

The background of the CD cover features a composite image of two characters: a woman with long dark hair on the left and a man on the right. A bright, glowing energy beam or light effect connects them, with a Starship Enterprise flying through it. The overall color palette is dominated by blues, purples, and reds, set against a starry space background.

**2 CD EXPANDED COLLECTOR'S EDITION**  
**MUSIC FROM THE MOTION PICTURE**

**EXTENDED  
TRACK-BY-TRACK  
NOTES**

**LIMITED EDITION**

**STAR TREK®**  
**GENERATIONS™**

**MUSIC COMPOSED AND CONDUCTED BY DENNIS MCCARTHY**





## DISC ONE: FILM SCORE

### 1. Main Title

The first six STAR TREK films, despite their varied tones, feature bold and declarative main title cues—energetic anthems that promise high adventure amongst the stars. *GENERATIONS* takes a more reflective and subdued approach, opening with a splash of shimmering, synth-enhanced textures and a *mysterioso* four-note device (a variant of what will become the film's threat motive). As a lone champagne bottle arcs through the vacuum of space, clustered tones swell majestically under the title, and a quasi-religious chorus wordlessly voices McCarthy's theme for the paradisiacal Nexus. The threat motive variant resurfaces briefly, before swirling harp and keyboard usher in an ennobling melody for trumpet. This is the first of McCarthy's "captain's themes," used to represent Starfleet and its lofty ideals. Ascending figures culminate in joyous French horn exclamations of Alexander Courage's classic STAR TREK fanfare from the original television series, as the bottle shatters against the hull of the USS Enterprise-B.

### 2. Past Glory

Mark tree and harp glissandi maintain the dreamlike atmosphere as Captain James T. Kirk (William Shatner), Montgomery Scott (James Doohan) and Pavel Chekov (Walter Koenig) step onto the bridge of the new Enterprise, where Captain John Harriman (Alan Ruck) greets them as honored guests. The Courage fanfare plays softly as Kirk takes in the scene, moving into a statement of the Starfleet theme as Chekov introduces Demora Sulu (Jacqueline Kim), the daughter of Kirk's former helmsman. The cue finishes with a gentle horn line as Kirk contemplates the rapid passage of years.

### 3. The Enterprise B

The Starfleet theme and Courage fanfare kick off a spirited passage for the Enterprise-B moving out of spacedock.

### 4. Distress Call / Harriman and the Ribbon

A "quick run around the block" turns lethal when the Enterprise-B receives a





distress call from refugee ships caught in a mysterious energy ribbon (the Nexus). Under Kirk's guidance, Scotty manages to beam aboard a fraction of the refugees—members of a long-lived, human-like race whose number includes a disturbed man named Tolian Soran (Malcolm McDowell) and Guinan (Whoopi Goldberg, reprising her role from *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION*). McCarthy's increasingly suspenseful underscore develops the threat motive by introducing a three-note variant, and closes with the initial pitches of the Starfleet theme just as the ribbon captures the Enterprise in its wake.

### **5. Kirk Saves the Day / Deck 15 / HMS Enterprise**

When the Nexus threatens to tear apart the Enterprise, Kirk volunteers to make a perilous descent to Deck 15 and perform some ship-saving trickery with the deflector dish. The score enters with a line that is a hybrid of the Courage fanfare and McCarthy's second "captain's theme," a coursing melody that was composed for a later scene of Kirk riding a horse ("Jumping the Ravine"). Throughout the pulse-pounding music for Kirk's journey through the ship, minor-key variations on this "riding" theme take shape

alongside the Starfleet theme. Kirk finally succeeds in his mission, but in the process gets sucked through the hull and into the Nexus. The music becomes somber and contemplative; and although McCarthy brings in the opening pitches of the Courage fanfare, he never completes the line—a subtle hint that Kirk's "demise" may not be all it seems. Instead, the scene finishes with a gleaming trumpet statement of the Starfleet theme.

Seventy-eight years later, Captain Jean-Luc Picard (Patrick Stewart) and the core crew of the USS Enterprise-D are informally celebrating the promotion of Klingon crewmember Worf (Michael Dorn) aboard a holodeck recreation of the brig HMS Enterprise. Here, the richly harmonized riding theme takes center stage for the first time, albeit in abbreviated form.

### **6. Picard's Message / Raid Post Mortem**

Picard receives news that his beloved brother and nephew have perished in a tragic fire, and sobering horn and trumpet lines







gesture at the Starfleet theme over mournful chords. Picard stares into the horizon and excuses himself, but he has little time to grieve; the Enterprise soon receives a distress call from the nearby Amargosa observatory, and the music darkens ominously as the threat motive returns.

An Enterprise away team led by Commander Will Riker (Jonathan Frakes), Worf and Dr. Beverly Crusher (Gates McFadden) beams aboard the ruined observatory. Eerie strings enter the mix, and the threat motive continues to recur as the team explores. They eventually discover Soran, trapped among the wreckage near two dead Romulans.

## 7. Data and the Emotions

Back on the Enterprise, android crewmember Data (Brent Spiner) decides that the time has come to install his emotion chip. A synth-augmented passage plays as he recruits his friend, chief engineer

Geordi LaForge (Levar Burton), to perform the procedure.

## 8. Time Is Running Out

Soran meets with Picard in the Ten Forward lounge, intuitively playing off the captain's emotional turmoil as he insists that he be allowed to return to the observatory to conclude an experiment. Uneasily shifting chords drop into the orchestra's lower registers as Soran glimpses bartender Guinan, and leaves before she can identify him. A touch of spooky waterphone here—largely buried in the film mix—fleeting evokes Jerry Goldsmith's use of the instrument in STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE.

## 9. Data Malfunctions

Geordi and Data (the latter now suffering from bouts of inappropriate humor) search the observatory, accompanied by haunted musical textures, dissonant swells and creeping lines that suggest the threat motive. When they discover a secret room of probes bearing hazardous trillithium, Soran appears and apprehends them.







## 10. Soran Kidnaps Geordi

Threatening figures for low strings and brass build slowly to pulsing, crashing action as Soran uses a trilithium probe to destroy the Amargosa star, then absconds aboard a rogue Klingon bird-of-prey with Geordi as his prisoner. Soran's venal Klingon allies are sisters Lursa and B'Etor (portrayed by Barbara March and Gwynyth Walsh, reprising their television roles).

## 11. Guinan and the Nexus

Picard consults with Guinan, who reveals that the Nexus is the gateway to a timeless realm of perfect joy. Dark and mysterious music bookends a loose quote of the Nexus theme, with faint voices providing an impression of the seductive dreamworld.

## 12. Torture

Aboard the bird-of-prey, Soran questions Geordi (ostensibly for information, although his interest in Geordi's sight-enabling VISOR suggests an ulterior motive) and then proceeds to torture him. McCarthy's music was dropped from the film when the scene was shortened to remove the torture. His cue highlights the threat motive in slithery contrabassoon and low strings, and finishes with a lonely trumpet figure.

## 13. Soran's Plan Revealed

Picard and Data visit the stellar cartography department and work out that Soran is destroying stars so that the Nexus will change course and intersect with the planet Veridian III, where he can rejoin it. Horrifyingly, the Veridian star—Soran's next target—supports a sentient population. The score undergirds the tension of the discovery with an insistent pulse of low strings beneath shifting chords, finishing in a dramatic orchestral flourish as the Enterprise warps to the Veridian system.

## 14. Prisoner Exchange

Picard negotiates with Lursa and B'Etor: if they will return Geordi and beam Picard to Soran's launch site, the captain will be their hostage afterward. The opening of this cue, featuring a snap pizzicato variation of the threat motive, was replaced in





the film by the first 35 seconds of “Soran Kidnaps Geordi” (for this alternate assembly, see the bonus section of disc two). The remainder of the cue builds slowly and dramatically to a grim quote of the Starfleet theme as the Klingons beam Geordi to the Enterprise and Picard to the planet’s surface.

### **15. Outgunned**

Geordi returns to main engineering, unaware that his VISOR has been converted into a transmitter for Lursa and B’Etor. Once they learn the Enterprise’s shield modulation, they are able to surprise the larger and better-armed vessel with a sneak attack. The mounting threat motive gives way to a lengthy passage of churning, snare-driven action as the Enterprise is badly damaged. Finally, Worf is able to identify a weakness that allows them to destroy the Klingon ship, and the music reaches a frenzied crescendo as Lursa and B’Etor go out in flames.

### **16. The Gap / Coolant Leak / Appointment With Eternity / Out of Control / Blasted / The Crash**

Tentative strings bring a momentary lull as Picard, having failed to dissuade Soran, notices a gap in the launch platform’s protective force field. Strident rhythms and powerful brass return the action to the battered Enterprise, where a coolant leak makes a warp core breach inevitable. The Starfleet theme buttresses the crew’s efforts to get all personnel to the ship’s saucer section.

Another lull occurs as Picard strategizes and Soran prepares for his “appointment with eternity.” In the sky above, the Enterprise saucer detaches from the main body of the ship, but loses control in the shockwave of the warp core explosion. Picard finally penetrates the force field, only to be deterred by a disruptor blast from Soran. Furious declamations of the Starfleet theme and threat motive break in, as the Enterprise saucer plows violently into the planet’s surface.



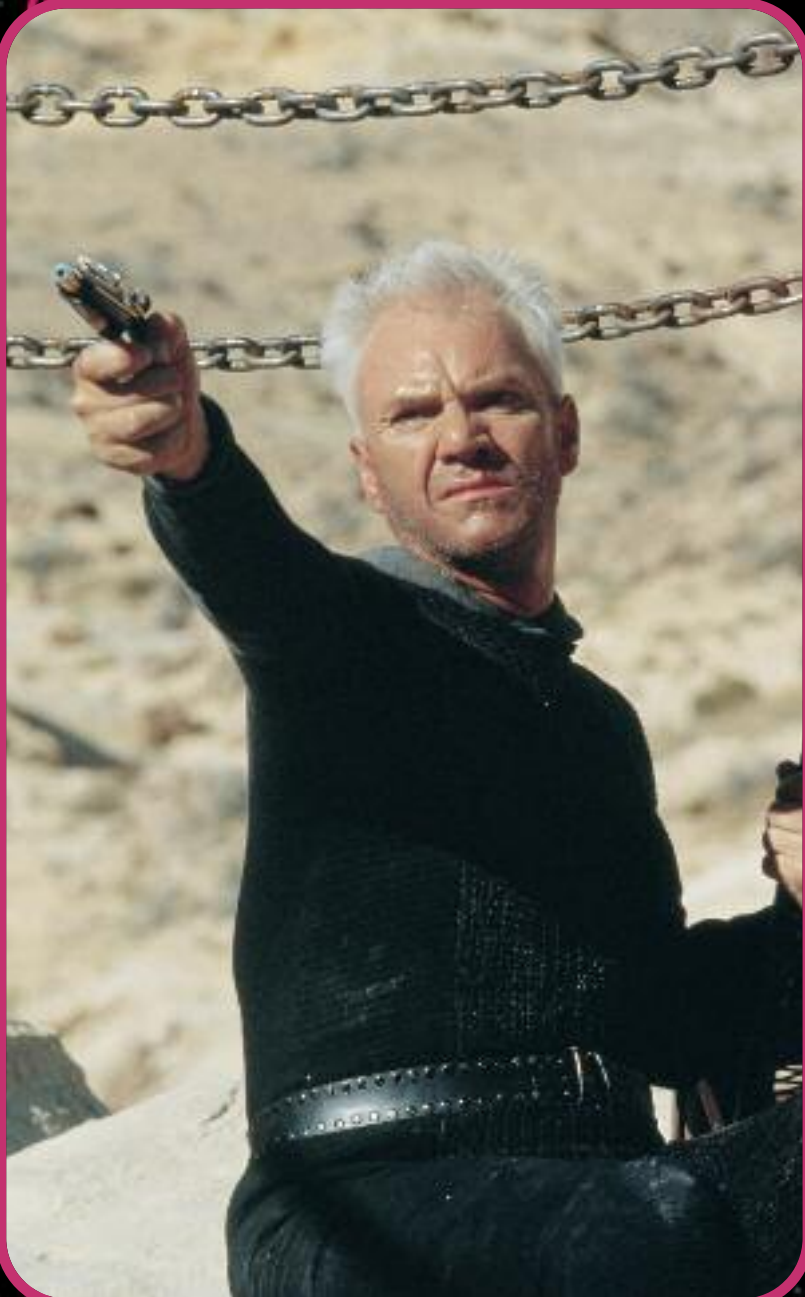
### **17. Coming to Rest**

High strings introduce a forlorn horn line which suggests the Courage fanfare, as the Enterprise bridge crew takes stock of the damage and casualties. A surreal passage underscores the reveal of the downed saucer, with trumpet shaping a quote of the Starfleet theme on the transition back to Soran and Picard.

### **18. The Nexus**

Dissonant, spidery music plays as the Nexus approaches Veridian III, with great swells of brass as Soran’s missile launches and destroys the Veridian sun—signaling the imminent death of all life in the system. McCarthy’s evocative music for the Nexus surges to the fore as the energy ribbon reaches the planet’s surface and swallows up both Soran and Picard, just before the planet is obliterated by the star’s shockwave.





## 19. A Christmas Hug / The Kitchen Debate

A low-register setting of the threat motive simmers beneath a confusion of textures, but yields to ethereal voices that dissolve into the Nexus theme. A lengthy Christmas fantasy sequence ensues, wherein Picard is tempted by an experience of the life he never had—that of a family man, with a loving wife and children. McCarthy scores the scene delicately, incorporating quotes of both the Starfleet and riding themes alongside the Nexus material as Picard struggles to reconcile what he sees with what he knows is true. Eventually, a specter of Guinan appears—an “echo” left behind—to serve as a foil for Picard’s doubts and speculations.

Picard finally tears himself away from the illusion, and asks “Guinan” to find someone who can help him when he goes back in time to thwart Soran. She guides him to James T. Kirk—revealed to be still alive within the Nexus. In the kitchen of Kirk’s fantasy home, Picard attempts to explain the situation to his counterpart. But Kirk remains seduced by his dream, and the cue closes without resolution.

## 20. Jumping the Ravine

Kirk rides his horse into the countryside to reunite with a lost love, Picard on his heels. After a short introductory phrase of the Starfleet theme, the riding theme finally comes into its own. Exhilarated, Kirk jumps a familiar ravine ... but the score becomes subdued as he realizes something is not right. The riding theme surges as he jumps the ravine again; but this time, the chorus of the Nexus is clearly audible. Kirk knows the danger is not real, and the enchantment is broken. (This was the first cue McCarthy wrote for the film, and provided the seed of his main themes.)

## 21. Two Captains / Crash Recap

Picard approaches, and a noble solo horn performs the Starfleet theme over suspended strings as Kirk describes his epiphany: he needs to make a difference. Kirk agrees to go back with Picard, and the melody moves into strings, culminating in the Courage fanfare as the two captains ride off into the light. Abruptly, the film jumps backwards in time, to just before the Enterprise crash.





Taut snares and the threat motive lead to a brief statement of the Starfleet theme, as the saucer hits earth and Picard once again traverses Soran's force field.

## 22. The Final Fight

All of the score's major themes come together for the action climax. The staunch Starfleet and riding themes trade punches with the sinister threat motive, and a brief quote of the Nexus theme appears as the energy ribbon winds ever closer to Veridian III. The cue's dynamic rhythms and aggressive percussion intensify the sense of mounting danger and excitement, as Picard and Kirk struggle to wrest control of the launch pad and its remote-controlled cloak from Soran. Kirk falls atop a shattered bridge while deactivating the cloak, but Picard ultimately triumphs by locking the missile's clamps. With a final, searing statement of the threat motive, both Soran and the launch platform are consumed in an explosive conflagration.

## 23. Captain of the Enterprise (Kirk's Death)

An elegiac version of the Starfleet theme plays as Picard discovers Kirk, broken beneath the collapsed bridge. Poignant strings accompany the two captains' heartfelt final exchange. As Kirk dies and Picard builds a simple stone cairn, a lovely oboe line smoothly moves into the Starfleet theme in trumpet, overlapping the Courage fanfare in horn. The Starfleet theme then resumes for Picard's captain's log summation.

## 24. To Live Forever

Data, now coping more successfully with his emotions, discovers his cat Spot alive among the wreckage of the Enterprise. A tender flute passage, incorporating the riding theme, complements his tears of joy. The theme continues in brass as Picard and Riker discuss the nature of time and mortality, and ultimately the Starfleet and riding themes fuse into a hybrid line for oboe. As the heroes beam up to the waiting convoy and warp into the distance,





the iconic Courage fanfare charges forward—the riding theme sounding in joyous counterpoint.

## 25. STAR TREK: GENERATIONS Overture

Although styled as an overture and utilized as such on the 1994 soundtrack album, this piece was also used for the film's end credits. It opens with a shining statement of the Starfleet theme before moving into an exuberant version of the riding theme, complete with jubilant answering phrases for brass. This is followed by a selection of Nexus material with full chorus and another reprise of the riding theme. As in the film's final scene, the suite is capped off by a refrain of the Courage fanfare with riding theme counterpoint—a glorious encapsulation of two generations of Starfleet's finest.

## DISC TWO: SOUNDTRACK ALBUM & BONUS TRACKS

### 1-15. Soundtrack Album

The cues that make up the original 1994 soundtrack album of STAR TREK: GENERATIONS are substantially identical to the film versions heard on disc one, although some are grouped together differently.

With the exception of the “Overture” (which is moved to the beginning) the chronology is accurate to the film.

### 16-38. STAR TREK: GENERATIONS Sound Effects

The 1994 album also debuted this bonus selection of sound effects created for the film.

### 39. Prisoner Exchange (film version)

This film edit of “Prisoner Exchange” tracks “Soran Kidnaps Geordi” over the initial 35 seconds. The original version of the cue can be heard on disc one, and as part of the disc two soundtrack album.

### 40. A Christmas Hug (choir only)

McCarthy wrote numerous choral overlays for use during the Nexus sequences. Here, the most significant track is presented unaccompanied.

### 41. Lifeforms (vocal: Brent Spiner)

Data's emotion chip endows GENERATIONS with an unconventional sense of humor, as typified by this partly improvised ditty. It occurs in the film just prior to “Outgunned.”

—John Takis



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