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**Steve Mollmann**

Commodore



Loc: Colerain Twp., OH

**The Star Trek Books FAQ**

[#3612780](#) - Wed Nov 17 2004 11:05 PM

*The thread says: pin me please!*

Thanks to Geoff "Wersgor" Hamell for suggesting this; Michael Schuster, John "Pf2144", Will Devine, Andrew Timson, Ian "Therin of Andor" McLean, Bob "Bobatiel" Manojlovich, Christopher L. Bennett, Kevin Killiany, and Michael Schuster for their suggestions and assistance; Slave of Seven and Aatrek for updating and pinning this; and Keith DeCandido, Marco Palmieri, Ann Crispin, and Margaret Clark for patiently answering some questions. Hopefully this will be the last time they're asked.

**UPCOMING/MISSING PROJECTS**

**Q. When will [Rumored/Announced Book X] come out?**

A. *Rihannsu #5: The Empty Chair*. When Diane Duane finishes it. Recently, according to her blog (<http://outofambit.blogspot.com/>), she has not been working on it, because of deadlines on other books such as *Wizards at War*. Before that, she was for some time. Maybe if we're really lucky we'll see it in 2005, but I doubt it. Remember, there were thirteen years between Books 2 and 3, and it's only been four years since Book 4 right now.

- *The Yesterday Saga #3-5*. This project has been cancelled for reasons unknown.
- *Split Infinities*. This project has been renamed *Other Times* to avoid conflict with *Star Wars's* Infinities mini-series. According to [Marco's Q&A](#): "Split Infinities (which was only a working title) got backburnered, but will see the light of day at some point."
- *Dark Passions #3-4*. Also according to Marco, "Dark Passion's 3-4 was only hypothetical, and is not actually in development."
- *The Lost Era*. There are going to be two more Lost Era novels, one dealing with Picard's time between the *Stargazer* and the *Enterprise-D*; the other with Ben Sisko during the Tzenkethi War. Authors, titles, and publications dates are all still unannounced. Note that there will most likely be other books set in the time of the "Lost Era" without that specific banner-- the *Stargazer* series, for example.

**Q. What happened to *Challenger*?**

A. *Star Trek: Challenger* is on hold while Diane Carey pursues development of original fiction. Its return is indefinite. [Marco Palmieri explains](#): "Not to confuse the issue with the obvious, but there never was a *Challenger* series. Only the hope that it would continue in much the same manner as, say, *New Frontier*. The mistake on our end, clearly, was touting it as a new series prematurely."

**Q. If I've heard about a book and it isn't on the schedule, does that mean it was cancelled?**

A. No. There are always plenty of books in development that haven't been scheduled yet. And remember, the schedule is always tentative and subject to change. The schedule is more a hope than a promise. (Thanks to Christopher L. Bennett)

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**Q. Is there a good place to find out about books that actually were cancelled?**

A. Yes there is! Check out Steve Roby's page, [Star Trek: The Lost Books](#). The page also has information on the oft-mentioned *Probe/Music of the Spheres* and *A Flag Full of Stars* debacles.

*ASPECTS OF TREKLIT*

**Q. What is the order of the DS9 relaunch titles?**

A. The "core" titles of the relaunch belong in this order, chronologically speaking:

*The Left Hand of Destiny*, Books One & Two

*The Lives of Dax*

*Avatar*, Books One & Two

Section 31: *Abyss*

Gateways #4: *Demons of Air and Darkness*

Gateways #7: *What Lay Beyond: "Horn and Ivory"*

Mission: Gamma

- #1: *Twilight*
- #2: *This Gray Spirit*
- #3: *Cathedral*
- #4: *Lesser Evil*

*Rising Son\**

*Unity*

*The Worlds of Deep Space Nine*

- #1: Cardassia/Andor
- #2: Bajor/Trill (available in February 2005)
- #3: Dominion/Ferenginar (available in February 2005)

\* actually runs concurrent with books from *Abyss* through *Lesser Evil*

A timeline of these plus related relaunch materials can be found here:

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~atimson/startrek/timeline.htm>

Marco Palmieri's recommended reading order is almost the same. It runs thusly: *Avatar*, *Abyss*, the Gateways installments, Mission: Gamma, *Rising Son*, *The Lives of Dax*, *The Left Hand of Destiny*, *Unity*, *Worlds of DS9*.

**Q. Will there be more post-finale titles after *Worlds*?**

A. YES! As of yet, however, no details have been announced. There is a book called *Walking Wounded*, which has been mentioned for some time, but is still unscheduled.

**Q. What is the Shatniverse?**

A. In order to prevent confusion, those novels written in collaboration between the Reeves-Stevens and William Shatner have been set aside in their own continuity. This way, casual references to Kirk being alive will not slip into other books and confuse the poor readers. However, this has not stopped the Shatniverse books from referencing other works, including *Ship of the Line* and The Dominion War Tetralogy. The novels in the Shatniverse are:

Odyssey

- *The Ashes of Eden*
- The Return
- Avenger

The Mirror Universe Trilogy

- *Spectre*
- Dark Victory
- Preserver

Totality

- *Captain's Peril*
- Captain's Blood
- Captain's Glory (available in March 2005)

**Q. What is *Star Trek: S.C.E.*?**

A. *S.C.E.* is a series of eBooks chronicling the adventures of the *U.S.S. da Vinci* and its Starfleet Corps of Engineers response team. Available in eBook format up to book #45 and in six paperback collections up to book #24. More information available here: <http://www.psiphi.org/cgi/upc-db/sce/>

**Oct 26 - [Good and Bad News For Trek Gaming Fans](#)**

'Legacy' release delayed two weeks; 'Tactical Assault' receives rave review, 'Encounters' not so much; games to be released overseas.

**Oct 25 - [Moore Thinks Abrams Could Cruise To Success](#)**

Rumours that a major movie star might be interested in appearing in 'Star Trek XI' plus BSG producer's faith in choice of new Star Trek franchise head.

**Oct 25 - [Stewart Keeps Busy With Shakespeare and Sports](#)**

When not performing Antony or Prospero in Ann Arbor, the Picard actor avidly follows baseball and will conduct the Michigan band.

- [Trek Nation](#)

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- [ST: Hypertext](#)



**Q. What is in the future for *Star Trek: The Next Generation*?**

A. *TNG* received a major focus in 2004 with the nine-book *A Time to...* maxiseries. The events of this series led up to *Star Trek: Nemesis*, and will be followed up on in two ways. First, there shall be *The Next Generation: The Second Decade* (editor Margaret Clark's unofficial and inaccurate title), following the *Enterprise-E* crew. There have been two announced titles so far: *Death in Winter* by Michael Jan Friedman and *Resistance* by J.M. Dillard, both hardcovers. There will also a series entitled *Star Trek: Titan*, suprisingly enough focusing on Captain Riker's *U.S.S. Titan*. The first novel, *Taking Wing* by Michael A. Martin and Andy Mangels, should be available in April 2005.

**Q. What is *Star Trek: Vanguard*?**

A. *Vanguard* is a new fiction series from editor Marco Palmieri and writer David Mack. As Marco has said, "*Vanguard* centers around a Federation starbase and the ships assigned to it during the time of *The Original Series*. It's about a chasing an ancient mystery having to do with the remote region of space in which the station has been established. The first novel is by Dave Mack and will be published in August, 2005." Incidentally, anyone who suggests this series is "*DS9* in the 23rd century" will be promptly reprimanded... fatally.

**Q. Will *New Frontier: After the Fall* have a coolio CD like *Stone and Anvil*? I heard that the comic book *Double Time* would be on it.**

A. No. The idea was discussed, but not pursued.

**FEW AND FAR BETWEEN?**

**Q. Why aren't there any more *Star Trek* comics?**

A. Oh, but there are! Recently, the publisher Tokyopop announced plans to create a *Star Trek: The Next Generation* manga anthology, for publication in Winter 2003/2004. Further information can be found here: [http://www.tokyopop.com/news/press2004/2004\\_star\\_trek.php](http://www.tokyopop.com/news/press2004/2004_star_trek.php) and <http://newsarama.com/forums/showthread.php?s=&threadid=19217>

In addition, Checker Book Publishing recently announced a plan to reprint the old Gold Key TOS comics from the 1960's and 70's into trade paperbacks. ([http://www.checkerbpg.com/strek1\\_gn.html](http://www.checkerbpg.com/strek1_gn.html)) Also, J.G. Hertzler is trying to create a Klingon graphic novel, but no word has been forthcoming on whether he's had any sort of success with this.

**Q. Why are the *S.C.E.* paperback reprints so rare?**

A. *S.C.E.* was primarily conceived of and executed as an eBook series. Any paperback concerns are secondary. Anyway, only so many books fit on the schedule every year, and the editors do their best to maintain a balanced approach, meaning there is not always room for *S.C.E.* Besides, you can always just buy the eBooks. That's what I did. 2004 has seen the release of two paperbacks (after an unplanned schedule alteration), and 2005 will see the release of two more, *Breakdowns* and *Aftermath*, taking the series up to #32.

**Q. Why are there so few TOS books this year? Why are there so few TNG books this year? Why are there so few DS9, VGR, ENT, NF, CHA, SGZ, GKN, etc. books this year? Does Pocket hate me and want to destroy my favorite series?**

A. No. As said before, Pocket tries its best to create a balanced approach, however this balance is achieved over several years, not within each year, to give them more freedom. Hence, 2004 is TNG-heavy; whereas 2001-03 have had a lot of DS9; and 2000, 2002, and 2005/06 were/will be TOS-heavy. Also note that VGR relaunch, NF, CHA, SGZ, and GKN are single-author series, and will thus probably have one to two books at max each year. (Though some may be dissapointed that some series are multi-author and others are single-author, each of these decisions was made individually, with the best editorial interests of that series in mind.)

ENT books are likely to be somewhat rare for a while, as according to Margaret Clark, "Second, the *Enterprise* books are light on our schedule. This is just how we decided to do the books, with the show in production, it is really hard to make sure that you don't step on the episodes and still do interesting books." Christopher Bennett adds, "The choice to publish fewer ENT novels per year during the series run seems to me like a reasonable way to minimize those problems this time around -- as well as making sense in the context of modern Trek publishing when there are so many other series."

During the last five years (Jan 2000 - Dec 2004), there have been 134 *Star Trek* books published and the series distributions broke down thusly (thanks to Keith DeCandido):

16% are cross-series  
18% are original *Star Trek*

20% are *Star Trek: The Next Generation*  
13% are *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*  
8% are *Star Trek: Voyager*  
6% are *Enterprise*  
7% are *Star Trek: New Frontier*  
1% are *Star Trek: Challenger*  
4% are *Star Trek: S.C.E.*  
4% are *Star Trek: Stargazer*  
1% are *Star Trek: I.K.S. Gorkon*

**Q. Where are my nonfiction books?**

A. Nonfiction sales have been abysmally down for Pocket's *Star Trek* books recently; their last big effort, *Star Charts*, apparently sold very poorly despite being the coolest book ever (except if you're James Dixon). For the foreseeable future, there will not be many nonfiction ST titles from Pocket, though John Ordovery said he tentatively had an idea in the works. Also: *The Unseen Frontier: Declassified Images From the History of the Federation* has been cancelled. Get over it.

PEOPLE OF TREKLIT

**Q. Where did John Ordovery go? Who are the Pocket editors for *Star Trek* books now?**

A. In his own words, "I left Pocket at the end of August [2003], finished up work on some ongoing projects and was planning to start a packager - an entity that comes up with nifty ideas, gets a writer to work up and outline, and then goes out and sells the project to a publisher. On the way to doing this, however, I wound up taking the job of Editor-in-Chief at Phobos Books, a small-press SF publisher that I'm hoping to grow into something bigger." According to Keith R.A. DeCandido, the current editors for ST material at Pocket are: Marco Palmieri, Margaret Clark, Ed Schlesinger, Jennifer Heddle, and Elisa Kassin. Keith himself does freelance editorial work for Pocket (various anthologies, *S.C.E.*), but is not on staff.

**Q. Who is Richard Arnold?**

A. Richard Arnold ran the *Star Trek* Office of Paramount Licensing at the behest of Gene Roddenberry from around the premiere of TNG to the time of Roddenberry's death. It was his job to approve proposed novels, and he is held responsible for the "dark period" of ST literature from the mid-80's to the mid-90's. Richard Arnold did not believe in inter-novel continuity, claiming that every novel should be based upon the TV shows and movies, not other novels. Fortunately, he has since left, and his decrees are no longer in effect, as is evidenced by today's publishing program.

**Q. Who is "Anonymous," the author of two stories in *Prophecy and Change*?**

A. Well, if you were supposed to know who s/he was, s/he wouldn't go by the name "Anonymous," would s/he?

**Q. Who are the people on the covers of the books "playing" Calhoun, Vaughn, et al.?**

A. Those are models hired by artists to portray those characters for brief snapshots. The model for Calhoun has been said to be a neighbor of artist Keith Birdsong.

MISCELLANY

**Q. Why aren't the books numbered anymore?**

A. Because the editors don't want to number them. By and large, they don't actually occur in any sort of sequential order, so the only purpose of the numbers is to create a sort of "assembly line" impression about the books. Also, whether or not a book was numbered was becoming increasingly arbitrary -- what made The Q Continuum Trilogy numbered when *The Best and the Brightest* was not? Besides, they look ugly on the covers. Sequential series, such as *I.K.S. Gorkon* or *New Frontier* will likely continue numbering for the time being, at least in the booklist if not actually on the covers.

**Q. Why can't people from outside the U.S./Canada (except Quebec) participate in the *Strange New Worlds* anthologies/short fiction contests?**

A. The reason is tax laws. For the contest to work in the UK, the EU, Australia and just about everywhere else it would have to comply with their tax laws. As a company based outside of the UK, for example, Pocket US can not sponsor a contest. (Pocket UK can, but there hasn't been sufficient evidence, either in sales or demand from the public, to make them think it's profitable. There was a letter campaign a few years ago, but I don't think much came of it.)

Though NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and North American tax treaties avoid this issue,

not all of Canada is open to the contest, either. Language laws prohibit the contest in Quebec unless entries are accepted and final product is available in French. (Thanks to Kevin Killiany)

**Q. What happened in *Stargazer: Oblivion* on pages 72, 74, 195, and 197?**

A. The first printing has an error that means some text is omitted on these pages. The full text can be found on [the SimonSays site](#). Alternatively, you could buy the eBook or do as I did, and keep your eyes peeled for the second printing, and give up after a year of not finding it. Margaret Clark, editor of *Stargazer*, says: "Look at the copyright page, you know that page you blow by it's got the Paramount mountain and Gertude (the Pocket logo has a name, like who wouldn't?) the 1 should be missing and the first number should be a 2. This is the second printing the printing errors were corrected on this edition."

**Q. I just read David R. George III's wonderful *Serpents Among the Ruins* and wanted to know whether the oft-referenced "Iron Mike" Paris has been in any ST novels, and what his relation to Tom Paris is.**

A. It is wonderful, isn't it? Anyway, "Iron Mike" Paris was referenced in the novel *Stargazer: Gauntlet*. He is the father of *Stargazer's* Cole Paris and *Voyager's* Owen Paris, who is of course the father of Tom.

**Q. What's a good source of information on *Star Trek* novels?**

A. Well, TrekBBS's TrekLit forum of course, but if you didn't know that, you wouldn't be here, would you? Also, the *Star Trek* Books Board at [psiphi.org](#) has some authors/editors who post there. Other key TrekLit links:

Steve Roby's The Complete Starfleet Library: <http://www.well.com/user/siroby/lcars/index.html>

David Henderson's *Star Trek* Booklist: <http://www.psiphi.org/cgi/upc-db/booklist.html>

Psi Phi Book Database - Upcoming Books List: <http://www.psiphi.org/cgi/upc-db/upcoming.html>

Psi Phi Book Database - 2004 Schedule: <http://www.psiphi.org/cgi/upc-db/schedule-2004.html>

The *Star Trek* Novel Rankings: <http://novelranks.analma.com/>

Marco Palmieri's (Editor, Pocket Books) Q&A:

<http://www.simonsays.com/subs/qaap.cfm?areaid=44&userid=7>

The *Star Trek* Comics Checklist: <http://homepage.mac.com/mmtz/stcomix/>

Psi Phi Awards for *Star Trek* Books: <http://www.users.muohio.edu/mollmasc/psiphiold.htm>

**QUESTIONS TO NEVER ASK**

**Q. Which *Star Trek* books are canon?**

A. Short answer: none. Long answer: read Steve Roby's "Every Fan's Canon Primer," which will not only answer your question in detail, but humorously ridicule you for asking it.

<http://www.trekbbbs.com/threads/showflat.php?Board=UBB17&Number=1702839#Post1702839>

**Q. Why is this month's book late?**

A. The books come out during a rough four-week period and have no set street date, unlike the higher profile *Harry Potter* and *Star Wars*. Hence, your only assurance is that mass market paperback will be out by the middle of the publication month, and other books (trade paperback/hardcover) by the end of it, since they are on a different production schedule thingy.

**Q. I have this extraordinary idea I want one of the writers to use in their next novel! Can I talk about the plot of my fan fiction/SNW story here? Would one of the writers here take a look at my story and tell me how good it is?**

A. Theoretically, you could post your ideas or ask the writers to look at your story but you shouldn't. The world's an evil place, and people nowadays sue at the drop of a hat. To avoid legal difficulties, editors and writers refrain from reading fan-written stories. If you post story ideas, the chance is that Marco has already thought about it before. Speculation is fine, but please don't post ideas, plots or entire stories. (Thanks to Michael Schuster)

**Q. If Terri Osborne cuts off Keith DeCandido's hair, will he lose his amazing power to write so many books?**

A. 

**Exploring the Universe**

Reading: *Alpha Flight* #37-72; *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens

Edited by Aatrek (Thu Nov 18 2004 03:03 PM)



Post Extras:   

**Extrocomp**

Commander

 **Re: Books FAQ update** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#3613204](#) - Thu Nov 18 2004 12:42 AM

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**

A. Nonfiction sales have been abysmally down for Pocket's *Star Trek* books recently; their last big effort, *Star Charts*, apparently sold very poorly despite being the coolest book ever (except if you're James Dixon).

I also don't like Star Trek Star Charts. It may look really cool because of the glossy, colourful paper but the maps are all wrong. Federation space and general explored space is way too small. It's as if Starfleet has been doing hardly any exploring for the past 200 years. Antares, Rigel and Mintaka are show to be on the edge of explored space, far beyond the boundaries of Federation space even though those areas were well explored and even had Federation outposts. If the Cardassian Union is really so close to Earth, then there should be Cardassians in TOS and in ENT. It's like all the maps have been compacted so they take up less pages.

Also, the planetary info is terribly uncreative and littered with mistakes. Are we supposed accept that the capital of Andoria is Andor and that the capital of Romulus is Romulus?

If new nonfiction books ever come out I hope they'll be better than this.

-----  
May swift death come to all enemies of Extrotech!

*Edited by Extrocomp (Thu Nov 18 2004 12:43 AM)*

Post Extras:   

**Therin of Andor**

Rear Admiral



Loc: Sydney, Australia

 **Re: Books FAQ update** [Re: [Extrocomp](#)]

[#3614758](#) - Thu Nov 18 2004 10:48 AM

Quote:

**Posted by Extrocomp:**

I also don't like Star Trek Star Charts. It may look really cool because of the glossy, colourful paper but the maps are all wrong. Federation space and general explored space is way too small. It's as if Starfleet has been doing hardly any exploring for the past 200 years.

Actually that was Gene Roddenberry's reservation about "ST Maps" and other tie-in and fannish extrapolations prior to TNG. The Season One Writers' Bible emphasises that space is big. Really big. And that only a relatively tiny amount of the Milky Way Galaxy has been explored and/or probed and mapped, even in the 24th century.

Quote:

Antares, Rigel and Mintaka are show to be on the edge of explored space

Sounds fine to me. There are *two* Rigels, remember.

Quote:

If the Cardassian Union is really so close to Earth, then there should be Cardassians in TOS

Space is big. Really big.

Quote:

and in ENT.

ENT's not over yet.

Quote:

It's like all the maps have been compacted so they take up less pages.

Considering Geoffrey Mandel worked on Bantam's original "ST Maps", he was making corrections from fan and ST author feedback - plus new information about the quadrants and the location of Earth supplied via TNG. And current canonical information from ENT.

Quote:

Also, the planetary info is terribly uncreative and littered with mistakes. Are we supposed accept that the capital of Andoria is Andor and that the capital of Romulus is Romulus?

On purpose. Because had Mandel gone with new (or random Pocket novel) suggestions, such as Laibok for Andoria, any new episode of ENT could render the starcharts instantly incorrect. Consider those capitals to be placeholders until new canonical information is forthcoming. Maybe in the very next ENT arc. Even Pocket's recent "Andor: Paradigm" in "Worlds of DS9" goes for "the capital in Zhevra".

Quote:

If new nonfiction books ever come out I hope they'll be better than this.

I thought it was an incredible, well thought-out effort.

-----  
Thiptho laph!

The Andor Files  
<http://www.geocities.com/therinofandor/>

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer



 **Re: Books FAQ update** [Re: [Extrocomp](#)]

#3615194 - Thu Nov 18 2004 02:52 PM

You have to realize that the geographic information we've been given in Trek is wildly inconsistent. Stars have been chosen based on their familiarity rather than their positions -- and indeed, our knowledge of the actual distances to certain stars has changed considerably since the '60s as better parallax data has been accumulated. Mandel's "small Federation model," based in part on Christian Ruehl's similar model at his ST Cartography site, is in their view the best compromise between the conflicting threads of evidence.

-----  
**[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#)** -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:   

**Extrocomp**

Commander

 **Re: Books FAQ update** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

#3617114 - Thu Nov 18 2004 10:31 PM

Just because space is really really big doesn't mean explored space has to be really really small. I know throughout the series it's been mentioned several times that only a tiny percentage of the galaxy has been explored. However this doesn't hold up when you consider how much space the original Enterprise explored, how much space the Enterprise-D explored and the fact that Starfleet has hundreds of starships. The flaw in Star Charts becomes apparent when you look at the "United Federation of Planets II" page. It has several Federation planets positioned almost 1000 lightyears from the rest of Federation space. I know that there are two Rigel's but even the "real" Rigel was supposed to have a Federation outpost on Rigel XII. So was Mintaka, which is actually positioned beyond the edge of explored space.  The Cardassian Union is only a few hundred lightyears from Earth, while the Sheliak homeworld is about a thousand lightyears away. Shouldn't it be the other way around as the Sheliak were encountered long before the Cardassians? The Malcor system is positioned only a few hundred lightyears from Earth, whereas it was explicitly stated in the episode to be 2000 lightyears away. I know there's a lot known about real stars now, but why did Mandel have to match up Star Trek's stars with real stars that are clearly the wrong distance away?

I don't remember any episode where the Federation was said to be this small. In fact there's plenty of evidence to the contrary: the Federation being spread out across 8000 lightears, Cestus III being many weeks away from Bajor at maximum warp.

As for the capitals, why didn't Mandel just write "Unknown" if he was worried about being contradicted. This is just the tip of the iceberg; there's a lot more that's wrong with Star Charts.

-----  
May swift death come to all enemies of Extrotech!

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer



 **Re: Books FAQ update** [Re: [Extrocomp](#)]

#3618008 - Fri Nov 19 2004 02:18 AM

Quote:

**Posted by Extrocomp:**

Just because space is really really big doesn't mean explored space has to be really really small.

But the point is, it's rather strange to think of a volume several hundred light-years in diameter as "really really small." The number is relatively small, but that's because a light-year is such an astonishingly huge distance. Frankly it's rather spoiled to think of hundreds of light-years as a small distance, and shows a failure to appreciate the true immensity of the universe. Even our solar system alone is huger than we can even grasp. Just the other day I found out that the asteroids in our system's asteroid belt average *six million kilometers* between any two adjacent ones, even though there are a hundred thousand of them. A far cry from the cluttered asteroid fields we see in SFTV and movies. Even the most cluttered part of our solar system is emptier than the human mind can comprehend. And that's just peanuts to interstellar space. "Small" is not a word that meaningfully applies to any interstellar journey, even from Earth to Alpha Centauri.

To get more specific: The blue circle on the foldout map in *Star Charts* has a radius of 250 ly -- a sphere of that volume centered on Earth would contain over 225,000 stars! It would take centuries to explore them all.

Quote:

I know throughout the series it's been mentioned several times that only a tiny percentage of the galaxy has been explored. However this doesn't hold up when you consider how much space the original Enterprise explored, how much space the Enterprise-D explored and the fact that Starfleet has hundreds of starships.

See above. Even a tiny fraction of the galaxy *is* a huge amount of space, because the galaxy is stunningly, devastatingly, insanely enormous. And even hundreds of starships could barely make a dent in exploring a galaxy of three hundred billion stars. Let's say each of 500 starships surveys one new system per month -- that's 6000 systems per year. It'd take 40 years just to do preliminary surveys of all the stars in that blue circle, and that's assuming there aren't any starships spending their time doing more extensive surveys, colonization, relief missions, diplomacy, combat or saving the universe. Factor all that in and it takes lifetimes to really get to know just that "small" portion of our galaxy. Now, let's move the sphere's radius out to just 500 ly -- that'd contain nearly 2 million stars. Doing just a cursory survey (and nothing more) of every one of those stars would take over 300 years. Even a "paltry" 500 light-years is a staggeringly vast amount of space.

Quote:

The flaw in *Star Charts* becomes apparent when you look at the "United Federation of Planets II" page. It has several Federation planets positioned almost 1000 lightyears from the rest of Federation space. I know that there are two Rigel's but even the "real" Rigel was supposed to have a Federation outpost on Rigel XII. So was Mintaka, which is actually positioned beyond the edge of explored space. 🤖 The Cardassian Union is only a few hundred lightyears from Earth, while the Sheliak homeworld is about a thousand lightyears away. Shouldn't it be the other way around as the Sheliak were encountered long before the Cardassians? The Malcor system is positioned only a few hundred lightyears from Earth, whereas it was explicitly stated in the episode to be 2000 lightyears away. I know there's a lot known about real stars now, but why did Mandel have to match up *Star Trek's* stars with real stars that are clearly the wrong distance away?

The real distance is the "wrong" distance???? Rigel, Sheliak and Malcor are the real names of those stars. Mandel didn't pick them at random; he was stuck with what the show's writers established. For something like Andoria or Betazed, which have never been officially identified with real stars, he was able to choose reasonable locations for them; but for a real star name like Mintaka or Sheliak or Canopus, he was stuck

with the actual positions. The problem is that SFTV writers just pick familiar names, as I said. And that means the brightest stars in the sky, regardless of how far away they are.

So that's why Mandel et al. went with the "large Federation" theory in the old *ST Maps*. But the problem is that modern Trek has given us too much information that contradicts that. DS9 pretty much established that the station was less than 100 light-years from Earth, and both TNG and DS9 showed starships crossing the width of the Federation, or between Earth and the border, in mere days. And that's alongside a semi-official warp chart which states that even Warp 8 is only 20 light-years a week. Which is far too slow even for Mandel's small Federation, by the way.

So don't blame Mandel for the inconsistencies of the shows themselves. He made the best compromise he could. The distance discrepancies can be dealt with by assuming there are regions where warp travel is faster than usual due to the different concentrations of mass and energy affecting the shape of spacetime. This has been a standard assumption in technical fandom for decades and is more or less explicitly spelled out in the *TNG Tech Manual* (although this latter fact is overlooked with surprising frequency).

Here... I think you need to look over the discussions on the following pages:

<http://www.stdimension.org/int/Cartography/federation.htm>

<http://www.ex-astris-scientia.org/inconsistencies2.htm#speed>

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:   

#### Defcon

Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#3766723](#) - Thu Dec 23 2004 02:11 PM



One suggestion for the next update:

Since the whole "season 8 / 9" discussion for the series formerly known as Relaunch  surfaces frequently, maybe you could put **Marco Palmieri's** stand on the issue into the next version of the FAQ.

-----  
[My TrekLit-Journal](#)

Latest Reviews (20. September 2006):

TOS : Constellations

Post Extras:   

#### Jag2112

Lieutenant Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#3854811](#) - Mon Jan 17 2005 12:51 AM



One other web resource for Star Trek books I'd like to add to this list...

[The Star Trek LCARS Book & Episode Database](#)

It currently has detailed information and cover scans on over 1,150 Star Trek books...

Enjoy,

John

-----  
John (Jag2112)

[The Star Trek LCARS Book/Episode/Blueprints Database](#)

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Jag2112](#)]

Loc: Clinton, NJ

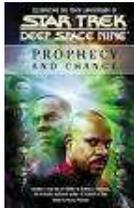
Loc: Germany

**Bobatiel**

Commodore



#4032402 - Sun Feb 20 2005 04:15 PM



Loc: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Copied from an earlier post by KRAD.

2375

"Eleven Hours Out" by Dave Galanter (Tales of the Dominion War)  
TNG: Gemworld Books 1-2 by John Vornholt  
TNG: Double Helix: Double or Nothing by Peter David

2376

TNG: Diplomatic Implausibility by Keith R.A. DeCandido  
TNG: Maximum Warp Books 1-2 by Dave Galanter & Greg Brodeur  
SCE: The Belly of the Beast by Dean Wesley Smith  
DS9: Avatar Books 1-2 by S.D. Perry  
TNG: Doors into Chaos by Robert Greenberger  
TNG: "The Other Side" by Robert Greenberger (What Lay Beyond)  
The Brave and the Bold Book 2: TNG: "The Final Artifact" by Keith R.A. DeCandido  
NF: Stone and Anvil by Peter David

2377

TNG: Genesis Wave Books 1-3 by John Vornholt  
TNG: Genesis Force by John Vornholt  
TNG: A Hard Rain by Dean Wesley Smith

2378

VOY: Homecoming by Christie Golden  
VOY: The Farther Shore by Christie Golden  
TNG: A Time to be Born by John Vornholt  
TNG: A Time to Die by John Vornholt  
TNG: A Time to Sow by Dayton Ward & Kevin Dilmore

2379

TNG: A Time to Harvest by Dayton Ward & Kevin Dilmore  
TNG: A Time to Love by Robert Greenberger  
TNG: A Time to Hate by Robert Greenberger  
TNG: A Time to Kill by David Mack  
TNG: A Time to Heal by David Mack  
TNG: A Time for War, a Time for Peace by Keith R.A. DeCandido  
Star Trek Nemesis  
TNG: Death in Winter by Michael Jan Friedman (forthcoming)  
Titan: Taking Wing by Andy Mangels & Michael A. Martin (forthcoming)

Post Extras:

**KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido



**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Bobatiel]**

#4034604 - Mon Feb 21 2005 01:01 AM



Loc: New York City

Uhm, that's a wholly incomplete timeline, posted in response to a very specific question. Posting it out of context like this is a big confusing.....

-----  
Keith R.A. DeCandido

KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life

Post Extras:

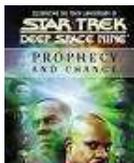
**Bobatiel**

Commodore



**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: KRAD]**

#4035434 - Mon Feb 21 2005 04:25 AM



Sorry if this caused any confusion.

It's too late for me to edit it.



Loc: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

**KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido

Personally, I find it extremely helpful. While not wholly complete it still seems to convey when a lot of the "cuurrent" or "new" stories are set in relation to each other.

Post Extras:

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#4068281](#) - Sun Feb 27 2005 08:24 AM

This was recently quoted on this board:



Loc: New York City

Quote:

**Q. Where are my nonfiction books?**

A. Nonfiction sales have been abysmally down for Pocket's *Star Trek* books recently; their last big effort, *Star Charts*, apparently sold very poorly despite being the coolest book ever (except if you're James Dixon). For the foreseeable future, there will not be many nonfiction ST titles from Pocket, though John Ordovery said he tentatively had an idea in the works. Also: *The Unseen Frontier: Declassified Images From the History of the Federation* has been cancelled. Get over it.

The phrase "though John Ordovery said he tentatively had an idea in the works" should be eliminated, since John is now the editor-in-chief of Phobos Books and is unlikely to be proposing any editorial projects for *Star Trek* any time soon. 😊

-----  
[Keith R.A. DeCandido](#)

[KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life](#)

Post Extras:

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [KRAD](#)]

[#4068288](#) - Sun Feb 27 2005 08:26 AM

**Brendan Moody**

Rear Admiral

Yeah, Steve! How could you leave that there so that, um, whoever, would blithely repost it?! I mean, it's not like that person looked right at the words, thought about deleting them, and didn't. That would be crazy!

-----  
It is a remarkable thing that in an age when American conservatism is as reactionary as it is, it is so often American liberalism whose discourse seems most shrill.

Post Extras:

**Kes**

Captain



Loc: UK

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Brendan Moody](#)]

[#4250040](#) - Sun Apr 03 2005 10:54 AM

Whats the most successful book series?

I seem to remember it was tng

but is that still true? how about the others

just wondering thats all

Post Extras:

**Steve Mollmann**

Commodore



**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Kes](#)]

[#4250712](#) - Sun Apr 03 2005 05:19 PM

Last time the data was provided by John Ordovery, the relative ranking of the average sales per book went NF, TNG, TOS, VGR, DS9 I believe.



Loc: Colerain Twp., OH

But that was a *long* time ago. Late 1990's, probably.

-----  
Exploring the Universe

Reading: *Alpha Flight* #37-72; *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens

Post Extras:   

**Therin of Andor**

Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#4251716](#) - Sun Apr 03 2005 09:48 PM



Loc: Sydney, Australia

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**

Last time the data was provided by John Ordover, the relative ranking of the average sales per book went NF, TNG, TOS, VGR, DS9 I believe.

But that was a *long* time ago. Late 1990's, probably.

And we know for sure that since the post-series DS9 novels started coming out that DS9 moved up in the rankings.

-----  
Thiptho laph!

The Andor Files

<http://www.geocities.com/therinofandor/>

Post Extras:   

**Michael24**

Lieutenant Junior Grade

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#4465775](#) - Wed May 18 2005 09:05 PM

Loc: California

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**

**Q. Where are my nonfiction books?**

A. Nonfiction sales have been abysmally down for Pocket's *Star Trek* books recently; their last big effort, *Star Charts*, apparently sold very poorly despite being the coolest book ever (except if you're James Dixon). For the foreseeable future, there will not be many nonfiction ST titles from Pocket, though John Ordover said he tentatively had an idea in the works.

Ah, man. I guess this means no third edition of the Okuda's STAR TREK CHRONOLOGY (updated to include FIRST CONTACT, INSURRECTION, NEMESIS, all of ENTERPRISE, and the rest of DS9 and VOYAGER) and no THE ENTERPRISE COMPANION? 😞

CHRONOLOGY is my all-time favorite non-fiction STAR TREK book, and the last edition was in 1996.

-----  
Archer: "You missed T'Pol's latest bout with chopsticks."

Trip: "Damn. Dinner and a show."

Proud fan of ENTERPRISE and supporter of Berman & Braga. Deal with it.

Post Extras:   

**Emh** 

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Michael24](#)]

[#4468457](#) - Thu May 19 2005 08:05 AM

Quote:

Posted by Michael24:

Quote:

Posted by SCMoll:

**Q. Where are my nonfiction books?**

A. Nonfiction sales have been abysmally down for Pocket's *Star Trek* books recently; their last big effort, *Star Charts*, apparently sold very poorly despite being the coolest book ever (except if you're James Dixon). For the foreseeable future, there will not be many nonfiction ST titles from Pocket, though John Ordovery said he tentatively had an idea in the works.

Ah, man. I guess this means no third edition of the Okuda's STAR TREK CHRONOLOGY (updated to include FIRST CONTACT, INSURRECTION, NEMESIS, all of ENTERPRISE, and the rest of DS9 and VOYAGER) and no THE ENTERPRISE COMPANION? 😞

CHRONOLOGY is my all-time favorite non-fiction STAR TREK book, and the last edition was in 1996.

Actually there is a third edition that goes up to the end of DS9, up to the end of the fifth season of VOY, and has FC and INS. However, the information isn't integrated into the rest of the encyclopedia, like the second edition did, rather 128 pages are added to the end of the second edition's version. I believe there's also a few new appendices, but I'm not sure.

I do admit it does suck that there won't be an ENT companion (if that's true, Margaret can correct me if I'm wrong), even though I wouldn't buy it.

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

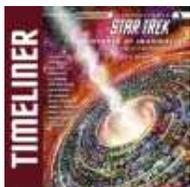
"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:   

**Geoff**

Captain



Loc: Elkhart, IN USA

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

[#4469605](#) - Thu May 19 2005 04:06 PM

Quote:

Quote:

Posted by Michael24:

CHRONOLOGY is my all-time favorite non-fiction STAR TREK book, and the last edition was in 1996.

**Posted by Emh:**

Actually there is a third edition that goes up to the end of DS9, up to the end of the fifth season of VOY, and has FC and INS. However, the information isn't integrated into the rest of the encyclopedia, like the second edition did, rather 128 pages are added to the end of the second edition's version. I believe there's also a few new appendices, but I'm not sure.

It's true that there was a third edition of the *Encyclopedia*, but the *Chronology* hasn't been updated since its second edition in 1996. It only covers information through the fourth season of *DS9* and the second season of *Voyager*. 😊

Cheers,  
Geoff

-----  
Blog me, baby!

Post Extras:   

**Emh**<sup>M</sup>

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Geoff](#)]

[#4470143](#) - Thu May 19 2005 06:19 PM

Quote:

**Posted by Geoff:**

Quote:

Quote:

**Posted by Michael24:**

CHRONOLOGY is my all-time favorite non-fiction STAR TREK book, and the last edition was in 1996.

**Posted by Emh:**

Actually there is a third edition that goes up to the end of DS9, up to the end of the fifth season of VOY, and has FC and INS. However, the information isn't integrated into the rest of the encyclopedia, like the second edition did, rather 128 pages are added to the end of the second edition's version. I believe there's also a few new appendices, but I'm not sure.

It's true that there was a third edition of the *Encyclopedia*, but the *Chronology* hasn't been updated since its second edition in 1996. It only covers information through the fourth season of *DS9* and the second season of *Voyager*. 😊

Cheers,  
Geoff

Oh, wow, I'm blind as a bat. I could've sworn his post said encyclopedia, not chronology. 😊

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:   

**Michael24**

Lieutenant Junior Grade

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

[#4470618](#) - Thu May 19 2005 08:05 PM

Loc: California

Yeah, I was talking about the CHRONOLOGY. 😊 The second edition also only covers the 21st century events in FIRST CONTACT, and not the 24th century events at the beginning.

-----  
Archer: "You missed T'Pol's latest bout with chopsticks."

Trip: "Damn. Dinner and a show."

Proud fan of ENTERPRISE and supporter of Berman & Braga. Deal with it.

Post Extras:   

**Q420**

Commodore

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#4618060](#) - Thu Jun 23 2005 05:11 AM

Loc: Washington state

Quote:

Posted by SCMoll:

**Q. Will there be more post-finale titles after *Worlds*?**

A. YES! As of yet, however, no details have been announced. There is a book called *Walking Wounded*, which has been mentioned for some time, but is still unscheduled.

This should be updated with the announcement of *Warpath*.

-----  
Thanks for not paying attention.

Post Extras:   

**Steve Mollmann**

Commodore

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Q420](#)]

[#4618074](#) - Thu Jun 23 2005 05:18 AM



It should probably be updated for a lot of things.

I will add it to my

list-of-things-I-intend-to-do-over-vacation-but-probably-won't-because-it's-so-much-easier-to-watch-television.



-----  
Exploring the Universe

Reading: *Alpha Flight #37-72; Hard Times* by Charles Dickens

Post Extras:   

**Grapthar**

Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Emh]**

[#4749916](#) - Thu Jul 21 2005 11:10 PM

Loc: Burke, VA, USA

Quote:

**Posted by Emh:**

Quote:

**Posted by Geoff:**

Quote:

Quote:

**Posted by Michael24:**  
 CHRONOLOGY is my all-time favorite non-fiction STAR TREK book, and the last edition was in 1996.

**Posted by Emh:**  
 Actually there is a third edition that goes up to the end of DS9, up to the end of the fifth season of VOY, and has FC and INS. However, the information isn't integrated into the rest of the encyclopedia, like the second edition did, rather 128 pages are added to the end of the second edition's version. I believe there's also a few new appendices, but I'm not sure.

It's true that there was a third edition of the *Encyclopedia*, but the *Chronology* hasn't been updated since its second edition in 1996. It only covers information through the fourth season of *DS9* and the second season of *Voyager*. 😊

Cheers,  
 Geoff

Oh, wow, I'm blind as a bat. I could've sworn his post said encyclopedia, not chronology. 😊

To put this in perspective, it means only 54% of televised live-action Star Trek has been "Chronologized," and only 79% has been "Encyclopedified." I'd pay for updates (preferably integrated, not appended).

-----  
Buy my hammer!

Post Extras:   

[TrekGuide.com](http://TrekGuide.com)

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Graphthar](#)]

[#4761825](#) - Sun Jul 24 2005 11:57 AM

Loc: California, Earth, Sector 001

Quote:

**Posted by Graphthar:**

To put this in perspective, it means only 54% of televised live-action Star Trek has been "Chronologized," and only 79% has been "Encyclopedified." I'd pay for updates (preferably integrated, not appended).

I'd be the first in line to buy the "Ultimate" editions of Encyclopedia and Chronology, but I'd probably throw my back out carrying them to the checkout counter.

Why not an e-book version on CD or for download as a PDF? It could contain the complete book contents, but cost only a few cents for Pocket Books to produce and distribute? We could then print out the books on our own printers, if we were so inclined. ...

-----  
[TrekGuide.com](http://TrekGuide.com) =/= [Star Trek Episode Guide](#)

[Magazine Collector Club - Buy, sell, trade back issues](#)

<http://TheDaysAfterTomorrow.com>

Post Extras:   

[Dayton Ward](#)

Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [TrekGuide.com](#)]

[#4762129](#) - Sun Jul 24 2005 04:14 PM



^ Such books would still have to be researched and written, and edited, and formatted for e-Book format, no doubt in some manner that would make use of the electronic media in ways that wouldn't be possible under a strictly print format (ie, search, cross-referencing, 3-D views/zooms, virtual tours of ships -- as examples off the top of my head -- otherwise, what's the point?).

That's gonna run more than a few cents....

And there's no way they'd go to all that trouble so that it could easily be copied or printed.

For the time being, at least, the money it costs to produce such books isn't worth the money made by sales of such books. I know Pocket continues to examine and investigate whatever avenues might be available in order to offer such publications -- they just haven't found one that'll work from a business standpoint. Not yet, anyway.

-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

Post Extras:   

[TrekGuide.com](http://TrekGuide.com)

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Dayton Ward](#)]

^^

Loc: California, Earth, Sector 001

Well, sure, they would have to pay the authors to write and edit the book, but once it's done, distributing it as an eBook costs very little.

There are already many eBooks available, such as the entire "Strange New Worlds" series, which are just the complete book in electronic format.

I'm saying, since several editions of the Encyclopedia and Chronology are already written, paying the authors to update them would probably cost less than originally writing them in the first place, and if the final edition is released only as an eBook, then there would be no printing, shipping, and distribution costs.

Yes, an interactive CD with animation, video clips, and sound effects would be cool -- and Paramount has released such things in the past -- but I'd be happy with just a simple PDF eBook of an updated Star Trek Encyclopedia or Chronology.

-----  
[TrekGuide.com](http://TrekGuide.com) =/= [Star Trek Episode Guide](#)

[Magazine Collector Club - Buy, sell, trade back issues](#)

<http://TheDaysAfterTomorrow.com>

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [TrekGuide.com](http://TrekGuide.com)]

#4762745 - Sun Jul 24 2005 07:57 PM

**KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido



Loc: New York City

Quote:

Well, sure, they would have to pay the authors to write and edit the book, but once it's done, distributing it as an eBook costs very little.

Yes, but eBooks only sell a *tiny fraction* of what print books sell. We're talking 3-4 figures of sales, as opposed to the 5-6 figures of a print book. Pocket would lose far more money doing it as an eBook than they would ever lose doing it for print.

-----  
[Keith R.A. DeCandido](#)

[KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life](#)

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [KRAD](#)]

#4765674 - Mon Jul 25 2005 07:33 AM

**elaithin**

Fleet Captain

Loc: Louisiana

Well, clearly, that's because books belong on things made from dead trees...

-----  
"I do not agree with what you say, sir, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Post Extras:   

**Therin of Andor**

Rear Admiral



 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [KRAD](#)]

#4766282 - Mon Jul 25 2005 12:45 PM



Loc: Sydney, Australia

Quote:

Posted by KRAD:

eBooks only sell a *tiny fraction* of what print books sell. We're talking 3-4 figures of sales, as opposed to the 5-6 figures of a print book. Pocket would lose far more money doing it as an eBook than they would ever lose doing it for print.

That's what I figured. The only ebook exclusive ST non fiction work so far has been the excellent "The Magic of Tribbles", which discussed the making of DS9's "Trials and Tribble-ations". When no other books in the same vein turned up, I figured the sales figures weren't supporting such a line.

In any case, there are now numerous online ST timelines, concordances and encyclopedias. Not many fans are willing to pay for eBooks if web sites offer such info for free - and update them sometimes daily!

-----  
Thiptho laph!

The Andor Files

<http://www.geocities.com/therinofandor/>

Post Extras: 

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#5140683](#) - Wed Oct 19 2005 08:42 AM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

The only reason that I tend to disagree with the opinion of what is canon and what isn't is because Paramount itself (Star Trek.com) contradicts the statements here and the ones made by Steve Roby. I'm frankly too tired to look it up for the thousandth time in the last 5 years but I'll tell you what it says (...and implies) and you can go look it up.

To simplify: Canon is anything that was on TV or in the movies excluding the Animated Series (however there are exceptions to that as elements of TAS are considered canon). Novels are **generally** not considered canon. The only exceptions to this rule are *Mosaic* and *Pathways* written by VOY co-creator Jeri Taylor that provide the back-stories for Janeway and her crew. Reference materials (TNG:Tech Manual, Trek Encyclopedia, etc.) are considered canon if they were written by Star Trek production personnel. Mr. Scott's Guide to the Enterprise and the Trek tech manual (Franz Joseph?) would not be considered canon as they were not written by Trek staff.

Now, these are not my words, these are Paramount's words that can be easily found [here](#) with a little work. I've always found these guidelines to be satisfactory, but people have been arguing with me for years about them. As far as Jeri Taylor's writings contradicting another Trek staffer's writings, this happens all the time on screen. Why should the fact that something that was written (in the only 2 novels that Paramount considers canon) happens to contradict other canon Trek screenwriting negate it's validity? Again, I'm not pulling this out of thin air, it's officially stated as such on Paramount's website.

By the same token, what is more valid as far as canon goes: what was in an original theatrical release or what was added/or removed from the Director's Cut/Special Edition DVD?

So what is it? What Paramount states on its official website or what everyone thinks canon is? Like I said, I lean toward Paramount's opinion and no one has ever been able to say anything to contradict this and make me change my mind. If there is a valid argument for against what Paramount has said about the definition of Trek canon is I'm more than willing to be open minded to it.

The only other problem I see is that Trek may be done from TV forever unless some major changes occur. Isn't it likely that the only official vehicle for new Trek stories will someday be the novels and future novels may one day indeed be considered canon?

-Shawn 

-----

Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer



 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

#5141308 - Wed Oct 19 2005 03:03 PM

Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

The only reason that I tend to disagree with the opinion of what is canon and what isn't is because Paramount itself (Star Trek.com) contradicts the statements here and the ones made by Steve Roby.

StarTrek.com is not "Paramount itself." It is, like the Pocket novels, a licensed tie-in to *Star Trek*.

Quote:

Canon is anything that was on TV or in the movies excluding the Animated Series (however there are exceptions to that as elements of TAS are considered canon). Novels are **generally** not considered canon. The only exceptions to this rule are *Mosaic* and *Pathways* written by VOY co-creator Jeri Taylor that provide the back-stories for Janeway and her crew.

That is a claim made on ST.com, but since ST.com is not Paramount, it does not actually represent official Paramount policy. It also conflicts with the simple facts, because a number of things in *Pathways* were contradicted by later episodes of VGR.

Quote:

Reference materials (TNG:Tech Manual, Trek Encyclopedia, etc.) are considered canon if they were written by Star Trek production personnel.

Completely and utterly untrue. The authors of those works refute that in their own introductions. They say outright that they're merely offering one possible interpretation and do not intend to inhibit anyone's creativity in the process. Indeed, the shows themselves sometimes contradicted conjectural material in the *Tech Manual*, *Chronology* and so forth. Those works -- and even the official, behind-the-scenes writers' bibles -- were only meant as supplements to the shows, as possible sources of inspiration for future writers. They were not meant to restrict or limit future writers, so all they did was make suggestions which writers for the shows were free to use or ignore as they wished.

Therefore, *nothing* offscreen is canon. Even the most authoritative offscreen references are subject to onscreen contradiction, because they merely support the show, not the other way around. The show, the canon, is the work itself; everything else (including Startrek.com, by the way) merely supports or derives from it. It would be ridiculous for a TV show watched by tens of millions to be restricted by things from a book read by mere hundreds of thousands, let alone by an internal, behind-the-scenes reference read by mere hundreds. I don't get why that's so hard to understand.

Quote:

By the same token, what is more valid as far as canon goes: what was in an original theatrical release or what was added/or removed from the Director's Cut/Special Edition DVD?

Hard to say, but it's not our call. By definition, the only people who have a right -- or a need, for that matter -- to decide what is canonical are the people writing new Trek episodes or movies. Canon isn't meant to be binding on the fans; it's a guideline for the makers of the shows. So asking other fans for opinions on what constitutes canon is a pointless exercise, because our opinions, by definition, don't apply to that particular question.

Indeed, since nobody's currently making new Trek, the whole question of canon has become pretty much a non-issue.

As for those of us who write tie-in fiction, our mandate is to remain consistent with onscreen canon, but that doesn't forbid us from incorporating compatible material from other sources, including variant cuts of movies, or even deleted scenes if we wish (for instance, the recent TNG novels built on the deleted NEM reference to Beverly Crusher rejoining Starfleet Medical, while ignoring its deleted character of Commander Madden).

In *Ex Machina*, I chose to treat the Director's Edition as the "true" story, since it represents the director's intended version of the film, the one he would've released to theaters originally if he'd had more time to finish it. But that's got nothing to do with canon. The people who make the shows define canon, and if they wanted to go by the theatrical or ABC version of TMP instead of the DE, that would determine canon. What I decided only determined the contents of my book.

Quote:

The only other problem I see is that Trek may be done from TV forever unless some major changes occur. Isn't it likely that the only official vehicle for new Trek stories will someday be the novels and future novels may one day indeed be considered canon?

The only way the novels would be considered canon is if the makers of some future Trek series decided to acknowledge them. Because, for the three millionth time, canon simply means what the makers of the actual show itself choose to be bound by. It's only relevant to them. And as long as nobody's making new onscreen Trek, canon is simply a non-issue.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

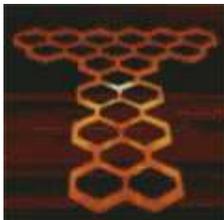
Post Extras:   

**TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

#5141372 - Wed Oct 19 2005 03:19 PM



The only relevant definition of "canon" is what the writers of the TV series and movies are obliged not to contradict. For the moment, that constitutes TOS/TNG/DS9/VOY/ENT and the movies. Whether or not that changes is for the future to decide. 😊

Anything else falls into the realms of "personal continuity," which is purely and wholly subjective. 😊

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\_\_\_\_\_

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the [RNC campaign ad](#) featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:   

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Christopher]**

#5142376 - Wed Oct 19 2005 08:03 PM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

Quote:

**Posted by Christopher:**

Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

The only reason that I tend to disagree with the opinion of what is canon and what isn't is because Paramount itself (Star Trek.com) contradicts the statements here and the ones made by Steve Roby.

StarTrek.com is not "Paramount itself." It is, like the Pocket novels, a licensed tie-in to *Star Trek*.

Quote:

Canon is anything that was on TV or in the movies excluding the *Animated Series* (however there are exceptions to that as elements of *TAS* are considered canon). Novels are **generally** not considered canon. The only exceptions to this rule are *Mosaic* and *Pathways* written by VOY co-creator Jeri Taylor that provide the back-stories for Janeway and her crew.

That is a claim made on ST.com, but since ST.com is not Paramount, it does not actually represent official Paramount policy. It also conflicts with the simple facts, because a number of things in *Pathways* were contradicted by later episodes of VGR.

Quote:

Reference materials (TNG:Tech Manual, Trek Encyclopedia, etc.) are considered canon if they were written by Star Trek production personnel.

With all due respect, where are you coming up with your information? Check the [terms of use](#) page as it clearly states the Star Trek.com is operated by Pramount Digital Entertainment, an affiliate of Paramount Pictures Corporation. The last time I checked Pocket Books was not an affiliate of Paramount, simply a licensee. I.e., Paramount runs that site and is responsible for its content including the statemnets made about what is canon and what is not.

Quote:

Completely and utterly untrue. The authors of those works refute that in their own introductions. They say outright that they're merely offering one possible interpretation and do not intend to inhibit anyone's creativity in the process. Indeed, the shows themselves sometimes contradicted conjectural material in the *Tech Manual*, *Chronology* and so forth. Those works -- and even the official, behind-the-scenes writers' bibles -- were only meant as supplements to the shows, as possible sources of inspiration for future writers. They were not meant to restrict or limit future writers, so all they did was make suggestions which writers for the shows were free to use or ignore as they wished.

Therefore, *nothing* offscreen is canon. Even the most authoritative offscreen references are subject to onscreen contradiction, because they merely support the show, not the other way around. The show, the canon, is the work itself; everything else (including Startrek.com, by the way) merely supports or derives from it. It would be ridiculous for a TV show watched by tens of millions to be restricted by things from a book read by mere hundreds of thousands, let alone by an internal, behind-the-scenes reference read by mere hundreds. I don't get why that's so hard to understand.

Well, so what? Again, the way I look at it, if Paramount (see:previous paragraph) says it's canon, it really doesn't matter what Rick Sternbach or Mike Okuda think about even their own work. I'm well aware that many things in those reference materials have been contradicted by what's been on screen, and I don't suggest that any writer be strictly tied to using said reference materials as their unviolable source in their writing or creativity process. That being said, canon is changed all of the time in Trek and contradicted from episode to episode. My point is that the standard for canon that keeps being touted is first of all not the same as Paramount's own standard (see: previous paragraph) and second the argument against reference materials doesn't stand on its own because it is being ignored that the TV shows and movies contradict themselves, not just the reference materials. Just read the Nitpicker's Guides and you'll see the glaring contradictions in onscreen Trek. It's not hard to understand, as you put it, and I don't suggest that anyone be strictly tied to anything published about Trek, even by production staff, but nonetheless, Paramount has made it official that they consider reference materials by Trek staff official. That doesn't mean it won't change or be contradicted.

Quote:

By definition, the only people who have a right -- or a need, for that matter -- to decide what is canonical are the people writing new Trek episodes or movies.

This I really take issue with. It is **not** the right of the writers to decide what canon in Trek is. It is at Paramount's (the owner of the property) sole discretion to decide what canon is and what can be changed. I've read on numerous occasions where writers would not stick to canon and the producers would shoot them down and make them change what they wrote to accommodate established Trek canon.

Quote:

Canon isn't meant to be binding on the fans; it's a guideline for the makers of the shows. So asking other fans for opinions on what constitutes canon is a pointless exercise, because our opinions, by definition, don't apply to that particular question.

This I totally agree with. Canon, as far as Trek is concerned, is a guide. We are not talking about the Catholic Church's definition of canon. We are talking about Star Trek's canon, which has a tendency to be changed and contradicted all of the time on accident or simply because the creative process dictated it. This is not the same as what is considered canon by the Catholic Church by any stretch of the imagination. Star Trek's canon is fluid and flexible and I believe meant to change every now and then. Again, I wouldn't go to fans to determine what is canon, I go to the source and everything that I keep digging up confirms what I said before about Star Trek.com.

Quote:

As for those of us who write tie-in fiction, our mandate is to remain consistent with onscreen canon, but that doesn't forbid us from incorporating compatible material from other sources, including variant cuts of movies, or even deleted scenes if we wish

Of course not, and for the record the writers of Star Trek novels have done an excellent job over the past few years not only sticking to canon, but also walking the fine line as to not put in any material that may be refuted in future onscreen Trek. There have been many novels over the past few years that are so good and so no-contradictory that I've always thought they should be considered canon, but obviously, because they are novels, they won't be and I accept that.

Quote:

In *Ex Machina*, I chose to treat the Director's Edition as the "true" story, since it represents the director's intended version of the film, the one he would've released to theaters originally if he'd had more time to finish it. But that's got nothing to do with canon. The people who make the shows define canon, and if they wanted to go by the theatrical or ABC version of TMP instead of the DE, that would determine canon. What I decided only determined the contents of my book.

First, I haven't read that book . Second, the only point I was trying to bring up about SE/DC's of films is that *even* Paramount contradicts their own rules on canon and has never made a statement regarding SE/DC's canon and have left it vague and ambiguous for the rest of us.

Quote:

The only way the novels would be considered canon is if the makers of some future Trek series decided to acknowledge them. Because, for the three millionth time, canon simply means what the makers of the actual show itself choose to be bound by. It's only relevant to them. And as long as nobody's making new onscreen Trek, canon is simply a non-issue.

...And as we've seen time and time again, they don't always bind themselves to anything. I've never had a problem with not considering novels as canon as the problem is that there is just way too much on screen Trek and there is no way that the novels are going to be able to keep up with all of the continuity.

-Shawn 

-----  
Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

Post Extras:



**Steve Roby**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

[#5142469](#) - Wed Oct 19 2005 08:27 PM



Can you fix your quoting there? it's a little hard to spot your comments.

As for startrek.com being the official arbiter: you say yourself it's created by Paramount Digital Entertainment, right? Well, Paramount Digital Entertainment, like Pocket, is part of the Viacom empire, but it is not the part of that corporate entity that produced the Star Trek movies and TV series.

*Edited by Steve Roby (Wed Oct 19 2005 09:44 PM)*

**Christopher**

Writer

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: CaptainHawk1]**

#5142598 - Wed Oct 19 2005 08:57 PM



Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

With all due respect, where are you coming up with your information? Check the [terms of use](#) page as it clearly states the Star Trek.com is operated by Pramout Digital Entertainment, an affiliate of Paramount Pictures Corporation. The last time I checked Pocket Books was not an affiliate of Paramount, simply a licensee. I.e., Paramount runs that site and is responsible for its content including the statemnets made about what is canon and what is not.

Yes, *operated by an affiliate* of Paramount. That doesn't mean that it's personally assembled by the people actually making the show. It's just produced by some folks hired by the corporation that also hired them. The website is not some statement of official doctrine or law. It's just a piece of entertainment, put together by some guys hired to put together an entertaining website.

(For that matter, Pocket Books and Paramount are both owned by Viacom, so they are technically affiliated.)

Quote:

Well, so what? Again, the way I look at it, if Paramount (see:previous paragraph) says it's canon, it really doesn't matter what Rick Sternbach or Mike Okuda think about even their own work.

It doesn't matter what some employees at Paramount Digital thought either, because canon is defined by those actually making the show. The statement on ST.com about Jeri Taylor's novels being canon was true *when it was written*, because at the time, Jeri Taylor was still the show-runner on *Voyager* and chose to treat her books as authoritative sources. Once she left the show, her successor did not feel beholden to the conjectures she made in her books, therefore they were no longer considered part of the canon. The statement on the website is nearly a decade out of date. It may have been true at the time, but it isn't any longer.

Quote:

and second the argument against reference materials doesn't stand on its own because it is being ignored that the TV shows and movies contradict themselves, not just the reference materials.

Exactly. Which is why it's such a waste of effort to make a big deal about what is or isn't "canon" in the first place. It's just not that important. It isn't binding on the fans, and as you say, it isn't even absolutely binding on the people who made the shows. So why does it even matter?

Quote:

...I don't suggest that anyone be strictly tied to anything published about Trek, even by production staff, but nonetheless, Paramount has made it official that they consider reference materials by Trek staff official. That doesn't mean it won't change or be contradicted.

Yes, those materials *are* official. But "official" is not "canonical." As you say yourself, the shows were free to contradict the material in those official sources -- thereby proving that being official does not make something part of canon. What is meant by saying that those materials are official is partly just that Paramount approved them, and partly that tie-in works are expected to abide by their conjectures *until and unless they are contradicted by onscreen canon*. Official is a tier above unofficial, to be sure, but neither is on a par with canon.

Quote:

**This** I really take issue with. It is **not** the right of the writers to decide what canon in Trek is. It is at Paramount's (the owner of the property) sole discretion to decide what canon is and what can be changed.

That is the strangest thing I've heard all day. Canon means the actual content of the shows. And of course it's the writers who decide what's in the show. That's their *job*. The "owner of the property," as you put it, hired them for the specific purpose of creating the show's universe and deciding what happens within it. Yes, Paramount approved their decisions, and did have the discretion to reject or change those decisions. But it hired them specifically to make those decisions.

Besides, "Paramount" is not a single entity. It's a corporation made up of individual human beings, executives who make the decisions that constitute "Paramount policy." When you talk about "Paramount," you're talking about those individual people who made the decisions. And in the case of *Star Trek*, the relevant individual embodying "Paramount" was a fellow named Rick Berman. He was a Paramount executive whose job it was to oversee ST, to make the decisions about its creative direction, and to hire the people who wrote it.

Quote:

I've read on numerous occasions where writers would not stick to canon and the producers would shoot them down and make them change what they wrote to accommodate established Trek canon.

The producers *were* writers. The writer/producers on the show's regular staff *collaborated* with each other and with freelance authors to make sure that their scripts remained consistent with the canon that the staff defined.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- **Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations*: "As Others See Us"**

Post Extras:   

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Roby](#)]

#5142896 - Wed Oct 19 2005 10:10 PM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

Quote:

**Posted by Steve Roby:**

Can you fix your quoting there? it's a little hard to spot your comments.

As for startrek.com being the official arbiter: you say yourself it's created by Paramount Digital Entertainment, right? Well, Paramount Digital Entertainment, like Pocket, is part of the Viacom empire, but it is not the part of that corporate entity that produced the Star Trek movies and TV series.

Good point, didn't realize (but should have guessed) that Viacom owned Pocket Books.



I think if I dig deep enough, I will find out that Viacom owns **me** ! ➡

And no, I will not fix my quoting. 😊

-Shawn 🤖

Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

Post Extras: 📄 📧 📧

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

**📖 Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Christopher]**

[#5142928](#) - Wed Oct 19 2005 10:19 PM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

I can't take issue with any of that. The reality is...there i no canon...period. It gets changed and convoluted too many times even on TV and film.

I think it's an issue of common sense. You can't consider novels part of the official Universe period. But, it would seem to meake sense to me to consider the reference materials written bt Trek staff official even if they do get contradicted in the fuure.

The truth is that you, Pocketbooks and the fans really have no more say in what is canon and what isn't than PDE. WHO decided this at PDE and why has been allowed to be up there for 5 years if its not accurate? After all they do represent Star Trek and Paramount. But, again, I think it goes to common sense and as you pointed out each individuals own interpretation.

I just like the debate.

Now, what our your opinions on the policy in Iraq? 😊

-Shawn 🤖

Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

*Edited by CaptainHawk1 (Wed Oct 19 2005 10:22 PM)*

Post Extras: 📄 📧 📧

**LightningStorm**

Captain

**📖 Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: CaptainHawk1]**

[#5142937](#) - Wed Oct 19 2005 10:21 PM



Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**



Loc: Kansas City

Quote:

**Posted by Christopher:**

Canon isn't meant to be binding on the fans; it's a guideline for the makers of the shows. So asking other fans for opinions on what constitutes canon is a pointless exercise, because our opinions, by definition, don't apply to that particular question.

This I totally agree with.

Then why is this conversation being discussed at all?

-----  
**Currently reading:**

nothing 🤔

Thanks to [www.netflixprize.com](http://www.netflixprize.com) I don't have much time for reading these days, hell, or watching my Netflix movies either!

Post Extras:   

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [LightningStorm](#)]

[#5142957](#) - Wed Oct 19 2005 10:25 PM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

Quote:

**Posted by LightningStorm:**

Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

Quote:

**Posted by Christopher:**

Canon isn't meant to be binding on the fans; it's a guideline for the makers of the shows. So asking other fans for opinions on what constitutes canon is a pointless exercise, because our opinions, by definition, don't apply to that particular question.

This I totally agree with.

Then why is this conversation being discussed at all?

Well, thank you for taking that quote totally out of context. 

-Shawn 

-----  
Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

Post Extras:   

### Christopher

Writer



### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

#5143207 - Wed Oct 19 2005 11:29 PM

Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

I can't take issue with any of that. The reality is...there i no canon...period. It gets changed and convoluted too many times even on TV and film.

No. The reality is that the canon is, simply and literally, the actual content of filmed and televised *Star Trek*. That canon is not absolutely consistent; no canon is (Biblical canon least of all). But it is what defines the "reality" of the series' universe.

The problem is that people insist on misdefining "canon" to mean any number of other things, such as "What I want to be real Trek" or "That which is absolutely consistent and unquestionable" or "That which Paramount commands us to obey." You're right that none of those concepts have real meaning or functionality here, but none of those concepts equates with canon. There is a canon; the canon is, plain and simple, the show itself. The original work, as opposed to the secondary works derived from or interpreting it. That is what the word "canon" actually means.

Quote:

I think it's an issue of common sense. You can't consider novels part of the official Universe period. But, it would seem to meake sense to me to consider the reference materials written bt Trek staff official even if they do get contradicted in the fuure.

Saying that an individual considers something official is as paradoxical as saying that an individual considers something canonical. "Official" means that it has the cachet of an office, of the company or agency that has authority over the matter. If something is official, it's because Paramount says it's official, not because you or I think it should be.

And as I said, the staff-written reference materials *are* considered official by Paramount, in that tie-in creators are instructed to conform to their conjectures where not overtly contradicted by canon. But "official" is a far cry from "canonical," and the two don't have that much to do with each other.

Quote:

The truth is that you, Pocketbooks and the fans really have no more say in what is canon and what isn't than PDE.

And I'm not deciding what is canon, I'm simply explaining the definition of the word. Canon literally means the core text, the essential work or body of work, exclusive of anything external or supplementary to that essential body. It's not a matter of opinion, it's a matter of the literal dictionary definition of the word "canon" in general terms. The decision as to what actually constitutes the core text lies in the hands of the people responsible for creating that text, so they can decide what the canon *contains*; but what the *word* "canon" *means* in basic terms is a matter of established definition, not individual opinion.

Quote:

Who decided this at PDE and why has been allowed to be up there for 5 years if its not accurate?  
After all they do represent Star Trek and Paramount.

"Represent?" That's a bit pretentious. It's an entertainment site tying into a show. It's meant to be entertaining, not to stand for some deep principle or embody the core values of the corporation or something. It's just supply trying to meet demand. It's a business venture.

And let's face it, only a tiny minority of fans even *cares* to debate what is or isn't canon. The issue would only come up in the minds of fans who are aware of supplemental/tie-in materials beyond the show and are curious to know how it relates to the show itself. But according to estimates posted here by former Pocket editor John Ordovery, such tie-ins are generally read by only *two percent* of a show's viewing audience. So probably over 95 percent of Trek viewers have no particular interest in the question of canon, and a very large percentage of those have probably never even heard the word applied in this context.

So it's supply and demand. Most Trek viewers couldn't care less about the Great Canon Debate, so ensuring accurate information about it is not going to be at the tippy-tip-top of Startrek.com's priority list. It's a big site; they've got a lot of other stuff to do.

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[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

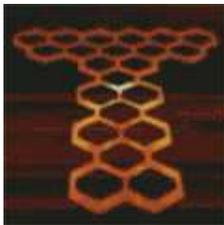
Post Extras:   

**TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

#5143374 - Thu Oct 20 2005 12:13 AM



Loc: Atlantis Base, Pegasus Galaxy

Quote:

**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**

I think it's an issue of common sense. You can't consider novels part of the official Universe period. But, it would seem to make sense to me to consider the reference materials written by Trek staff official even if they do get contradicted in the future.

Now that you've defined your own "personal continuity", be prepared for people who don't agree with you.



Quote:

The truth is that you, Pocketbooks and the fans really have no more say in what is canon and what isn't than PDE. WHO decided this at PDE and why has been allowed to be up there for 5 years if its not accurate? After all they do represent Star Trek and Paramount. But, again, I think it goes to common sense and as you pointed out each individuals own interpretation.

I just like the debate.

I'm sorry, I wasn't aware that there was actually room for debate on what the staff writers had to take into consideration in their work? The only thing that seems to be questionable is the number of people thinking their own personal continuity constitutes "canon", when that term really doesn't pertain to them in the slightest. 🙄

-----  
Terri Osborne

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the [RNC campaign ad](#) featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:   

**LightningStorm**

Captain



Loc: Kansas City

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

[#5145695](#) - Thu Oct 20 2005 03:22 PM

Quote:

Posted by [CaptainHawk1](#):

Well, thank you for taking that quote totally out of context. 🙄

You didn't answer the question.

and....

Forgive me for not being a telepath. I assumed that when you said you agreed with what he said, that you meant that you *agreed* with it.

If you agree that canon has no bearing on fans then as a fan why are you discussing it? Or am I unaware that you are actually Rick Berman or Brannon Braga or someone working on the shows/movies?

-----  
**Currently reading:**

nothing 🙄

Thanks to [www.netflixprize.com](http://www.netflixprize.com) I don't have much time for reading these days, hell, or watching my Netflix movies either!

Post Extras:   

**CaptainHawk1**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [LightningStorm](#)]

[#5146429](#) - Thu Oct 20 2005 06:36 PM

Loc: Las Vegas, NV USA

To respond to all 3 of you. Very simply, an official Paramount site, Star Tek.com, defines what is considered canon in the Star Trek Universe. Everyone has continued to question the validity of that source with nothing to back up their assertions other than their own understanding of what 'canon' is. And this argument about the literal definition of 'canon' is moot because that is not how the owner of the property

defines 'canon.' Regardless of the printed materials, they don't even consider TAS canon! What makes TAS different than the other on screen Trek? You can't dispute these facts by conjecture and off-handed comments made by Trek writers.

Show me an official Pramount press release that disputes what an affiliate of Paramount says on the property's official website, then I'll be glad to ignore st.com.

Regardless of this, may I ask a question? Why all of the 'pretentious' vitriol. What, I can't have an opinion based on the facts I see?

This isn't life and death sh\*t, here. Why does everyone seem so angry?

Chill out... it's only Star Trek.

-Shawn 

-----  
Lois: **Peter, are you drunk again?!**

Peter: **No, I'm just exhausted from drinking all night.**

*Edited by CaptainHawk1 (Thu Oct 20 2005 06:37 PM)*

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

[#5146459](#) - Thu Oct 20 2005 06:41 PM

### **KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido



Loc: New York City

^ Because it's *not* a matter of opinion, and it's *not* in any way, shape, or form relevant to anything unless you're actually *writing* something in the *Trek* universe, and because somebody shows up every three-and-a-half seconds like clockwork and drags this discussion out *all over again*, and those of us who've been on the board for more than three-and-a-half seconds are tired of repeating ourselves for the benefit of people who can't be bothered to come up with *new* topics for discussion that actually *matter*, preferring to beat a very very very very dead horse.

-----  
[Keith R.A. DeCandido](#)

[KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life](#)

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [KRAD](#)]

[#5147052](#) - Thu Oct 20 2005 08:44 PM

### **captcalhoun**

Commodore



Loc: Bugle building

i thought it was every 33 minutes...

-----  
[Trek fan-fic: All new adventures and characters](#)

Latest story: Red Shirts: Tellus Prime 'The Battle of Tellus'

[Alliance of 12 blog](#)

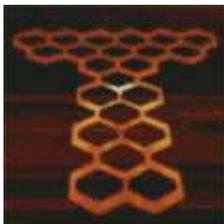
Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [captcalhoun](#)]

[#5147119](#) - Thu Oct 20 2005 08:58 PM

### **TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod



Quote:

Posted by **captcalhoun**:  
i thought it was every 33 minutes...

Wrong franchise. 😊

-----  
Terri Osborne

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the [RNC campaign ad](#) featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:   

**elaithin**  
Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [TerriO](#)]  
#5147255 - Thu Oct 20 2005 09:36 PM

Loc: Louisiana

Maybe there should just be a stickied thread for the canon debate. People are going to constantly be brining it up anyways - why not confine it to a single thread?

-----  
"I do not agree with what you say, sir, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Post Extras:   

**William Leisner**  
Commodore

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [elaithin](#)]  
#5147377 - Thu Oct 20 2005 10:07 PM



Loc: Thraz Outpost

Quote:  
  
**Posted by elaithin:**  
Maybe there should just be a stickied thread for the canon debate. People are going to constantly be brining it up anyways - why not confine it to a single thread?

Because one thread is one thread too many.

Although I suppose a thread dedicated to the canon debate could function akin to a roach motel... 

-----  
*"Anyone who has the power to make you believe absurdities has the power to make you commit injustices." -- Voltaire*

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**  
Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]  
#5147727 - Thu Oct 20 2005 11:44 PM



Quote:  
  
**Posted by CaptainHawk1:**  
To respond to all 3 of you. Very simply, an official Paramount site, Star Tek.com, defines what is considered canon in the Star Trek Universe.

Very simply, no it doesn't. The errors in this assumption have been clearly explained to you. One outdated

document on an entertainment site put together by some people hired by Paramount to help promote one of its television shows does not represent a statement with the weight of law. Startrek.com is no more and no less "official" than any licensed magazine, novel, comic book, action figure or Christmas tree ornament. It's a cross-promotion, not a declaration of inviolable principle.

Quote:

Everyone has continued to question the validity of that source with nothing to back up their assertions other than their own understanding of what 'canon' is.

Your own "assertions" are based on nothing more than your own understanding of what Startrek.com is and what "official" is. Why are you so quick to assume that your understandings are unquestionably true while the understandings of *actual professionals working in the field* are false and deluded?

The people telling you this aren't just writers like me, they're editors like KRAD and Marco. These are people who work with Paramount Licensing on a daily basis. Questions of canon and officialness and the relation of the show to its tie-ins are things they need to understand and deal with as part of their profession. To you, they're just abstract questions for debate. So how arrogant is it for you to assume that you have more insight into the subject than they do??

Quote:

And this argument about the literal definition of 'canon' is moot because that is not how the owner of the property defines 'canon.' Regardless of the printed materials, they don't even consider TAS canon! What makes TAS different than the other on screen Trek? You can't dispute these facts by conjecture and off-handed comments made by Trek writers.

Again, you're the one making conjectures and guesses. You only have an outsider's knowledge of these matters, yet you're rejecting the insights of people who deal with them far more directly. Does that make *any sense*?

And again, you've got to stop thinking in terms of "Paramount" and "they" as though the corporation were some reified entity existing independently of any human beings and issuing fiats on its own. Paramount is a business run by individual people, and those people within the corporation who have responsibility for *Star Trek* have formed varying opinions over the years about what they would regard as canon. Gene Roddenberry decided that he did not want TAS to be considered canon, so that became the policy. Rick Berman did not choose to change it, so it remained. "Paramount" did not decide TAS was not canon. "They" did not decide that. Gene Roddenberry decided that, and his successors did not overrule it.

Quote:

This isn't life and death sh\*t, here. Why does everyone seem so angry?

Because we are just so sick of the wealth of myths and misconceptions and petty disputes that arise over the issue of "canon." We keep trying to explain how simple it is, and how pointless it is to argue over, but people keep dredging up the same old myths and making this simple thing far more complicated and contentious than it has to be. And that's frustrating. Especially when someone who is so clearly burdened

by myths and misconceptions is arrogantly assuming he understands the matter better than the professionals.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:   

**Steve Roby**

Fleet Captain



Loc: Ottawa, ON Canada

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [William Leisner](#)]

#5149862 - Fri Oct 21 2005 02:03 PM

Quote:

Posted by William Leisner:

Quote:

Posted by elaitin:

Maybe there should just be a stickied thread for the canon debate. People are going to constantly be brining it up anyways - why not confine it to a single thread?

Because one thread is one thread too many.

Although I suppose a thread dedicated to the canon debate could function akin to a roach motel... 

Wouldn't work. There are always newbies, and one of the defining traits of the newbie is that the newbie doesn't look for existing threads on a subject (or read a faq, or stop to think about whether a given subject may have already been discussed), he or she starts a new one. Hell, there are non-newbs who do that regularly, which is why we often have three or four spoiler threads on the same book, and seven or eight "I sent in my SNW stories! Yay me!" threads at the same time.

-----  
Complete Starfleet Library <http://www.well.com/~sjiroby/lcars>

Starfleet Library blog: [starfleetlibrary.blogspot.com](http://starfleetlibrary.blogspot.com)

Post Extras:   

**Therin of Andor**

Rear Admiral



Loc: Sydney, Australia

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [CaptainHawk1](#)]

#5150010 - Fri Oct 21 2005 03:06 PM

Quote:

Posted by CaptainHawk1:

Show me an official Pramount press release that disputes what an affiliate of Paramount says on the property's official website, then I'll be glad to ignore st.com.

Since Richard Arnold supposedly wrote the infamous "What is canon?" memo, on "Star Trek Office"

letterhead, on Gene Roddenberry's behalf in 1989, he is a good source of the status of st.com. He has stated in several issues of "Star Trek Communicator" - and elsewhere - over the years that st.com *is a ST licensee*, just like other ST tie-in licensees, such as Pocket Books and (when they had contracts, DC Comics, Marvel, Malibu Graphics, WildStorm, FASA, Last Unicorn Games, Decipher and Interplay). The word of st.com is not gospel, nor indeed, canon.

Of course, all the information on st.com is correct at time of uploading. All licensed ST tie-in material is vetted twice by Viacom Licensing, at time of proposal and again at pre-publication. Noone at Viacom goes back through old, already-approved and uploaded web pages and corrects them when circumstances change, just as noone orders Pocket Books to rewrite all novels made redundant by events in ENT episodes. So if the website still says that "Mosaic" is canonical, then they are referring to the fact that Jeri Taylor was still the VOY boss at the time "Mosaic" was current. And the "bible" Taylor used for Janeway on VOY was used and expanded for "Mosaic". When Taylor left VOY and started working on "Pathways", she told the writing staff that information about Janeway in "Mosaic", and the rest of the crew in "Pathways", was her gift to them, but they could ignore as they saw fit. And, eventually, they did.

I can't show you a copy of the 1989 memo, but it was retyped verbatim by ST fans and angry ex-Pocket authors on the old Usenet in 1989 and throughout 1990. I saw it there. Several times Richard Arnold also posted comments explaining points in the memo, such as TAS no longer being binding on new scripts and then that Roddenberry had decreed parts of ST V to be "apocryphal".

The thrust of the memo is also quoted, in part, in issue #1, Series II, of DC Comics' post-ST V comic, where it explains that TAS "no longer crosses over" to the TOS movies - and thus Arex and M'Ress would not be appearing in Series II after all (even though a great b/w set of panels featuring M'Ress appeared in comic review journals previewing issue #1).

-----  
Thiphtho Iapth!

The Andor Files  
<http://www.geocities.com/therinofandor/>

Post Extras:   

**Brendan Moody**

Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#5245738](#) - Sun Nov 13 2005 07:35 PM

I would like to propose the following vital update to the the FAQ:

**Q. Is the "Do I need to read [Book X] to understand *Articles of the Federation*?" joke over?**

A. Yes.

-----  
It is a remarkable thing that in an age when American conservatism is as reactionary as it is, it is so often American liberalism whose discourse seems most shrill.

Post Extras:   

**Scott Butler**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Brendan Moody](#)]

[#5246305](#) - Sun Nov 13 2005 10:18 PM

I thought that joke was NOT. DEAD. ???

Scott Butler

-----  
"The last thing we want is a war in the Middle East." --Dick Cheney 1/20/2005

"With the first link the chain is forged. The first speech censored, the first thought forbidden, the first freedom denied, chains us all irrevocably." --Judge Aaron Satie, The Drumhead

Post Extras:   

**Brendan Moody**

Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Scott Butler](#)]

[#5246309](#) - Sun Nov 13 2005 10:20 PM



Loc: CT, USA

Which reminds me:

**Q. Is the "NOT.DEAD." joke also over?**

A. Was it ever not?

-----  
It is a remarkable thing that in an age when American conservatism is as reactionary as it is, it is so often American liberalism whose discourse seems most shrill.

Post Extras:   

**Scott Butler**  
Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Brendan Moody](#)]  
#5247227 - Mon Nov 14 2005 03:32 AM



The NOT.DEAD. joke is NOT.DEAD.

If the next version of the FAQ doesn't say that the NOT.DEAD. joke is NOT.DEAD. then I won't read the FAQ and neither will any of the fans of the NOT.DEAD. joke. 😊

Scott Butler

Loc: CT, USA

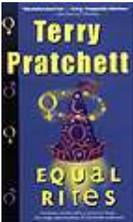
-----  
"The last thing we want is a war in the Middle East." --Dick Cheney 1/20/2005

"With the first link the chain is forged. The first speech censored, the first thought forbidden, the first freedom denied, chains us all irrevocably." --Judge Aaron Satie, The Drumhead

Post Extras:   

**JWolf**  
Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Scott Butler](#)]  
#5247421 - Mon Nov 14 2005 04:29 AM



Quote:

**Posted by Scott Butler:**  
The NOT.DEAD. joke is NOT.DEAD.

If the next version of the FAQ doesn't say that the NOT.DEAD. joke is NOT.DEAD. then I won't read the FAQ and neither will any of the fans of the NOT.DEAD. joke. 😊

Scott Butler

Loc: Massachusetts, USA

I don't think a weak threat about a lame joke will work.

-----  
Jon

**Reading**

- Tales of the Dominion War*
- Equla Rites* by Terry Pratchett
- The Hologram's Handbook*
- The Ashes of Eden*

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**  
Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [JWolf](#)]  
#5248497 - Mon Nov 14 2005 01:34 PM





Quote:

**Posted by JWolf:**

I don't think a weak threat about a lame joke will work.

The threat itself was a joke -- a parody of the fanatics who insist on boycotting any Trek book that acknowledges the events of the ENT finale. There *was* a smiley after it, you know.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- **Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"***

Post Extras: 

**DSG2k**  
Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Therin of Andor](#)]

[#5252146](#) - Tue Nov 15 2005 06:41 AM

Quote:

**Posted by Therin of Andor:**

Since Richard Arnold supposedly wrote the infamous "What is canon?" memo, on "Star Trek Office" letterhead, on Gene Roddenberry's behalf in 1989, he is a good source of the status of st.com.

Fair enough, but given that he hasn't been around Paramount since circa 1992 his opinion is a little dated.

Quote:

He has stated in several issues of "Star Trek Communicator" - and elsewhere - over the years that st.com *is a ST licensee*, just like other ST tie-in licensees, such as Pocket Books

So the claim here is that StarTrek.com, which is maintained by Paramount Digital Entertainment (or whatever it will be after the [coming Viacom split](#)), is in fact just a licensed product (much like an AMT model) that had to get permission from Viacom Consumer Products to make StarTrek.com.

Is there any evidence for this claim? I just find it odd, given that even Paramount.com is maintained by Paramount Digital Entertainment. It seems logical that PDE wouldn't be a licensee in the sense you're going for when making the official websites . . . just the basement division wherein the webmasters are kept much as one would keep a Neanderthal in a cave. 😊

Quote:

The word of st.com is not gospel, nor indeed, canon.

Oh, of course it isn't canon. That's one of the amusing things about canon policy debates . . . the canon policy is outside the contents of the canon.

Quote:

Of course, all the information on st.com is correct at time of uploading.

Well, the page detailing the canonicity of Mosaic and Pathways has existed since circa November 2000. It was moved in the great StarTrek.com reorganization of 2003, and still has a July 2003 date. However, sometime between June 2004 and October 2004 the page was updated and rendered more specific via the use of the word "only".

Quote:

Noone at Viacom goes back through old, already-approved and uploaded web pages and corrects them when circumstances change

Given that the page has been updated and maintained, I see no reason to assume it should be disregarded as old.

Quote:

So if the website still says that "Mosaic" is canonical, then they are referring to the fact that Jeri Taylor was still the VOY boss at the time "Mosaic" was current. And the "bible" Taylor used for Janeway on VOY was used and expanded for "Mosaic".

Jeri Taylor left Voyager in 1998 with the end of the fourth season. The StarTrek.com page . . . according to my sources . . . first appears in November 2000, or the middle of the final season.

Quote:

When Taylor left VOY and started working on "Pathways", she told the writing staff that information about Janeway in "Mosaic", and the rest of the crew in "Pathways", was her gift to them, but they could ignore as they saw fit.

Source for that statement?

Quote:

And, eventually, they did.

Given the internal continuity of Voyager, I wouldn't call that proof of much.

Quote:

I can't show you a copy of the 1989 memo, but it was retyped verbatim by ST fans and angry ex-Pocket authors on the old Usenet in 1989 and throughout 1990. I saw it there.

I can't find it in Google's Usenet archive. Remember anything more? Key phrases, funny responses?

All I have is the text of the Tim Lynch interview from 1991 (snippets available [here](#)), which was the first text I'd found of Richard Arnold ever.

Quote:

The thrust of the memo is also quoted, in part, in issue #1, Series II, of DC Comics' post-ST V comic, where it explains that TAS "no longer crosses over" to the TOS movies

How much was there? Just wondering if I need to be hunting on eBay.

Sorry if I'm being a pest and peppering you with questions, but if my canon page is incomplete or in error I certainly need to know about it. Thanks!

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

**Dayton Ward**

Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5252862](#) - Tue Nov 15 2005 02:45 PM



The editors at Pocket repeatedly state that none of the books are canon. Even if *Mosaic* and *Pathways* ever were considered canon by anyone on the Trek writing staff who wasn't named Jeri Taylor, they're certainly not considered that way now.

Call me crazy, but I'm tempted to believe the folks at Pocket, given their regular and ongoing contact with the good folks at Paramount, have some grasp of the subject.

-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

Post Extras:   

**DSG2k**

Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Dayton Ward](#)]

[#5285395](#) - Wed Nov 23 2005 04:37 AM

Well, I'd been waiting for a meatier reply (no offense intended Dayton), but perhaps I can clarify my request more thoroughly in a reply to this:

Quote:

**Posted by Dayton Ward:**

The editors at Pocket repeatedly state that none of the books are canon.

Got quotes? I've got some second- and third-hand info much like has been reported in this thread and of course in your own reply, but nothing solid.

And if you'll forgive me, I prefer things as close to first-hand as possible for a wide variety of reasons, not the least of which is that I prefer any errors to be my own.

How could I report, for instance, that "Paramount Licensing" says or does such-and-such as Christopher reported toward the end of page one, when in fact no such organization exists? ([Reference here](#)) What he obviously meant to refer to was Viacom Consumer Products (ignoring, for the moment, that the coming split is going to muddle that up a bit).

Surely you can understand that I'd rather have a direct quote than mere insistence by other interested parties.

Quote:

Even if *Mosaic* and *Pathways* ever were considered canon by anyone on the Trek writing staff who wasn't named Jeri Taylor, they're certainly not considered that way now.

The above is an example of what I'm referring to. It's a statement with zero supporting facts offered, and indeed we have direct counterevidence thanks to the late-2004 update of StarTrek.com's notes regarding the canon policy. I've got the full references on my site, and I linked to these earlier.

In short, your contention is supported by the following:

1. I have hearsay from Ordover quoted on my site. He works for a subsidiary of a subsidiary of Paramount Communications and, save for a couple of story ideas he sold to DS9, isn't involved in the production of live-action Trek. In other words, it's hearsay from a guy who is of questionable rank in the matter anyway.
2. Less a positive claim and more of a counterclaim against positions such as those on my page, there's the suggestion that Paramount's webmasters at PDE are mere licensees, and hence anything on StarTrek.com is of a rank similar to that enjoyed by Ordover, leaving it as a he-said-she-said sort of thing. I addressed this concept in my last post on this thread.

So far as I know, that's it. If you'll forgive me for saying so, it ain't much.

Don't get me wrong . . . I fully agree that anyone can hold any opinion they like insofar as their personal canon is concerned. You want TAS? Cool. Cox's iffy Khan books? Swell. T-Negative? Go for it. FASA? Rock on.

However, if one is going to discuss the canon policy and make claims about its contents, then we've gone beyond the subjectivity of personal canon and into a discussion of objective fact. "*This is what it is, this is what it contains,*" and so on. That's why I try to make my page as well-researched as possible.

So, do you have anything in particular to support your statements?

Thanks in advance.

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

**Dayton Ward**

Writer



 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5285642](#) - Wed Nov 23 2005 05:56 AM

Quote:

**Posted by DSG2k:**

Got quotes? I've got some second- and third-hand info much like has been reported in this thread and of course in your own reply, but nothing solid.

Editors post here regularly. Feel free to ask them. That's about as close to first-hand as you're liable to get.

Quote:

So, do you have anything in particular to support your statements?

Support my statements? Am I on trial here?

I don't particularly appreciate the implication that I must be pulling this information from the air or my ass. When it comes to matters pertaining to canon as it relates to the *Star Trek* fiction I write, I take my direction from the editorial staff at Pocket Books, who in turn takes their lead from the instructions provided to them via Paramount. That's really all the justification I require and as I've already stated, I deal with these people on a regular basis and am therefore inclined to believe they must know what the hell they're talking about.

-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer



 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5286372](#) - Wed Nov 23 2005 02:08 PM

Quote:

**Posted by DSG2k:**

How could I report, for instance, that "Paramount Licensing" says or does such-and-such as Christopher reported toward the end of page one, when in fact no such organization exists?

Not under that name, perhaps. I'm referring to the *people* whose job it is to decide such things, including Paula Block and John van Citters -- people that I and all the other writers and editors cooperate with on every single Trek project we do.

Quote:

What he obviously meant to refer to was Viacom Consumer Products (ignoring, for the moment, that the coming split is going to muddle that up a bit).

This just goes to show that people who use the word "obviously" are usually wrong.

Quote:

However, if one is going to discuss the canon policy and make claims about its contents, then we've gone beyond the subjectivity of personal canon and into a discussion of objective fact.

Oh, come ON! Let it go, already. You treat this like it's a federal case, like "canon policy" is some all-important law that governs whole lives or something. You're obsessed with something that just has no meaning. We deal with these issues as part of our **jobs** -- to you it's merely an abstraction. Can't you see how overweeningly obnoxious it is for you to assume that you're a better judge of this issue than we are? If you were really interested in a fair evaluation of the evidence, you would've accepted what we told you months ago. The fact that you insist on dragging out this ridiculous, pathetic argument and dismissing the insights of people far more qualified than you just goes to show that you couldn't care less about objective truth, only about legitimizing your own preconceptions. And it's really, really pathetic.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:   

**KevinK**

Writer



Loc: Wilmington, NC, USA

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5286373](#) - Wed Nov 23 2005 02:08 PM

DSG2k, let me see if I understand your position:

Because the professional authors who write the Star Trek novels and the editors who select and oversee the production of these novels and the publishing house which prints and distributes the novels and the company which holds the license for producing all things related to Star Trek are all in unanimous agreement that absolutely nothing except the live-action television episodes and movies are canon, they are mistaken because the facts disagree with opinions posted on your website?

Despite your opinion that Paula Block and her department do not exist, those of us who do this for a living have to deal with every line we write being vetted as consistent with canon -- though it is referred to as continuity in house. We know exactly what we are talking about. There are no grey areas. And it's more than a little annoying to have someone who has constructed their own fantasy of "how it ought to be" accuse us of dishonesty and ignorance when we share this information.

From the FAQ section of the Star Trek submission guidelines:

Quote:

11. Must my stories stay consistent with other published Star Trek fiction?

Yes and no. While we do strive for consistency among the different Star Trek stories we publish, we understand that not every aspiring author may be familiar with Star Trek fiction. If we like your proposal, we may work with you to make it consistent with other books. The most important thing is that any new Star Trek submission be consistent with the continuity of the various TV series and movies.

I understand you have the most frequently visited site concerning Star Trek canon. As a service to those who visit your site, you should either post the truth or clearly state that the site reflects only your opinion and is a work of fiction.

-----  
-- KeVin K.

"It's your dream; make it work"

-- Valerie K.

It only looks random

www.BattleCorps.com

Post Extras:   

**Marco Palmieri**

Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: DSG2k]**

#5286608 - Wed Nov 23 2005 03:33 PM

Quote:

**Posted by DSG2k:**

Quote:

**Posted by Dayton Ward:**

The editors at Pocket repeatedly state that none of the books are canon.

Got quotes? I've got some second- and third-hand info much like has been reported in this thread and of course in your own reply, but nothing solid.

"None of the books are canon. No exceptions."

- Marco Palmieri, Senior Editor, Pocket Books

Been repeating that statement for years.

Believe it, or don't believe it--it doesn't much matter. It's the reality in which I work.

-----  
Marco

*"Pessimism is a mis-use of imagination."*

Post Extras:   

**DSG2k**

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Dayton Ward]**

Quote:

**Posted by Dayton Ward:**  
Support my statements? Am I on trial here?

Of course not.

Quote:

I don't particularly appreciate the implication that I must be pulling this information from the air or my ass.

Then my apologies, for I was not attempting to suggest that the information *must* have been made up . . . simply that I had no source whatsoever other than your statement.

And, if you'll forgive me for admitting this, until you mentioned "fiction I write" it never dawned on me that you might be an author. Indeed . . . and I say this with more than a little embarrassment . . . I read "Foundations" about a year and a half ago. I've always been bad about remembering the names of author teams, though (except the Reeves-Stevens duo, but that's cheating).

I do hope you'll forgive my senility. This is why I try to have everything written down, which of course is the reason I have my site to begin with.

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

Quote:

**Posted by Christopher:**  
You treat this like it's a federal case,

I treat it like a subject about which there are objective facts. Virtually any subject has some, and thus can be addressed with equal rigor.

You note later that the canon policy has no meaning. In many cases this is so, but not all. The very reason the concept gets brought up so often among fans is because their discussions frequently require an objective standard to start from . . . a basis of discussion.

An obvious and extreme example would be someone trying to say "well, in my fanfic I established such-and-such". And on the flip side, you get people dismissing anything from certain later Trek series.

Somewhere between the two extremes, you might end up with folks wanting to discuss Federation history or technology or whatever and they're trying to decide between them whether such-and-such date from such-and-such non-TV non-movie source should be allowed. The canon policy gives an objective third-party (and important-party) guideline for how to deal with that.

This is especially true when you're actually comparing two separate universes. Unfortunately, my hobby (ST-v-SW.Net) requires this level of rigor, thanks in no small part to the 'loyal opposition' on the other side of the debate which attempts to rewrite the rules of acceptable evidence for both universes in order to aim for their preferred conclusions. I was actually amused when you said I was treating it like a federal case, since I recently compared all this policy debate rigor to the long and arduous discovery phase of a trial.

Quote:

like "canon policy" is some all-important law that governs whole lives or something.

That would be absurd. However, it does help guide discussions about Trek.

Quote:

We deal with these issues as part of our **jobs** -- to you it's merely an abstraction.

It's not an abstraction . . . my hobby entails a lot of work, and that work is guided by the canon policy. Knowing what that is is as important to my work as it is to yours. The fact that I work for free doesn't make that need less concrete.

(Insert any "you get what you pay for" jokes here.) 😊

Quote:

Can't you see how overweeningly obnoxious it is for you to assume that you're a better judge of this issue than we are?

While I'm dismissing the rest of your baseless personal attacks, I did want to address the above. Any discussion of canon policy is going to need to deal with issues of rank. If you were to say one thing and Roddenberry had said another (for an extreme example), then a third party encountering both quotes (such as myself) would have to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Your understanding of the canon policy is framed from (if you'll forgive the mixed metaphor) "a certain point of view". Pocket Books is a licensee, and thus receives lower consideration than statements from Paramount-proper.

The issue of consequence in this thread is whether the say from Pocket Books personnel like Ordoover (who previously gave at-least-tacit confirmation of the Taylor novels' canonicity) and Marco Palmieri (whose more modern statements dismiss it) outweigh the seemingly-paramount statements on StarTrek.com. Because the statements are in direct contradiction, some selection must be made.

I could either do this according to my own whim ("I prefer to believe so-and-so"), or I can do it according to

the same rigorously-enforced guidelines that I've used elsewhere.

You'll note that my original post to Therin requested further information regarding the suggestion that PDE and StarTrek.com were no different than Pocket and a book. I still have no answer on that, but that's not my point.

My point is simply this: the only thing I'm guilty of is consistency. If that's obnoxious to you, then I'm truly sorry.

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

**DSG2k**  
Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [KevinK](#)]

[#5290142](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 01:05 PM

Quote:

**Posted by KevinK:**

DSG2k, let me see if I understand your position:

Because the professional authors who write the Star Trek novels and the editors who select and oversee the production of these novels and the publishing house which prints and distributes the novels and the company which holds the license for producing all things related to Star Trek are all in unanimous agreement that absolutely nothing except the live-action television episodes and movies are canon, they are mistaken because the facts disagree with opinions posted on your website?

If by "opinions posted on your website" you refer to "statements made by executive producers and production staff of the actual television shows as quoted on the site", you would be correct. They outrank everyone on your list above.

The question of the moment, as noted in my last post, is whether the StarTrek.com statement is of Paramount origin or is to be considered as coming from a licensee. After that, of course, there's the issue of how to consider a situation where an executive producer's statements are both confirmed and contradicted by different licensees.

Quote:

Despite your opinion that Paula Block and her department do not exist,

I was unaware that I held such an opinion. Thank you for advising me of the opinions I hold. I'm sure others find this service you provide as useful as I do.

Back to the matter at hand, yes it's true that Paula Block doesn't appear on my page. There's a very good reason: I have no quotes on the matter from her. I searched around quite a bit a year or two ago for some, but none were available. If you can point me in the direction of publicly available comments from her, then I'd naturally be quite appreciative.

Quote:

And it's more than a little annoying to have someone who has constructed their own fantasy of "how it

ought to be" accuse us of dishonesty and ignorance

I have done no such thing, but I'd certainly have grounds to do so if you keep that sort of behavior up.

Happily, you do share some useful information in your post:

Quote:

From the FAQ section of the Star Trek submission guidelines:

Quote:

11. Must my stories stay consistent with other published Star Trek fiction?  
Yes and no. While we do strive for consistency among the different Star Trek stories we publish, we understand that not every aspiring author may be familiar with Star Trek fiction. If we like your proposal, we may work with you to make it consistent with other books. The most important thing is that any new Star Trek submission be consistent with the continuity of the various TV series and movies.

You'll find this quoted on my site soon. Thanks!

Quote:

As a service to those who visit your site, you should either post the truth or clearly state that the site reflects only your opinion and is a work of fiction.

That's precisely what I'm doing . . . the former, mind you, and not the latter. I strive to be accurate, after all (and your quotation above furthered that goal).

Have a nice day.

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5290335](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 02:51 PM



Quote:

Posted by DSG2k:

I treat it like a subject about which there are objective facts.

No, you don't, because you've been given the facts by people far more qualified to know them than you, and have rejected them out of hand because they didn't fit your unwavering preconceptions.

Quote:

You note later that the canon policy has no meaning. In many cases this is so, but not all. The very reason the concept gets brought up so often among fans is because their discussions frequently require an objective standard to start from . . . a basis of discussion.

And that's exactly the point. "Canon" is something that fans obsess on, but it's not something that the actual makers of the show care about that much. Canon is the show itself; everything else is supplemental. Paramount and the producers of the Trek shows and films are mainly concerned with the shows and films. The tie-in materials are read by at most two percent of the audience for the shows and films, so they really don't pay that much attention to them. So to them, canon is a non-issue, because everything they make is intrinsically canon, and everything else is incidental. That's why there isn't some big, important declaration of "canon policy" on their site or whatever -- because they don't need such a policy. It's just the way things naturally happen to work.

All these overblown fan debates and arguments are therefore just the fans manufacturing their own beliefs and problems and making all sorts of trouble for themselves. The people who make the shows know what canon is; the people who write and edit the tie-ins know what canon is. It's a very basic and simple issue: the shows are the canon, the original work; everything else is only a supplement. Whether anyone chooses to acknowledge a supplemental, tie-in work as "real" in their own mind is a matter of individual opinion, and no sort of formal "policy" has any bearing on it whatsoever. That's all you need to know.

Quote:

Somewhere between the two extremes, you might end up with folks wanting to discuss Federation history or technology or whatever and they're trying to decide between them whether such-and-such date from such-and-such non-TV non-movie source should be allowed. The canon policy gives an objective third-party (and important-party) guideline for how to deal with that.

It's ridiculous to keep insisting that there needs to be some official fiat defining matters of personal opinion and taste. There can be, *should be*, no "objective guideline," because it's a subjective question to begin with. If you want to believe something in a Trek novel is "real" in your personal version of Trek reality, go ahead! You have every right to, and nobody -- not another fan, not Paramount, not Pocket Books -- has any right to tell you otherwise. Just exercise your own judgment and imagination. It's as simple as that. If other fans disagree with you, that's fine, because you're each constructing your own personal, individual interpretation of the Trekverse. There is no absolute "right" or "wrong" answer, because it's only make-believe. It's all about imagination.

So stop treating it like some urgent debate where you have to prove your case or disprove others'. That's a pointless exercise, just arguing for the sake of argument. It's all made up anyway. Just read and enjoy the stories in your own way, and allow other people the freedom to do the same in their own different ways. There's nothing more futile than trying to prove "right" or "wrong" in a matter of personal opinion.

Quote:

Unfortunately, my hobby (ST-v-SW.Net) requires this level of rigor, thanks in no small part to the 'loyal opposition' on the other side of the debate which attempts to rewrite the rules of acceptable evidence for both universes in order to aim for their preferred conclusions. I was actually amused when you said I was treating it like a federal case, since I recently compared all this policy debate rigor to the long and arduous discovery phase of a trial.

Quote:

like "canon policy" is some all-important law that governs whole lives or something.

That would be absurd. However, it does help guide discussions about Trek.

But you need to understand, again: Paramount has no interest in facilitating that kind of hobby. It's not something that affects them, so there's no reason why they'd bother to define some kind of absolute "canon policy" in order to satisfy the needs of your hobby. Their priorities are different, and their approach to the issue of canon is fundamentally unlike yours.

So you're never going to find the kind of "canon policy" you want from any Paramount source. Like I said, they don't need to define a formal policy for something that's self-evident to them. And canon is not about telling the fans what to believe or what is "right," it's about telling the writers for the shows what to remain consistent with. So the only "canon policy" you could ever have in your terms is one you define yourself. It's your hobby, it's your imagination and approach to the Trekverse, so you have to make your own "policy" to suit your own needs. Because those needs are apparently very different from the needs of Paramount or Pocket Books.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- **Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations*: "As Others See Us"**

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

[#5290408](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 03:16 PM

**JAG**

Trek Lit, the stories continue



Loc: Somewhere out there.

**Christopher** You do know that you this conversation is pointless, don't you?

-----  
There is unrest in the forest, and the trees are really mad.  
Hear the maples scream "You traitor!" as the oaks put the smackdown on Jag. Dayton Ward

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [JAG](#)]

[#5290425](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 03:22 PM

**Christopher**

Writer



Which is exactly my point. I'm trying to get across to **DSG2k** that there is no "policy" to begin with, that he's blowing the whole thing ridiculously out of proportion. If it's a hobby, he should just relax and have fun with it rather than asking that some higher authority hand down a gospel for him and others to follow.

Also to point out that the kind of "canon policy" he seems to be looking for is completely outside the purview of this thread and this forum, so he's wasting his time by debating about it here. This was supposed to be an FAQ thread, not a thread for endlessly arguing over one person's preoccupation with

one narrow issue.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- **Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations*: "As Others See Us"**

Post Extras:   

**William Leisner**

Commodore



Loc: Thraz Outpost

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [JAG](#)]

[#5290569](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 04:22 PM

Quote:

**Christopher** You do know that you this conversation is pointless, don't you?

Quote:

Which is exactly my point.

I was making the same point by not contributing. 

-----  
*"Anyone who has the power to make you believe absurdities has the power to make you commit injustices." -- Voltaire*

Post Extras:   

**DSG2k**

Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

[#5290716](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 05:50 PM

I came back to give the good Mr. Palmieri thanks for his quote and to let him know that I'd updated the page (and to note to Kevin Killiany that I'd gone ahead and uploaded some tangential quotes from Paula Block regarding novel continuity). From my perspective, as a fellow who has evidently asked the proverbial 'too many questions' in the course of trying to keep my canon page at its best, I figured this would be a good way of decreasing this peculiar hostility I've found.

Instead, I find more flames and character attacks from Christopher, here.

Chris, I gave you the chance to back down from your behavior by taking the time to explain to you why I asked the questions I asked. I didn't flame you back, question your intellectual integrity, tell you that your books are ill-considered poorly-written crap, or ask you if you'd ever done any research regarding whether authors who engage with their readers but are hostile jackasses sell better than those who engage nicely. (The third would've been entirely unfair since I've never read anything of yours, and though I'd been considering *Ex Machina* lately I'm not sure I want to bother now.)

The fact is that I have the utmost respect for what you fellows do, and there are a lot of great books and book-derived concepts that ought to be Star Trek canon. It is perhaps unfair that Jeri Taylor had the chance to canonize her own material. However, getting in a huff over the fact that you can't do the same isn't going to help you, and while flaming a guy for keeping track of the canon policy might make you feel better, that doesn't help you either.

Regarding my "basis of discussion" idea for why Trek fans discuss canon so much, you dismiss it as a fan obsession and say Paramount cares little, noting:

Quote:

The tie-in materials are read by at most two percent of the audience for the shows and films

And probably two percent of people actually get involved in in-depth discussions on Trek minutiae (historical, technical, et al.) online. Is it really so hard to believe that these two two-percent groups overlap significantly?

Quote:

That's why there isn't some big, important declaration of "canon policy" on their site or whatever -- because they don't need such a policy.

Ever see the StarTrek.com FAQ? I've pointed it out several times and linked to the relevant answers more than once in this thread. I'm amazed you missed it.

Sure, it's not a big policy in legalese designed to withstand attacks by the same sort of quote-warping fanatics that I have to deal with, but there are multiple frequently-asked-questions pointing to two multi-paragraph answers, including the "rule of thumb" answer. For most purposes that's all that would be needed.

Elsewhere on the site we have additional statements (even in the "Introduction to Star Trek" for newbies) and the concept is discussed in episode podcasts. The concept has even been discussed by the show writers here on TrekBBS.

Quote:

Quote:

Somewhere between the two extremes, you might end up with folks wanting to discuss Federation history or technology or whatever and they're trying to decide between them whether such-and-such date from such-and-such non-TV non-movie source should be allowed. The canon policy gives an objective third-party (and important-party) guideline for how to deal with that.

It's ridiculous to keep insisting that there needs to be some official fiat defining matters of personal opinion and taste. There can be, *should be*, no "objective guideline," because it's a subjective question to begin with. If you want to believe something in a Trek novel is "real" in your personal version of Trek reality, go ahead! You have every right to, and nobody -- not another fan, not Paramount, not Pocket Books -- has any right to tell you otherwise.

We both agree that people can and should have their own subjective canon. However, the notion that fans should apply this subjective view in the company of other fans while discussing Trek is absurd. You participate in other forums . . . how many times have you seen threads degrade into discussions of canon? Can you even begin to count them?

Do you really think that's only a TrekBBS phenomenon? Do you really think that's only a Star Trek phenomenon?

And do you really think that there would be any improvement if there was no canon for people to fall back on? It would serve as an end to discussion. There are posters here at TrekBBS who reject much of the live-action Trek we've seen. How could you possibly have a thoughtful discussion with someone about, say, the Borg when you get some guy saying "well, I don't think they exist" or "they never came to the Federation, because I reject everything after "Q Who?"" or even "well, in my fanfic I established . . . "?

This is the very reason that religious groups, Sherlock Holmes fans, and a whole lot of other fan groups and producers thereof trouble themselves to make canon policies to begin with. (The idea even appears in soap opera fan pages . . . a group more likely to be female than the male-centric list above.)

Now I agree that the idea of a canon policy . . . itself a uniting influence . . . can be taken too far when people seem bent on meddling with one's personal canon. However, I'm not attempting to meddle with your personal choices about what you want to accept. My purpose with the canon page and with my messages in this thread has been to clarify what that third-party uniting influence *actually says we're uniting towards*.

And regarding my page, thanks to some subjectivists who believe what they want to believe while claiming they are speaking objectively, I'm having to be damned careful about it, too. That's the very reason I popped up in this thread to ask for clarification in the first place.

Your gross misunderstanding of me notwithstanding, I intend to continue pursuing that goal as I see fit.

Quote:

Just exercise your own judgment and imagination. It's as simple as that. If other fans disagree with you, that's fine, because you're each constructing your own personal, individual interpretation of the Trekverse. There is no absolute "right" or "wrong" answer, because it's only make-believe. It's all about imagination.

This sounds great as a paper ideal, but the history of threads devolving into discussions about acceptable evidence makes it pretty clear that this just won't work in practice.

Religions work the same way. Everyone wants their religion to be objectively valid. And, sad a commentary on humanity as it is, the same is usually true of our other beliefs.

I mean, hell, just look how fast you started flaming me in this thread. No offense, but you certainly can't claim to embody this pro-subjectivism happy-hippies view of everyone's individual interpretation about canon being okay if you're sitting there flaming the crap out of a guy for having a contrary opinion!

And actually, I'm gonna stop right there, because that's game, set, and match . . . QED, and all that jazz. With your behavior you disproved your own argument.

Have a great day.

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**

Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5290802](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 06:24 PM





Quote:

Instead, I find more flames and character attacks from Christopher, here.

Oh, lighten up. That's all I've been saying all along -- just relax. Stop making some huge contentious issue out of this, stop being so condescending and hostile toward people who disagree with you, stop demanding proof and hard evidence as if this were some criminal trial, and try to remember that this is supposed to be *entertainment*. We're here to have fun, not to try each other in court. And your refusal to let go of this fixation of yours is making things a lot less fun for the rest of us -- especially when you stubbornly refuse to listen to our every sincere attempt to provide you with information and answers and just treat us with dismissal and denigration. If you treat people like that, you have no business accusing them of flaming when they react badly to it.

So just let it go. Lighten up. This is supposed to be fun.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:

**captcalhoun**

Commodore

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

[#5291066](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 08:12 PM



FOR GOD'S SAKES, GET A LIFE! IT'S A TV SHOW!

-----  
[Trek fan-fic: All new adventures and characters](#)

Loc: Bugle building

Latest story: Red Shirts: Tellus Prime 'The Battle of Tellus'

[Alliance of 12 blog](#)

Post Extras:

**Emh<sup>11</sup>**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]

[#5291428](#) - Thu Nov 24 2005 10:42 PM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Quote:

Posted by Christopher:

Quote:

Instead, I find more flames and character attacks from Christopher, here.

Oh, lighten up. That's all I've been saying all along -- just relax. Stop making some huge contentious issue out of this, stop being so condescending and hostile toward people who disagree with you, stop demanding proof and hard evidence as if this were some criminal trial, and try to remember that this is supposed to be *entertainment*. We're here to have fun, not to try each other in court. And your refusal to let go of this fixation of yours is making things a lot less fun for the rest of us -- especially when you stubbornly refuse to listen to our every sincere attempt to provide you with information and answers

and just treat us with dismissal and denigration. If you treat people like that, you have no business accusing them of flaming when they react badly to it.

So just let it go. Lighten up. This is supposed to be fun.

Thank you for that post, Christopher.

Seriously, this is completely out of hand. This thread isn't even meant for a canon debate. If you want to continue this, start a new thread.

Nonetheless, I'm considering closing this thread and letting Steve start the FAQ newly refreshed, especially since it desperately need to be updated. 😊 For the time being, I'll leave it open, but if this debate doesn't go away, I'm going to close it, but leave it pinned.

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras: 

### Therin of Andor

Rear Admiral



Loc: Sydney, Australia

### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [DSG2k](#)]

[#5292692](#) - Fri Nov 25 2005 08:18 AM

Quote:

**Posted by DSG2k:**

How could I report, for instance, that "Paramount Licensing" says or does such-and-such as Christopher reported toward the end of page one, when in fact no such organization exists?

Well, when Usenet newsgroups published a copy of a 1989 memo about the canonicity of various "Star Trek" products, from the then "Star Trek Office" at Paramount (ie. Richard Arnold writing on behalf of Gene Roddenberry), I think the term "Paramount Licensing" actually did exist and the "Star Trek Office" consulted with them. Certainly, "Paramount Licensing" was the shorthand way everyone referred to it. After the "Star Trek Office" was wound up in the days after Roddenberry's death, "Paramount Licensing" took over the vetting of all tie-in merchandise. "Viacom" came along later. I'm sorry I didn't keep you a copy of the memo, although I may have a copy of it in an issue of "Data Entries", an early Brent Spiner newszine. It was also referred to, in part, in DC Comics "Star Trek" Series II, issue #1.

Quote:

It's a statement with zero supporting facts offered, and indeed we have direct counterevidence thanks to the late-2004 update of StarTrek.com's notes regarding the canon policy. I've got the full references on my site, and I linked to these earlier.

Ask Paula Block. She posts here.

---

Quote:

1. I have hearsay from Ordover quoted on my site. He works for a subsidiary of a subsidiary of Paramount Communications and, save for a couple of story ideas he sold to DS9, isn't involved in the production of live-action Trek.

Hearsay? He was the bloody editor of Star Trek fiction at Pocket Books for years! (A decade?)

Quote:

there's the suggestion that Paramount's webmasters at PDE are mere licensees

They are. This has been stated in issues of "Star Trek Communicator". See Richard Arnold's column. He used to be "Star Trek Archivist" at Paramount and vetted many ST tie-ins for the then-"Star Trek Office".

Quote:

However, if one is going to discuss the canon policy and make claims about its contents, then we've gone beyond the subjectivity of personal canon and into a discussion of objective fact. "*This* is what it is, *this* is what it contains," and so on.

Richard's quote at many ST conventions, and referring to the 1989 memo re TAS was, "The animated series does not cross over with the movies" and he went on to explain that "canon" was now considered to be "live-action Star Trek episodes as they appeared onscreen". ie. Not scripts, cut footage, books, comics, movie studio rides/performances, greeting cards, Borg shampoo bottles, action figure cardback biographies of characters, or RPGs. The memo also talked about tie-in authors not sharing original characters.

But this is old news. The memo was superceded not long after Roddenberry's death. Not rescinded in writing, but just referred to less as the concerns became less urgent. There was a TAS reference in the novelization of "Unification".

Quote:

So, do you have anything in particular to support your statements?

Visit Richard Arnold's huckster table - he's at a ST convention every weekend, somewhere in the world. Or why not write a letter to "Viacom Consumer Products"?

-----  
Thiptho laph!

Edited by Therin of Andor (Fri Nov 25 2005 09:12 AM)

Post Extras:   

**DSG2k**  
Commander

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Therin of Andor](#)]

[#5295132](#) - Sat Nov 26 2005 01:21 AM

Quote:

**Posted by Therin of Andor:**

Well, when Usenet newsgroups published a copy of a 1989 memo about the canonicity of various "Star Trek" products,

Despite protracted effort and search strings including the quotes you provide later in this post, I am unable to locate any posting of this memo on Usenet [archives](#). If you can remember anything else about it . . . length, responses to it, participants in it, tangential comments about it . . . anything like that might be helpful.

Quote:

It was also referred to, in part, in DC Comics "Star Trek" Series II, issue #1.

You quoted that on TrekBBS some time ago . . . I was able to locate it and quote it. So, if you ever need to make reference to it, feel free to [use this link](#).

Quote:

Ask Paula Block. She posts here.

Really? Excellent. Thanks!

Quote:

Quote:

1. I have hearsay from Ordover quoted on my site. He works for a subsidiary of a subsidiary of Paramount Communications and, save for a couple of story ideas he sold to DS9, isn't involved in the production of live-action Trek.

Hearsay? He was the bloody ...

Hold your horses, kemosabe. Hearsay is hearsay because it isn't first-hand data. That's why your quoting of the DC Comics thing is in the Hearsay section. Ordover's in there because I got his words off of some untrustworthy folks. And besides which, the statements I have where he talks about Paramount's position are also hearsay, though I usually put such comments in my non-hearsay section as a quote by the person making the hearsay statement.

I know my excessive caution and rigor is frustrating, but it's necessary for my page given the people I deal with. Besides, if something can't stand up to a little logical rigor, what good is it?

Quote:

Quote:

there's the suggestion that Paramount's webmasters at PDE are mere licensees

They are.

Well, as noted, even Paramount.com is maintained by Paramount Digital Entertainment, so unless there's a separate licensing agreement for every single Paramount-related website I don't see how this works. (Further, Pocket Books info on the internet is on the website of their parent company Simon & Schuster at SimonSays.com. Even the parent company's site is maintained by Simon & Schuster Online, though, and not Simon & Schuster itself.)

To be sure, PDE are the guys who maintain StarTrek.com, but there's no evidence to suggest that there's a licensing agreement in place. The site itself reads "This site and its contents TM & © 2005 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved." This is different than we saw with, say, Star Trek: The Magazine, a licensed publication. On the June 1999 edition I happen to own it simply says "Officially authorized by Paramount Pictures" and, inside, "STAR TREK and All Related Elements™, ® & © 1999 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved." In legalese, that means there's no apparent claim by Paramount Pictures as to the contents of Star Trek: The Magazine beyond their trademarks and copyrighted material . . . whereas with StarTrek.com, they're claiming the whole thing as their own.

Don't get me wrong . . . I'm not trying to bust your chops, here. It's just that for my page, I just can't go dismissing the StarTrek.com statements based on a second-hand report that they only count as much as Pocket Books statements. I'll see if I can catch up with Paula Block, though, since you've noted that she posts here . . . perhaps she has some insight.

Thanks for your help!

-----  
Author of Google's #1 ranked page on "[Star Trek canon](#)"

Post Extras:   



Loc: Colerain Twp., OH

Hey kids!

Sorry to barge into this thrilling debate on cænon, but I am going to honest-to-goodness update this felgercarbing thing this weekend (Renly's Roseboy, hold me accountable here), and wanted to see if there were any suggestions. What should be cut? Added? Revised? Redacted? (What's that word mean anyway?) Rescheduled? Repurposed?

-----  
Exploring the Universe

Reading: *Alpha Flight* #37-72; *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens

Post Extras:

**Rosalind**<sup>M</sup>  
TrekLit's Rose Mod



Loc: Sydney, Australia

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

#5319934 - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:44 AM

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**  
What should be cut? Added? Revised? Redacted? (What's that word mean anyway?) Rescheduled? Repurposed?

I think most of the stuff can and should stay, but updated (e.g. Rihannsu #5, Captain's Glory [with note saying why it's being pushed back], DS9R, SCE, and the TNG section definitely needs a revamp etc.). A few things that I think could be added are:

- \* Enterprise relaunch, with link to Margaret's answer from few weeks back.
- \* maybe Voyager relaunch? eg. why isn't there any new books? or why is it being written by one author only?
- \* and for 'questions to never ask': why are there gay characters in the books.

that's all i think think of for now.

-----  
*"Darmok, with the worms, when the can opened"* -- Marco Palmieri

Post Extras:

**Christopher**  
Writer



**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

#5320406 - Fri Dec 02 2005 02:00 PM

<http://www.bartleby.com/61/52/R0095200.html>

Quote:

**redact**  
1. To draw up or frame (a proclamation, for example). 2. To make ready for publication; edit or revise.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations: "As Others See Us"*

Post Extras:   

**Brendan Moody**

Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

#5321262 - Fri Dec 02 2005 06:29 PM

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**  
(Renly's Roseboy, hold me accountable here)

Bite me entirely, Moll, SC.

Notes on the update:

The "non-fiction books" question could specifically mention that even though *Enterprise/Trek* is off the air, there are no plans for an updated Encyclopedia/Chronology or an ENT Companion, no matter how many people would totally buy them now. That seems to be the form the question takes most often lately.

Deal with reading order for ATT/Titan/DiW/AotF. Please.

-----  
It is a remarkable thing that in an age when American conservatism is as reactionary as it is, it is so often American liberalism whose discourse seems most shrill.

Post Extras:   

**KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

#5321391 - Fri Dec 02 2005 06:52 PM



Loc: New York City

Quote:

Sorry to barge into this thrilling debate on cænon, but I am going to honest-to-goodness update this felgercarbing thing this weekend (Renly's Roseboy, hold me accountable here), and wanted to see if there were any suggestions. What should be cut? Added? Revised? Redacted? (What's that word mean anyway?) Rescheduled? Repurposed?

Going over it question by question....

Quote:

Rihannsu #5: The Empty Chair. When Diane Duane finishes it. Recently, according to her blog (<http://outofambit.blogspot.com/>), she has not been working on it, because of deadlines on other books such as *Wizards at War*. Before that, she was for some time. Maybe if we're really lucky we'll see it in 2005, but I doubt it. Remember, there were thirteen years between Books 2 and 3, and it's only been four years since Book 4 right now.

This now has a much simpler answer: December 2006.  Also, there will be a trade paperback omnibus collecting the previous *Rihannsu* books released the same month.

Quote:

Q. What is the order of the DS9 relaunch titles?

*Warpath* should be added to the list.

Quote:

Q. Will there be more post-finale titles after *Worlds*?

This should be changed to "...after *Warpath*?" to which the answer is "yes, but Marco hasn't announced it yet, 'cause he's a big stinky."

Quote:

Q. What is Star Trek: S.C.E.?

A. S.C.E. is a series of eBooks chronicling the adventures of the U.S.S. da Vinci and its Starfleet Corps of Engineers response team. Available in eBook format up to book #45 and in six paperback collections up to book #24. More information available here: <http://www.psiphi.org/cgi/upc-db/sce/>

This is now "eBook format up to book #57 and in seven paperback collections up to book #28." And add the following: "The *S.C.E.* series will be coming to an end in July 2006 with #66, and then relaunching under the new, more descriptive title *Corps of Engineers* in November 2006. There will now only be six adventures of the S.C.E. per year, with the other six slots per annum being taken by other adventures in the *Star Trek* universe, beginning with a six-part saga celebrating the 40th anniversary of *Star Trek*, commencing in August 2006."

Also add this question: "**Q: When will the next S.C.E. paperback come out?**" "A: Late 2006, and the print compilations are moving to trade paperback, and will include 6-8 eBooks per volume (depending on word count). The plan is to release two per year starting in 2007."

Quote:

Q. Will *New Frontier: After the Fall* have a coolio CD like *Stone* and *Anvil*? I heard that the comic book *Double Time* would be on it.

Can be removed, what with the book being out for a year and all...

Quote:

Q. Why aren't there any more Star Trek comics?

[Empty box]

The answer to this needs to be updated to include TokyoPop's TOS comic for next year.

Quote:  
  
Q. Why are the S.C.E. paperback reprints so rare?

Answer to this should be adjusted.

Quote:  
  
Q. Why are there so few TOS books this year? Why are there so few TNG books this year? Why are there so few DS9, VGR, ENT, NF, CHA, SGZ, GKN, etc. books this year? Does Pocket hate me and want to destroy my favorite series?

This needs to be adjusted to accommodate the new one-book-a-month schedule.

Speaking of which, one new question should be, "Why is there only one book per month now?"

I think that's it for current question adjustment. I also agree with what Brendan suggested regarding the reading order of the books on either side of *Nemesis*, and on the nonfiction books question.

-----  
Keith R.A. DeCandido

KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: KRAD]

#5321603 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:37 PM

Since all those questions, or some variant, are periodically asked and answered anyway, I say ditch the FAQ, as obviously nobody reads the damn thing. 😊

-----  
Marco

*"Pessimism is a mis-use of imagination."*

Post Extras:   

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: Marco Palmieri]

#5321641 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:45 PM

Quote:  
  
Since all those questions, or some variant, are periodically asked and answered anyway, I say ditch the FAQ, as obviously nobody reads the damn thing. 😊

**Marco Palmieri**

Rear Admiral

**KRAD**

Keith R.A. DeCandido



Loc: New York City

A not-unreasonable point. Posting the FAQ has done precisely nothing to slow down the stupid questions....

-----  
Keith R.A. DeCandido

KRAD's Inaccurate Guide to Life

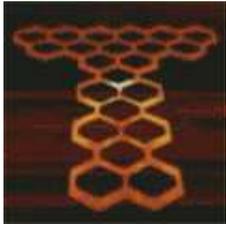
Post Extras:   

**TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: KRAD]**

#5321650 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:47 PM



Loc: Atlantis Base, Pegasus Galaxy

Quote:

**Posted by KRAD:**

Quote:

Since all those questions, or some variant, are periodically asked and answered anyway, I say ditch the FAQ, as obviously nobody reads the damn thing. 😊

A not-unreasonable point. Posting the FAQ has done precisely nothing to slow down the stupid questions....

So, does anyone think a "READ THIS BEFORE POSTING QUESTIONS!!" in the subject line would help?

-----  
Terri Osborne

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the RNC campaign ad featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:   

**Emh<sup>1</sup>**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: KRAD]**

#5321661 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:49 PM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Quote:

**Posted by KRAD:**

Quote:

Since all those questions, or some variant, are periodically asked and answered anyway, I say ditch the FAQ, as obviously nobody reads the damn thing. 😊

A not-unreasonable point. Posting the FAQ has done precisely nothing to slow down the stupid questions....

questions.... 🗨️

True, and it is frustrating, but at least when someone asks the question, the first person to reply should always say "It's in the FAQ, please read." That's how I handle all such threads.

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras: 🗨️ 🗨️ 🗨️

**Dayton Ward**

Writer

📖 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [TerriO](#)]

#5321668 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:51 PM



Quote:

**Posted by TerriO:**

So, does anyone think a "READ THIS BEFORE POSTING QUESTIONS!!" in the subject line would help?

This is a trick question, ain't it?

-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

Post Extras: 🗨️ 🗨️ 🗨️

**cmdrxis**

Captain

📖 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

#5321670 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:52 PM



as a fairly regular poster, i have to say that FAQs are like the small print. they're there, but no one bothers to read them because its too much effort and they can just ask the question instead!

call it the CAQ, constantly asked questions, it might get read!

Loc: Somewhere in deep space

-----  
Now Reading:

*Crucible: McCoy: Provenance of Shadows* by David R George III

*The Stars Are Fire*, adventures of the *USS Triton* - coming soon

"Justice has a *very* long memory" - T'Prynn

Post Extras: 🗨️ 🗨️ 🗨️

**Dayton Ward**

Writer

📖 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [cmdrxis](#)]

#5321685 - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:55 PM



I prefer the "EWWIHAAOOTQ Thread."



-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

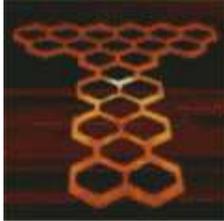
Post Extras:

**TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Dayton Ward](#)]

[#5321686](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 07:55 PM



Loc: Atlantis Base, Pegasus Galaxy

Quote:

Posted by Dayton Ward:

Quote:

Posted by TerriO:

So, does anyone think a "READ THIS BEFORE POSTING QUESTIONS!!" in the subject line would help?

This is a trick question, ain't it?

And *you* can just bite me entirely. 😊

-----  
**Terri Osborne**

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the [RNC campaign ad](#) featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:

**Emh**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [TerriO](#)]

[#5321722](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:01 PM

....ORRR...you guys could do what I suggested. But what do I know?

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:

**William Leisner**

Commodore

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

[#5321771](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:09 PM



Quote:

Posted by Emh:



Loc: Thraz Outpost

True, and it is frustrating, but at least when someone asks the question, the first person to reply should always say "It's in the FAQ, please read." That's how I handle all such threads.

But then we would have one more frequently asked question: "How was I supposed to know my question was in the FAQ topic?"

-----  
"Anyone who has the power to make you believe absurdities has the power to make you commit injustices." -- Voltaire

Post Extras:   

**Dayton Ward**

Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [William Leisner](#)]

[#5321788](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:13 PM



^ That's the thing that always cracks me up: When somebody asks a FAQ as though they're the first person in the history of the planet to think of it. It's even better when they add something like "I can't believe no one else has thought to ask this."



Granted, that's not really fair when using this forum as an example. I usually get that kind of entertainment when somebody first notices that Kirk's phaser falls off his hip in "Space Seed" or that the blood stain on Kirk's uniform in TWOK moves around.

"I can't believe nobody ever said anything about that before me!"



-----  
[www.daytonward.com](http://www.daytonward.com)

Beware the Canonites, for they are the Devil's pawns.

*Edited by Dayton Ward (Fri Dec 02 2005 08:15 PM)*

Post Extras:   

**Emh**<sup>M</sup>

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [William Leisner](#)]

[#5321818](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:19 PM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

^How very true. Sad. Yes, funny, but still sad.

Quote:

Posted by William Leisner:

Quote:

Posted by Emh:

True, and it is frustrating, but at least when someone asks the question, the first person to reply should always say "It's in the FAQ, please read." That's how I handle all such threads.

But then we would have one more frequently asked question: "How was I supposed to know my

question was in the FAQ topic?"

\*\*insert banging head into keyboard emoticon\*\*



-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

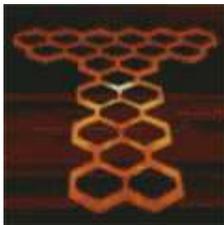
Post Extras:

**TerriO**

Freelance Writer-type Mod

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: [Emh](#)]**

[#5321851](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:24 PM



Loc: Atlantis Base, Pegasus Galaxy

Quote:

**Posted by Emh:**

....ORRR...you guys could do what I suggested. But what do I know?

After the first 50 or so times, it does get a little tiring...

Maybe something a little more subtle, like "Got a question? Check here before asking."?

-----  
Terri Osborne

"The Republicans are paying to have the messages of bin Laden and the others broadcast into your home."-Keith Olbermann on the [RNC campaign ad](#) featuring bin Laden and Zawahiri

Post Extras:

**Emh**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: [TerriO](#)]**

[#5321881](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 08:29 PM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Quote:

**Posted by TerriO:**

Quote:

**Posted by Emh:**

....ORRR...you guys could do what I suggested. But what do I know?

After the first 50 or so times, it does get a little tiring...

Maybe something a little more subtle, like "Got a question? Check here before asking."?

That might work.

Also, Aatrek and I could rename the title at any point if we feel the title isn't work.

I do agree it would get tiresome afterall, but every regular (writers and posters alike) do this, then it wouldn't feel repetitious for anyone person.

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:   

### Trent Roman

Vampire Sex Toy



[Visit my website](#)

Loc: Lahmia, City of Masks

### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

[#5322429](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 10:41 PM

Quote:

**Posted by Emh:**

I do agree it would get tiresome afterall, but every regular (writers and posters alike) do this, then it wouldn't feel repetitious for anyone person.

So... should we draw up a roster and take turns? 😊

Fictitiously yours, Trent Roman

-----  
This is a test of the emergency signature broadcast signal. Were this an actual emergency, you would not see anything as the guys who write this stuff will have taken the first opportunity to haul ass outta here.

My site:[The Crystal Prism](#)

Post Extras:   

### Arcarsenal

Lieutenant Commander



### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Trent Roman](#)]

[#5322497](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 10:58 PM

I don't know. I used the FAQ pretty frequently when I started posting... well, I guess moreso lurking here. I felt it gave me a fair amount of information as to today's trek literature and was easier than me having to ask like 20 different questions about all the different series.

Post Extras:   

### Emh

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor



### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Arcarsenal](#)]

[#5322680](#) - Fri Dec 02 2005 11:51 PM

Quote:



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Posted by Trent\_Roman:

Quote:

Posted by Emh:

I do agree it would get tiresome afterall, but every regular (writers and posters alike) do this, then it wouldn't feel repetitious for anyone person.

So... should we draw up a roster and take turns? 😊

Fictitiously yours, Trent Roman

Sounds like a plan to me.

Quote:

Posted by Arcarsenal:

I don't know. I used the FAQ pretty frequently when I started posting... well, I guess moreso lurking here. I felt it gave me a fair amount of information as to today's trek literature and was easier than me having to ask like 20 different questions about all the different series.

We need more people like you. Seriously.

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:   

**Scott Butler**

Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [William Leisner](#)]

[#5322958](#) - Sat Dec 03 2005 01:34 AM



Loc: CT, USA

Quote:

Posted by William Leisner:

"How was I supposed to know my question was in the FAQ topic?"

Add that to the FAQ. "A: By reading the ferschlugginer thing!"

Then when someone asks, we can reply, "That's in the FAQ too."

Scott Butler

-----  
"The last thing we want is a war in the Middle East." --Dick Cheney 1/20/2005

"With the first link the chain is forged. The first speech censured, the first thought forbidden, the first freedom denied, chains us all irrevocably." --Judge Aaron Satie, The Drumhead

Post Extras:   

### Arcarsenal

Lieutenant Commander



### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Emh](#)]

[#5325847](#) - Sat Dec 03 2005 11:21 PM

Quote:

We need more people like you. Seriously.

Ha Ha. Well, in my defense, I will eventually have to ask one of those dreaded questions about the DS9 relaunch timeline, but thats still a little ways off.

-----  
"What should we do if it doesn't work?"

"Kill us both Spock!"

"They're kind of the same now..."

"Yes, he's clearly a bad influence on himself"

-Anya, the Xanders, Buffy, and Giles "The Replacement"

Post Extras:   

### Q420

Commodore

### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Steve Mollmann](#)]

[#5326063](#) - Sun Dec 04 2005 12:13 AM

Loc: Washington state

Quote:

**Posted by SCMoll:**

Hey kids!

Sorry to barge into this thrilling debate on cænon, but I am going to honest-to-goodness update this felgercarbng thing this weekend...

A change of subject! Better yet, a *relevant* change of subject!! 

The bit about Dark Passions 3-4 could be amended with a mention of the MU anthology for those interested in MU stories.

Also, start the thread new. A fresh post count can't hurt, and then people won't have to wade through the off-topic stuff.

-----  
Thanks for not paying attention.

*Edited by Q420 (Sun Dec 04 2005 12:14 AM)*

Post Extras:   

### **Emh**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

### **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Q420](#)]

[#5326610](#) - Sun Dec 04 2005 03:25 AM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Quote:

**Posted by Q420:**

Also, start the thread new. A fresh post count can't hurt, and then people won't have to wade through the off-topic stuff.

Don't worry. He's doing that. In fact, that's what prompted him to finally update it. Or rather what prompted me to prompt him. 🍎

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:

**Ro\_Laren**

Fleet Captain

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Emh]**

[#5326807](#) - Sun Dec 04 2005 04:37 AM



I have a question, but don't know if it has been asked in this thread (or if it even belongs in this thread). But anyways, why are we only able to view one page of the Trek Lit forum??? I wish we could view the last couple of pages....

Post Extras:

Loc: The Badlands

**Therin of Andor**

Rear Admiral

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ [Re: Ro\_Laren]**

[#5326871](#) - Sun Dec 04 2005 05:05 AM



Loc: Sydney, Australia

Quote:

**Posted by Ro\_Laren:**

I have a question, but don't know if it has been asked in this thread (or if it even belongs in this thread). But anyways, why are we only able to view one page of the Trek Lit forum??? I wish we could view the last couple of pages....

Huh? At the bottom of the grid of topics, there is a set of links that says:

**Pages 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 ... 21**

So you can read 21 pages of old posts.

-----  
Thiphtho laph!

The Andor Files

<http://www.geocities.com/therinofandor/>

Post Extras:

**Brendan Moody**  
Rear Admiral

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Ro\\_Laren](#)]  
#5326875 - Sun Dec 04 2005 05:07 AM

Quote:

**Posted by Ro\_Laren:**

I have a question, but don't know if it has been asked in this thread (or if it even belongs in this thread). But anyways, why are we only able to view one page of the Trek Lit forum??? I wish we could view the last couple of pages....

What is your "View threads from the past x days/weeks" option set to? If you set it to "from all dates", you'll get threads dating back to August, which should fill up a few pages.

-----  
It is a remarkable thing that in an age when American conservatism is as reactionary as it is, it is so often American liberalism whose discourse seems most shrill.

Post Extras:   

**Ro\_Laren**  
Fleet Captain

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Brendan Moody](#)]  
#5326954 - Sun Dec 04 2005 05:49 AM



Loc: The Badlands

Quote:

**Posted by RulanAllwine:**

Quote:

**Posted by Ro\_Laren:**

I have a question, but don't know if it has been asked in this thread (or if it even belongs in this thread). But anyways, why are we only able to view one page of the Trek Lit forum??? I wish we could view the last couple of pages....

What is your "View threads from the past x days/weeks" option set to? If you set it to "from all dates", you'll get threads dating back to August, which should fill up a few pages.

Interesting... I will have to check that out. I was a little confused 'cause I was always able to view more than one page of threads.

Post Extras:   

**Christopher**  
Writer

 **Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Ro\\_Laren](#)]  
#5327533 - Sun Dec 04 2005 01:27 PM



The new FAQ is up now (thanks, Steve), so I guess it's time to unpin (and close?) this one and pin the new one.

-----  
[Christopher L. Bennett Homepage](#) -- **Updated 9/1/06 with info on *Star Trek: Constellations*: "As Others**



**See Us"**

Post Extras:

**Emh**

The Pumpkin-Headed Doctor

**Re: The Star Trek Books FAQ** [Re: [Christopher](#)]  
#5327908 - Sun Dec 04 2005 05:09 PM



Loc: Pumpkin TARDIS

Yup. Shuttingg.....dddddoooooowwwwwnnnnnn.....

\*blip\*

-----  
"Trees... I hear they are wonderful conversationalists." - Charlie (formerly Merry), "Further Instructions"

"What are you going to do, beat me with your Jesus stick?" - Charlie, "The 23rd Psalm"

"I think I liked you better when you just hit people with your stick." - Bernard, "S.O.S."

Post Extras:

Pages: [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [>>](#) (show all)

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Moderator: [Rosalind](#), [Emh](#)

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- HTML is disabled
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Topic views: 8815

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