

Boston Legal Themes and Allusions in Comparison with StarTrek For Parallel Universe: Trek in the Courtroom for Boston-Legal.org Episode: Word Salad [02x21: airdate: March 28, 2006] by Debb from Montreal

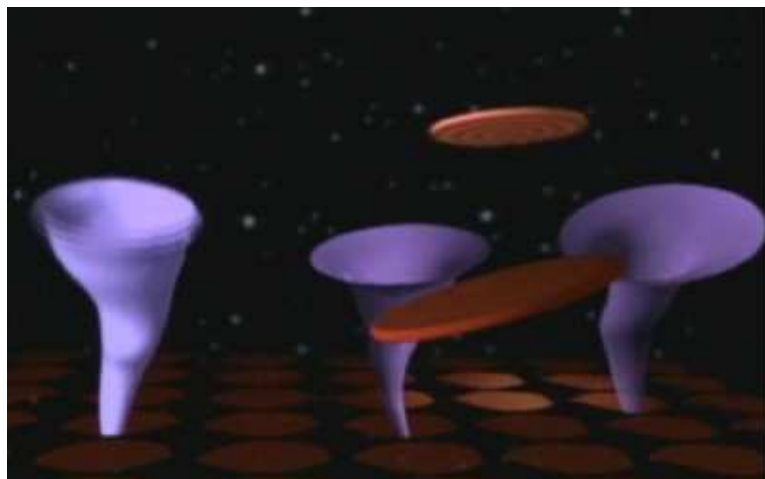
Theme 1: Wesley's Game In as much as TNG's **Wesley** Crusher (Stephanie Bellar's son's – whom she maintained was killed by the effects of the game - name was also **Wesley**) was involved in uncovering the effects of a Ktarian virtual game, the effects which are described similarly in Word Salad. However, TNG's Wesley was the one attempting to prevent the crew of the Enterprise from a mind addicting game while the Boston Legal Wesley was the one to succumb to the negative and addicted effects of the game.



Etana Jol (a Ktarian) introduces Riker to "the game"
<http://www.startrek.com/imageuploads/200303/tng-206-riker-tries-out-the-ga/320x240.jpg>

In TNG, the premise of "The Game" begins with Commander Riker on shore leave on Risa and his consort of the day, Etana Jol (a Ktarian). A pretty similar day not unlike the time spent by Alan Shore and Denny Crane at the spa.)

Etana introduces Riker to a "game", involving a headset, which projects an image of circles going into tubes. When the circle goes into the tube, the player is "rewarded" by receiving pleasure signals from the device. Riker introduces the game to other crew members of the Enterprise.



The visual interface of the Ktarian game. TNG: "The Game"
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/6/66/Ktarian_game_graphics.jpg

While visiting the Enterprise on holiday, our hero Wesley Crusher becomes attracted to Ensign Robin Lefler. On a side note, both Wesley are dadless.

Wesley and Robin come to realize that the game has a mind-controlling effect on the crew which also stimulates the brain's higher reasoning area.

Wesley and Robin investigate the device in sickbay, and determine that it has a **psychotropically addictive side-effect**, and that it **stimulates increased serotonin (dopamine in Word Salad) production**.



Wesley Crusher played by Wil Wheaton and Robin Lefler (played by Ashley Judd) enjoy time together away from the crew and "the game".

Theme 2 - Star Trek Alumni: William Shatner (Denny Crane), René Auberjonois (Paul Lewiston), Christopher Carroll (Judge Stephen Bickel), Joel Polis (Attorney Eric Yavitch), Ken Land (Dr. Samuel Williams), Ron Canada (Judge Willard Reese) - see “Smile” and “Stick It”, Jennifer Parsons (Dr. Reesa Klaywig)



Christopher Carroll as Alben, Captain of the Nasari ship Nerada VOY "Favorite Son"
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/wiki/Image:Alben.jpg>



Christopher Carroll as Gul Benil, a Cardassian assigned to patrol Cardassian space.
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/wiki/Image:Benil.jpg>

Christopher Carroll also provided the voice for the Vanguard Spokesperson for Star Trek: Starfleet Academy (1997) (VG)



Joel Polis as Ny Terla, VOY "Time an"



Ken Land as Verin suffering from radiation sickness. VOY "Friendship One"
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/b/bd/Verin.jpg>



Jennifer Parsons as Miranda O'Brien in an alternate timeline, a descendant of Miles O'Brien. DS9: "Children of Time". She would also play an Ocampan nurse in Voyager's pilot episode "Caretaker".
http://memory-alpha.org/en/images/4/4b/O'Brien%2C_Miranda.jpg

47 sighting: The Elena Richardsons live at 147 Edgar Street. Ray Richardson was arrested in front of 147. 2 mentions...