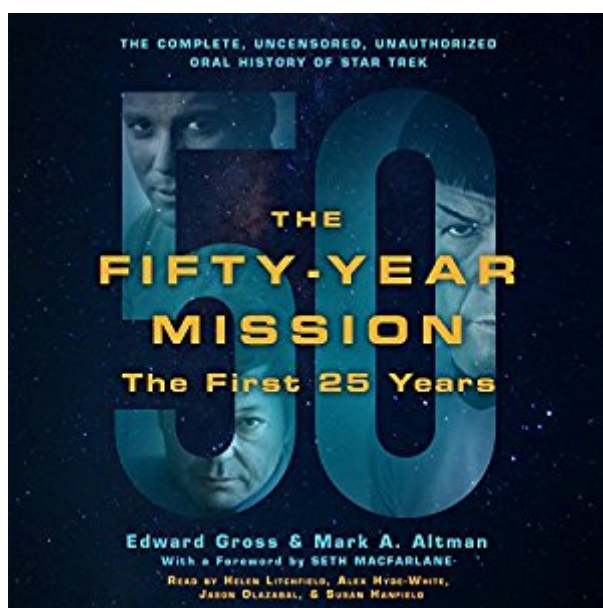


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# The Fifty-Year Mission: The Complete, Uncensored, Unauthorized Oral History Of Star Trek: The First 25 Years



## Synopsis

This is the unauthorized, uncensored, and unbelievable true story behind the making of a pop culture phenomenon. The original Star Trek series debuted in 1966 and has spawned five TV series spin-offs and a dozen feature films, with an upcoming one from Paramount arriving in 2016. The Fifty-Year Mission is a no-holds-barred oral history of five decades of Star Trek, told by the people who were there. Hear from the hundreds of television and film executives, programmers, writers, creators, and cast as they unveil the oftentimes shocking story of Star Trek's ongoing 50-year mission - a mission that has spanned from the classic series to the animated show, the many attempts at a relaunch through the beloved feature films. Make no mistake, this isn't just an audiobook for Star Trek fans. Here is a volume for all fans of pop culture and anyone interested in the nuts and bolts of a television touchstone.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A collection of interviews with the people who brought Star Trek to life as well as those who kept the dream alive after the initial cancellation. Edited in such a way as to give the impression of a super large roundtable using old interviews mixed with new, giving us the memories and opinions of Gene Roddenberry, the cast and various crew members, studio employees, guest stars, and many more. Discussed in great, sometimes painful detail are: The Original Series The Animated Series The unfilmed Phase II live action series Star Trek: The Motion Picture Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan Star Trek III: The Search for Spock

Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home – Star Trek V: The Final Frontier – The unfilmed The Academy Years prequel (later used by J. J. Abrams) – Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country For the dedicated Trekkers (like me) or Trekkies who are open to the good and the bad. I found it interesting to see the honesty among many, as well as those who were more circumspect due to their continuing work in the entertainment business. I’ve already bought the sequel and look forward to reading about the Next 25 years. Most definitely a 5 out of 5.

Loved this book. It manages to weave a coherent story from the disparate soundbites of the cast, crew and others becoming something of a page turner. I learned a lot from this book, especially about how TV and movies were made in the 60’s and 70’s. It also becomes kind of entertaining (and a little sad) when you read the seemingly incessant bitching about one another from the cast and crew. Let’s just say there was clearly a lot of competition going on there! Easily the best book I’ve read for a long time, and I’m just in awe of the amount of research that must have been needed to put this together. I can’t wait to read about the next twenty-five years!

I’m a die hard Roddenberry and Trek fan. And I enjoyed the hell out of this book. The great thing about it is that it is paragraph after paragraph verbatim from all those involved. Everyone that is anyone in the Trek Universe, has their honest and unencumbered say. Some may make you laugh, others might shock you with their honest view. But in the end, all of it, to this aging fan, is interesting. Two thumbs way, WAY up. And gee Mr Koenig, sounds like you might need to see a shrink. Just a joke, but if you read this you’ll find out why I mentioned it.

First off, let me say this is a MUST READ for any Star Trek fan. I’ve read all the "These Are the Voyages" volumes, and thought I knew everything there was to know regarding the original (and best!) Star Trek. Boy, was I wrong. You really get a soup to nuts retelling of the production, writing, and personalities behind the most amazing television franchise in history. It was especially nice to read about the very unsung Gene Coon, the stoic stewardship of Robert Wise, the egotistical (warranted) absolute genius of Nick Meyer. It was also very heartwarming to read about what gentlemen Ricardo Montalban and DeForest Kelley were to everyone they encountered. In addition, this book brings you some great behind the scenes of the animated series, and the early fanzine and convention scene. I was a little worried while reading the forwards by the authors that they were going to jam their personal politics down my throat, but after getting past those parts, I just couldn’t put the book down. I could go on, but I’ll just close by saying if you consider yourself a Trekkie (or

Trekker...), this is a must have.

For me, Star Trek is TOS. I watched most of the spinoffs, but the only one that really moves me is the original. I've always wondered "How the hell did they DO that (make something so transcendent and timeless) with no budget, little studio support, and in 1966?" So I've read a ton of Trek books over the years and thought I had a pretty good idea. But this book actually has a lot of new information/stories that fill in gaps and add more color to my understanding. And I wasn't bored by the parts I already knew because they didn't spend too much time on them and/or shined some new light on them. So I highly recommend this book for anyone else who wants to know how the hell did they DO that?!?!(Not sure I'll but the second volume, though... :-) )

Just when you think there isn't anything else new to be written about the history of Star Trek, something like this comes along. Written as a series of quotes from the men and women who've lived and breathed Star Trek since the beginning, the book is never less than interesting, and oftentimes downright surprising. The 550-page volume, the first of two in the series, actually flies right by once you're partially through it. Very highly recommended for fans and non-fans alike who want an inside peek into the glorious history of our favorite franchise!

In addition to documenting the historical events the book brings out the inside information. There isn't a bunch of glossed over hype to promote a project like we continually see for movie marketing. The warts are there for all to see. The hurt feelings, the introspection, and the killing of the sacred cow make the book very entertaining from an inside Hollywood point of view. With the majority of the book containing the unvarnished quotes of the players you get to decide what the truth behind it all is. Recommended for Trek fans as well as students of filmmaking.

There are dozens of good books on the production of Star Trek, but this oral history is the most engaging that I've read, offering surprising new insight and perspective on well-tread material. I'm even more excited for Volume Two.

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