

A Trekkie's Unofficial Book Summaries

Volume 2

Geoff Canham

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Volume Two
(TNG, DS9, & Voyager)

Geoff Canham
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Introduction & Spoiler Alert

This book series contains summaries of most of the Star Trek books I've read, and I include how the story ends (but you know who's going to win at the end anyway, don't you?) These are not meant to be reviews, and in no way reflect on whether I liked the book or not. OK, I liked all of them simply because they are Star Trek, but I did enjoy some more than others.

I prepared the summaries originally to give myself an easy way to remember what the storylines were, without having to dig through hundreds of books, and I hope you find the information useful in that way. The summaries have accumulated over many decades, so there will be some variation in style and length. I originally aimed at producing a one paragraph summary for each book, but those paragraphs often grew to be more like full pages.

Generally speaking, I have listed the books in order of publication date, which was also mainly the order that I read them. However, for this book I have normally brought together stories that are part of a series. Sometimes series are split, depending on which TV series they relate to mostly.

There have been novelizations of the Star Trek films and of some of the TV episodes, but I have not written summaries for those, as it much more fun watching reruns or recordings of them. Besides, at least for the films, you should be able to find such plot summaries on Wikipedia.

This volume contains books related to the Next Generation, Deep Space Nine, and Voyager TV series. Books that relate to those series but are mainly set in an alternative universe have been separated out from those related specifically to the universe depicted in the TV series.

Almost all of these novels are still available for purchase, often in paperback form and almost certainly as a Kindle edition, so you can get into binge-reading.

When a well-known novel gets made into a film, there are frequently complaints that this part or that part of the story is left out of the film. Unfortunately, that has to happen because there simply isn't time to cover everything in the two hours or less of a film. Likewise, in summarizing the books I have had to leave out subplots and even simplify the main plot even more than a filmmaker has to.

I hope you find these summaries useful.

The Next Generation

Ghost Ship

Diane Carey

The Enterprise encounters a gaseous entity that appears to be inhabited by the ghosts of some Russian seamen who had been lost when a Russian aircraft carrier was mysteriously destroyed in the mid-1990s. Deanna Troi believes the seamen are in some way captives who want to die, but Picard is reluctant to attack the entity, even after it is attracted to the Enterprise. The entity attacks and Picard has the saucer section separate in an attempt to allow the civilians to escape, but the entity turns its attention to the saucer until the battle-bridge section intervenes. Picard creates an antimatter explosion to keep the trans-dimensional entity occupied as the two halves of the Enterprise reconnect. While Deanna seems to be the center of attention for the life forces trapped by the entity, Data seems to be the center of attention for the entity itself. They come to realize that the entity is partially alive, although a constructed object, and that it is trying to preserve life even though it destroys the objects and bodies that serve the lifeforms. While the Enterprise is lying dormant in space (to avoid detection by the entity) Data steals a shuttle and heads out, hoping to make contact with the entity, and Riker sets out after him. The entity attacks Data's shuttle and, while Data's body is recovered via the transporter, there is no life in it. After undergoing a period of sensory deprivation (to get a feel for what the lost seamen are going through) Picard agrees to attempt to destroy the entity, and finally succeeds in doing so (by utilizing one of Wesley's experiments to increase phaser power). Data is restored to life, and the life essences of the lost seamen appear on the bridge and salute the Enterprise crew, before vanishing. [Timeline: soon after the events in Encounter at Farpoint.]

The Peacekeepers

Gene DeWeese

The Enterprise discovers an abandoned space station and, while investigating it, Geordi and Data are transported somewhere. The Enterprise begins a search for them. Meanwhile, Geordi and Data find themselves on another space station and being mistaken for the Builders (the name given to the aliens who had abandoned the station 10,000 years ago). Apparently, that alien race had set up a series of 'guard posts' around various planets with the aim of stopping the inhabitants from developing to the point where they moved into space. Shar-Lon discovered the abandoned station around his planet (which was threatened by nuclear war) and used the station to remove all nuclear warheads and impose peace. His well-meaning efforts effectively turned his world into a prison planet, guarded by the Peacekeepers who lived in an orbital habitat. Even some of the Peacekeepers have their doubts about what Shar-Lon is doing, including his brother, Shar-Tel. Geordi and Data talk Shar-Lon into taking them back to the alien station, known as the Repository, but they are kidnapped by Shar-Tel before they get there. Riker and Yar get themselves transported to the Repository in an effort to find Geordi and Data but find themselves

cut off as the subspace-transporter burnt out their subspace transceivers. The Enterprise foursome try to bring the two brothers together, but Shar-Lon escapes back to the Peacekeepers' habitat, only to be shot by his deputy, Kel-Nar. Before dying, Shar-Lon had initiated the transportation of the group from the Enterprise (along with Shar-Tel) into space, but Geordi, who had managed to get some control over the Repository, gets himself transported back. He is unable to rescue the others because he gets disabled in a fight with Kel-Nar. The Enterprise turns up in time to rescue the others, the Repository self-destructs, and (using a bit of subterfuge) the Enterprise crew manage to bring peace between the planet's inhabitants and the so-called Peacekeepers.

The Children of Hamlin

Carmen Carter

The Enterprise comes to the rescue of the starship Ferrel, which is battling an alien starship shaped like a collection of bubbles. The alien ship is driven away, but not before inflicting damage on the Enterprise and almost destroying the Ferrel. Among those rescued is Ambassador/Agent Deelor and translator Ruthe. They had been trying to contact the bubble shaped Choraii ships to negotiate the release of the children of Hamlin, who had been abducted about 50 years previous when the Choraii destroyed the settlement on Hamlin. The Enterprise contacts the Choraii again and an exchange is arranged – some lead for a second-generation child, born on the Choraii ships. Data notices that an adult human is apparently also aboard the Choraii ship, and after a skirmish he (Jason) is rescued. Unfortunately, it turns out that adults are unable to make the transition back to normal human society after the musical Choraii environment, and Jason dies. Meanwhile the Enterprise heads on to New Oregon, which is to be the new home of a group of farmers who are onboard the ship. On arrival, it is discovered that the terra-forming base on the planet has been destroyed by a Choraii ship, and that another child has possibly been abducted. The Choraii ship is tracked down, and Ruthe apparently talks the Choraii into returning the child, and she transports over to seal the deal. The child is returned, but Ruthe does not transport back. It turns out that she was 'rescued' from this very ship and considers herself to be back home. She says that she will teach the Choraii about human music and show them that we are not the savages (or 'wild-ones') that they see us as. [Timeline: some time after the Angel One incident, and two weeks after Beverly Crusher had nearly died on the planet Minos.]

Survivors

Jean Lorrah

Data and Tasha Yar are sent off in a shuttlecraft to investigate the situation on Treva, after Treva's president, Nalavia, asks for help in putting down a revolution. En route, they become suspicious of the situation while monitoring broadcasts from the planet, but they are enthusiastically welcomed on arrival. When Tasha returns to her room that evening, she is kidnapped and taken to the headquarters of the rebel warlord, Rikan, and discovers that Darryl Adin (a.k.a. Dare, Adrian Dareau or the Silver Paladin) is working for the warlord. Dare had been the Starfleet officer who had discovered her on New Paris, but who had later been

convicted of treason and murder, although he had escaped before being incarcerated. The warlord starts to explain to Tasha how President Nalavia has been taking away people's civil rights, although the city dwellers don't seem to be objecting (the country people do oppose her). When Data finds that Tasha is missing, he accesses the palace computer system, believing that Nalavia is behind her disappearance. However, he discovers that that is not so, although Nalavia apparently does view the two Starfleet officers as hostages. He also finds that she has been drugging the city water supplies to make the population docile. Realizing that Tasha must have been abducted by the warlord, Data escapes from the city and sets out to free Tasha but gets himself captured. When they compare notes of what they have discovered, Data and Yar help Rikan and his team to stop the drugging of the water supply but, before the population recovers from the effects, Nalavia launches an all-out attack on Rikan's castle. There are casualties, but the attack is being driven off when the Enterprise enters orbit, responding to an earlier transmission from Tasha. Data searches the palace computer and finds that Nalavia is really an Orion. Nalavia and Dare are taken into custody, but Data is also able to search the computer on Starbase 36 and determine that Dare was framed. Dare is allowed to leave, and there is some possibility that Tasha will join him after this tour of duty is complete, but she is killed shortly afterwards by Armus on the planet Vagra II. [Timeline: soon after the events on Minos.]

Strike Zone

Peter David

A group of Kreel discover a cache of sophisticated weaponry on an uninhabited planet, and begin to harass their old enemy, the Klingons. The Enterprise is sent to try to reconcile the warring parties and takes onboard a delegation from both races and heads towards the planet DQN 1196. The short-statured leader of the Klingon delegation, Kobry, is largely instrumental in keeping relative peace between the parties, but he is then poisoned (and believed killed) at a party to celebrate the arrival at the planet. Fighting breaks out onboard the Enterprise, leaving a landing party, headed by Riker and Geordi, stranded on the planet. While exploring the tunnels where the weapons were found, Geordi is taken beyond a mysterious door that had failed to open to anyone else (in fact Geordi is somehow taken beyond it, not through it), and finds himself in some infinite space. Wesley had been trying to find a cure for his friend, Jaan, but Jaan gets killed by the Kreel after trying to help them. Finally, the warring Klingons and Kreel (or those that are left) are brought under control (and Kobry is found to be alive in sickbay). Then the infinite being(s), the Cognoscente, that had attracted the Enterprise there using the weapons cache and the warring Kreel and Klingons, shows itself, forming a face out of the stars and asteroids. When he learns that this was all a test, Picard tells the Cognoscente what he thinks of them, which was apparently the correct response as far as the Cognoscente were concerned. They and planet DQN 1196 disappear, giving a quick glimpse of a wonderful future. [Timeline: just after Riker grew his beard and just after Dr. Polaski joined the crew.]

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