krell . Needing the cure from Phlox , Krell stands down the attack and the Klingon High Council soon agrees to distribute the cure throughout the Empire . Tucker then agrees to remain on @-@ board temporarily to assist with repairs .

= = Production = =

Filming began on December 14 , 2004 and ran for four days before the cast and crew went on a two @-@ week break over the holiday period . The production overlapped on December 16 with second @-@ unit filming on the episode " United " , which required most of the main cast with the exception of Billingsley as Phlox . The opportunity was taken to film the majority of the sequences with Phlox , K 'Vagh and Antaak at the same time on a different sound stage so as to not delay the production . After the break , production resumed on January 3 , 2005 . Minimal shooting was conducted on the first day for " Divergence " , as further second @-@ unit filming took place in the

afternoon for " United " and for " Babel One " . On the second day , Eric Pierpoint and Wayne Grace filmed their scenes as they both appeared on only one set each . Whilst filming was scheduled for seven days , the second @-@ unit filming for " Divergence " pushed into an eighth day on January 6 , which overlapped with the production of " Bound " .

Judith and Garfield Reeves @-@ Stevens joined the staff as writers during season four . Prior to " Divergence " they had already written the episodes " The Forge " , " Observer Effect " and " United " . The Reeves @-@ Stevens said of " Divergence " , " we 've written a multiple @-@ starship action sequence that 's never been seen before , and that everyone 's very excited to bring to the screen . " " Divergence " was the first Star Trek credit for director David Barrett . Several guest cast members resume their roles from " Affliction " , including James Avery as K 'Vagh , John Schuck as Antaak , Terrell Tilford as Marab and Eric Pierpoint as Harris . They were joined in " Divergence " by Wayne Grace as Krell . Grace had previously appeared across the franchise including in a voice role in the computer game Star Trek : Klingon Academy , a Cardassian in the Star Trek : Deep Space Nine episode " Wrongs Darker Than Death or Night " and as the Klingon Governor Torak in Star Trek : The Next Generation 's " Aquiel " . Kristin Bauer made her franchise debut as Laneth . She later became better known in her appearances as Pam in HBO 's True Blood .

= = Reception and home media release = =

" Divergence " originally aired on UPN , on February 25 , 2005 . According to Nielsen Media Research , the episode received a 1 @.@ 7 / 3 percent share . This means that it was seen by 1 @.@ 7 percent of the population , and 3 percent of all viewers watching television at the time of the broadcast . This was less than the ratings received by the previous episode , " Affliction " , which scored ratings of 1 @.@ 8 / 3 percent . It finished behind programs on NBC , ABC , CBS and Fox as well as What I Like About You and a repeat of Reba during the second half @-@ hour on The WB .

Michelle Erica Green , in her review for TrekNation , said that it wasn 't as good as the previous episode and thought that there were plot holes . She felt that some of the episode featured bad science , such as when Tucker was transferred between the two ships . She also criticised Archer going down to the Klingon base on his own , calling him a " putz " and said of the Klingon attack , " since when do Klingons destroy ships with deadly subroutines rather than , you know , BOMBS ? " She thought the characterisation was forced , and wanted a better resolution to the events in " Affliction " which she had called " one of the greatest hours of Star Trek ever " . Jamahl Epsicokhan on his website " Jammer 's Reviews " , gave the episode a score of two out of four , saying that the battle scenes were " painfully routine " and that where the episode " runs off the rails is in these final 10 minutes " . He felt that it was a pattern of the final episodes in story arcs not having a " satisfying finish " and that " Divergence " followed in this pattern set by " The Augments " and " The Aenar " . The two part story in " Affliction " and " Divergence " were subsequently ranked the fifth best story of Enterprise by Den of Geek writer James Hunt .

The only home media release of the episode is on DVD as part of the season four box set . This was released in the UK on October 31 , 2005 , and on November 1 , 2005 in the United States . The Blu @-@ ray edition was released on April 1 , 2014 .