

GUIDE TO THE 17 FREE BONUS BUNDLES "CNN Documents Babylon 5"

SOURCES

All clips, without exception, come from the personal VHS collection of a *Babylon 5* fan which was purchased by Babylon 5 Books. None of these clips are from YouTube, though a few may be on YouTube, at a much lower quality.

1. PTEN BUNDLE

B5 Columbia House Home Video

The release of *Babylon 5* via the Columbia House mail order home video program preceded the commercial release of *B5* episodes to video stores by some months, and it remains of interest for being the only official, factory, U.S. release of *The Gathering* in its original, 1993, un-special-edition form.

B5 Local Spot Londo 1995

B5 Local Spot Sheridan 1996

These aired in Phoenix, Arizona during the show's run on the local UPN affiliate, KUTP-45, circa 1995-97. The years are approximate, but the Bruce Boxleitner spot can only date from mid-Season 3 or Season 4, as he's in the black uniform. Presumably, there were more of these for other markets.

B5 Mystery Alien Sweepstakes

Circa winter-spring 1996. One week of the contest is represented here and features the Lennier silhouette.

B5 MTV Ad Spring 1994

Aired early in Season 1. Notable for featuring only CGI footage and generic quotes from critics. The belief is that PTEN wanted to get the *Beavis & Butt-Head* audience interested in *B5*, and so placed it on MTV.

B5 PTEN Bumper 1997

B5 PTEN Bumpers

B5 UPN Generic Bumpers

These are included for completeness, as these PTEN bumpers have nostalgic value for fans who watched the show on its original run.

2. Bundle 02 - TNT Special Promos

B5 Super Bowl 1998 Captain Lochley VS Sports Fans

A completely forgotten and unexpected gem, aired on Super Bowl Sunday, 1998. This is a neat little comic piece with Tracy Scoggins, in character as Captain Lochley, confronting football fans. Obviously, this was part of TNT's effort to tie *B5* into their programming/audience.

B5 TNT Spot Ivanova 1997

B5 TNT Spot G'Kar 1997

These two spots aired prior to and early in TNT's run. Spots featuring Sheridan and Londo were also written and shot, but were never aired.

B5 Bruce & Jerry 2001 Intro Snippet

Following back-to-back airings of "Thirdspace" in July 1998, TNT aired *2001: A Space Odyssey*, hosted by Bruce Boxleitner & Jerry Doyle, on-set and in-costume, talking about their love of that film. Unfortunately, this is just a peek.

3. Bundle 03 - TNT Series Generic

B5 TNT Intro Bumper 1998

TNT produced unique bumpers for every TV series they aired, whether it was original or acquired. This particular one preceded every single TNT airing of *B5* episodes, and some of the movies. To those viewers who jumped aboard during the TNT run, this is almost certainly every bit as much a part of their nostalgic *B5* experience as the PTEN bumpers are for those viewers.

B5 TNT Timeless Battle Spot 1998

Aired sporadically throughout TNT's schedule, not just during *Babylon 5*. Short and effective.

B5 TNT Promo In the Third Age

B5 TNT Promo Long No Voiceover

B5 TNT Promo Make New Friends

B5 TNT Watch Weekdays Version 1

B5 TNT Watch Weekdays Version 2

TNT created a montage/library of stock footage drawn from the first four seasons and used it in longer and shorter forms, and with different voiceovers and text, to promote the show. The narration on "Make New Friends" is particularly amusing.

4. Bundle 04 - In the Beginning

B5 In the Beginning Unique Bumpers

Snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 In the Beginning Trailer

B5 In the Beginning Teaser Humans Bad Guys Saturday

B5 In the Beginning Teaser Humans Bad Guys Tomorrow

B5 In the Beginning The Gathering Hybrid Bumper

B5 In the Beginning The Series Hybrid Bumper

Various trailers and teasers to promote the movie and the series.

5. Bundle 05 - The Gathering

B5 The Gathering Unique Bumpers

More snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 The Gathering Watch After ITB Version 1

B5 The Gathering Watch After ITB Version 2

B5 TNT The Gathering Tonight Original Forms Version 1

B5 TNT The Gathering Tonight Original Forms Version 2

Various trailers and teasers to promote *The Gathering* during the premiere of *In the Beginning*, and a later re-airing when the series was in progress. Of note is that TNT used the "original forms" of the characters as a hook to try to entice viewership, when in every other instance they emphasized the "Special Edition" aspect of their version.

6. B5 Rare Clips Bundle 06 - Thirdspace

B5 Thirdspace Featurette 1

B5 Thirdspace Featurette 2

These are two distinct "behind the scenes" featurettes for *Thirdspace*, totaling about six minutes; the only redundancy is a small piece of dialogue by Straczynski. Otherwise, they include unique interviews with Bruce Boxleitner, Claudia Christian, Rick Biggs, Stephen Furst and Jeff Conaway—since these last three are no longer with us, it's an especially nice treat to see them on-set, talking about their characters and the story of the movie. And Claudia's description of her fight scene is both memorable and priceless.

B5 Thirdspace Unique Bumpers

Snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 Thirdspace Teaser Short Sunday
B5 Thirdspace Teaser Short Tonight
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Next
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Saturday Noon
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Sunday
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Tomorrow Noon
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Tonight
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Version 2 July 19
B5 Thirdspace Trailer Long Version 2 Tonight

Thirdspace would appear to have been TNT's most-hyped (and repeated) *B5*-related broadcast, perhaps even more so than the series launch. These various teasers and trailers all use a series of stock shots from the movie, and appeared all over TNT's schedule in June and July of 1998. This was "Peak *B5*" on TNT.

B5 SyFy Thirdspace WS Friday
B5 SyFy Thirdspace WS Now

Teasers for SyFy's premiere of *Thirdspace* in widescreen.

7. Bundle 07 - The River of Souls

B5 The River of Souls Featurette 1
B5 The River of Souls Featurette 2

Two distinct behind-the-scenes featurettes for *The River of Souls*. As usual, Straczynski neatly sums up the themes in his sound bite; the interviews, with a slightly befuddled-seeming Martin Sheen are amusing; and the late Jeff Conaway's comments on death and the afterlife are especially poignant, of course, in light of his passing.

B5 The River of Souls Unique Bumpers

Snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 The River of Souls Teaser Long Encore Tonight
B5 The River of Souls Teaser Short Encore Tonight
B5 The River of Souls Trailer Long Sunday Night
B5 The River of Souls Trailer Long Sunday Nov 8

These various teasers and trailers all use a series of stock shots from the movie, and appeared all over TNT's schedule beginning in October 1998, though not as extensively as the promotion for *Thirdspace*. Presumably this is because TNT had to split the advertising time between *The River of Souls* and the final five episodes, particularly the finale—and also because it's clear that by this time, TNT's enthusiasm for *B5* was running out of steam.

B5 Sony Listen Ad
B5 Sony Look Ad

These two Sony spots feature footage from *The River of Souls* to show off their then-state-of-the-art home video equipment.

8. Bundle 08 - TNT Season 5

B5 Ended A Great War Every Wednesday Night A
B5 Ended A Great War World Premiere Jan 21 A
B5 Ended A Great War World Premiere One Week
B5 Ended A Great War World Premiere Tomorrow
B5 Ended A Great War World Premiere Tonight A
B5 Ended A Great War World Premiere Wednesday Night A
B5 Season 5 Final Journey New Time A
B5 Season 5 Final Journey New Time Your Only Chance
B5 Season 5 New Heroes New Evils Every Wednesday Night
B5 Season 5 New Heroes New Evils World Premiere
B5 Watch Season 5 Promo Short

TNT's pattern of creating a library of stock footage to use in montage form continues in these promos for Season 5, which vary only in length, narration and text. The first wave

aired throughout the first three weeks of January, leading up to the Season 5 premiere on January 21. Less-hyped sets of promos using the same footage appeared in the summer of 1998 and again in the early autumn to promote the final run of new episodes.

9. Bundle 09 - 100th Episode

B5 100th Episode 1 Week

B5 100th Episode 2 Weeks

B5 100th Episode Wednesday Night

The 100th aired episode was broadcast in the spring of 1998, and TNT made an effort to make an event out of it. The footage shown is drawn from the same pool as the spots in Bundle 08.

10. Bundle 10 - Final Episode

B5 Final Episode Next

B5 Final Episode Nov 25

B5 Final Episode Promo 1 Week

B5 Final Episode Promo 2 Weeks

B5 Final Episode Spot Short

TNT's next-to-last big push to make an event out of *B5* came in anticipation of the airing of "Sleeping in Light", though again, as with *The River of Souls* TNT uses the same stock footage as the rest of the Season 5 spots.

11. Bundle 11 - A Call To Arms & Crusade

B5 A Call To Arms Unique Bumpers

Snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 A Call To Arms Long January 3

B5 A Call To Arms Long Next

B5 A Call To Arms Long Sunday

B5 Call To Arms Short Sunday

These aired one year (give or take a day) after the super-hyped day-long event that launched *B5* on TNT.

B5 Crusade Teaser

Note that these teasers refer to *Crusade* as a "limited series." These aired during *Crusade*'s one-and-only TNT run in the summer of 1999, though not very often.

B5 Crusade Rangers SyFy Credits

This comes from the credits of the *Crusade* episodes when SyFy showed them in a marathon around Thanksgiving of 2001, with *The Legend of the Rangers* on the horizon.

12. Bundle 12 - TNT Sweepstakes

B5 TNT Sweepstakes All Next Week

B5 TNT Sweepstakes All This Week

B5 TNT Sweepstakes Q1

B5 TNT Sweepstakes Q2

B5 TNT Sweepstakes Q3

B5 TNT Sweepstakes Q4

B5 TNT Sweepstakes Q5

This contest came a little way into TNT's second run of *B5*, circa June 1998.

13. Bundle 13 - TNT Rough Cut

B5 TNT Rough Cut Hallway 1 Hi Bruce

B5 TNT Rough Cut Hallway 2 Hi No One

B5 TNT Rough Cut Lift 1 Dark City

B5 TNT Rough Cut Medlab Set 1

B5 TNT Rough Cut Medlab Set 2

"Rough Cut" was TNT's movie-preview show. In another effort to tie *B5* into their overall programming, they put the show's host on the *B5* sets and in *B5*'s costumes, and dropped these snippets into the closing credits during the new *B5* episodes on Wednesday nights (and possibly during some of their other shows). It's kind of fun to see these behind-the-scenes moments.

14. Bundle 14 - TNT Interstitials feat B5

TNT dot com ad feat B5

TNT July Promo feat B5

TNT New Classics Nov 1998 feat B5

TNT New Schedule Fall 1998 feat B5

TNT New Schedule January 1998 feat B5

TNT Summer 1998 Lineup feat B5

These are not *B5*-specific, but include *B5* to varying degrees of prominence while promoting TNT's various schedules, lineups, and their website. Based on what we can see in the website promo, *B5* does seem to have been prominent on the TNT site.

15. Bundle 15 - SyFy

B5 SyFy Teaser Version 1

B5 SyFy Teaser Version 2

B5 SyFy Teaser A Story This Big M-F

B5 SyFy Teaser A Story This Big M-Th

B5 SyFy Teaser A Story This Big Next

B5 SyFy Teaser A Story This Big Tonight

SyFy did a commendable job of promoting *B5*, at least at first, with the main hook being its first appearance anywhere in widescreen, as these various teasers and trailers from the summer and fall of 2000 demonstrate.

B5 SyFy Sciography Teaser Bruce

"Sciography" was a short-lived documentary series that premiered on SyFy in the early summer of 2000. Its title was somewhat disingenuous, as it offered an often snarky post-mortem on its subjects. Only a few episodes were produced, and even fewer were actually aired. The *Babylon 5* Sciography never aired because Straczynski objected to the tone and approach of the finished piece.

B5 SyFy Teapot Raiders

An editing glitch during SyFy's first two airings of "Midnight on the Firing Line" led to this infamous variation, which must be seen to be fully appreciated. This was a source of great amusement on *B5* forums at the time. *Note: This clip is on YouTube, but this one's quality is a major upgrade.*

16. Bundle 16 - Legend Of The Rangers

B5 Rangers Contest

This SyFy contest prize was a poster signed by the *Legend of the Rangers* cast. As cool as it would be to have, it doesn't seem to compare to the prize packs for the TNT and PTEN contests.

B5 The Legend of the Rangers Unique Bumpers

Snippets of footage used to come out of commercials and back into the movie.

B5 Rangers Teaser

These will sound familiar because SyFy's default voiceover guy is the same one who did the TNT spots.

SyFy Originals feat B5 LOTR 1

SyFy Originals feat B5 LOTR 2

Similar to the TNT interstitials, these aren't exclusively *B5*-oriented, but do include *The Legend of the Rangers* as an upcoming attraction, along with SyFy's other original programming.

17. Art of Babylon 5

This Art Directors Guild Event occurred at the 2014 Comic-Con. The video of the event was sent to us personally years later by *B5* Art Director John Iacovelli who wanted to make sure that *Babylon 5* fans would get a chance to see it, since it wouldn't be posted on YouTube. We decided to re-digitize this as well as a thank you to John who passed away a few years ago.

For complete details about CNN DOCUMENTS BABYLON 5 go to B5books.com