

= Daedalus (Star Trek : Enterprise) =

" Daedalus " is the tenth episode of the fourth season of the American science fiction television series Star Trek : Enterprise . Set in the 22nd century , the series follows the adventures of the first Starfleet starship Enterprise , registration NX @-@ 01 . In this episode , as the crew of Enterprise help Doctor Emory Erickson (Bill Cobbs) conduct experimental transporter tests , a dangerous anomaly is detected on board .

It was the second script written by Alan Brennert and Ken LaZebnik , and was directed by David Straiton - his second of the season . " Daedalus " was a bottle episode which used only the standing sets . Show runner Manny Coto had sought to create an origin story for the transporter with " Daedalus " , but was not pleased with either the script or the completed episode . The episode originally aired on January 14 , 2005 , on UPN . It received a Nielsen rating of 1 @. @ 9 / 4 percent . Critical reception was mixed , but the relationship between Doctor Erickson , his daughter Danica (Leslie Silva) and Captain Archer (Scott Bakula) was received positively due to the character development .

= = Plot = =

Old family friends of Captain Archer , Doctor Emory Erickson and his daughter Danica , beam aboard Enterprise to test new sub @-@ quantum transporter technology Erickson has developed . Catching up , Danica confides in Archer that her father has not been himself since the loss of her brother , Quinn , some 15 years ago in an early transporter experiment . After they arrive in ? the Barrens ? ? a sub @-@ space node void of starlight for a hundred light years ? in order to test Erickson 's new work , a strange anomaly is detected on the ship . Crewman Burrows is sent to investigate but is found dead , having been exposed to high levels of Delta radiation .

In the meantime , Commander T 'Pol takes time to rediscover herself in the light of recent events : the teachings of Surak held in the Kir 'Shara ; the death of her mother ; the annulment of her marriage ; her apparent cure from Pa 'nar Syndrome ; and her relationship with Commander Tucker . Tucker assists Erickson with the test , but is brushed aside when he seeks to learn more about the technology . Following a successful trial @-@ run , which sets a new record for the longest transport ever conducted , Tucker confides in Archer that many of the upgrades and modifications to the ship 's power systems were not necessary for the test .

The " photonic ghost " reappears , and T 'Pol manages to visually scan it , revealing that it is Erickson 's long @-@ lost son . Archer now realizes that his old family friends have misled him , and are simply using the ship to somehow rescue Quinn from the node . Erickson freely admits the deception , and asks Archer to trust and help him . Despite the deception , he agrees , aggressively ordering a reluctant T 'Pol and a dissenting Tucker to comply . Finally , Tucker and Erickson manage to recover Quinn , but he suffers severe cellular degeneration in the process and dies soon after . Erickson , aware of the consequences he may now face , is happy to finally bring him home and put him to rest .

= = Production = =

The title of the episode was a direct reference to the namesake in Greek mythology , with Erickson taking the Daedalus while his son relates to Icarus . Of the guest stars , Bill Cobbs had previously appeared in other science fiction genre films and television shows such as Demolition Man and The Outer Limits , while Leslie Silva had appeared as Lesley Silva in Odyssey 5 - a television series created and produced by the Enterprise season four show runner Manny Coto .

In an interview with Science Fiction Weekly , Coto explained that he wanted to create an origin episode for the transporter - taking elements of classic Star Trek such as Zefram Cochrane and " The Ultimate Computer " as inspiration . However , he was not happy with either the script or the final episode , describing it as " flawed " . He felt that the series worked better as multi @-@ episode arcs rather than as stand alone episodes .

" Daedalus " was a bottle show , which used only existing standing sets and a reduced number of special effect shots compared to those earlier in the season . The production suffered a power failure on the final day of filming , which caused a two @-@ hour delay to the filming of interviews for features for the DVD release . The episode was directed by David Straiton ; " Daedalus " was his second episode of the season following the second @-@ part of " Storm Front " . It was also the second credits for two new writers on the show , Ken LaZebnik and Alan Brennert - the former wrote " Borderland " and Brennert was credited as Michael Bryant for the episode " Cold Station 12 " .

= = Reception and home media release = =

" Daedalus " was first broadcast on January 14 , 2005 , on UPN within the United States . The broadcast received Nielsen ratings of 1 @.@ 9 / 4 percent . Therefore , it was seen by 1 @.@ 9 percent of all households , and 4 percent of all those watching television at the time of broadcast . It received lower ratings than The WB , who aired episodes of What I Like About You and Grounded for Life , and came last of all the major networks .

Michelle Erica Green while writing for TrekNation , felt that " Daedalus " was a remix of a variety of prior Star Trek episodes across a number of series including " The Ultimate Computer " , " Silicon Avatar " and " Jetrel " amongst others . She felt that the relationship between Archer and Danica worked , as did the subplot with Tucker and T 'Pol . Jamahl Epsicokhan of the website " Jammer 's Reviews " described the episode as " an overall failed episode " and compared it to the Star Trek : Deep Space Nine episode " The Visitor " - an episode he described as " infinitely better " than " Daedalus " . He felt that the final arc of the episode was obvious from the start , but liked how the relationship worked between Archer , Erickson , and Danica because of the character development . He gave the episode two out of four stars .

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