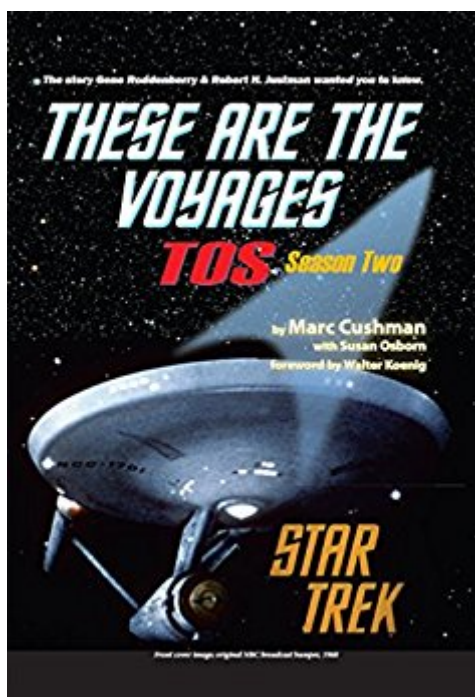


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These Are The Voyages - TOS: Season Two (These Are The Voyages Series Book 2)



Synopsis

SATURN AWARD WINNING BOOK! The second installment of the These Are the Voyages, TOS trilogy. Season One is also available on .com. Now, travel back to 1967, with Star Trek entering its second season on NBC as the incredible, in depth, behind-the-scenes story gets even more remarkable. For Gene Roddenberry and his talented team, launching Star Trek was nearly an impossible task. Keeping it on the air was even harder. Learn why Leonard Nimoy almost didn't return for Season Two. Explore why Lucille Ball, whose Desilu Productions, had gambled big on financing Star Trek, would lose her studio. Discover the real reason producer Gene Coon suddenly quit in the middle of the second year. Find out about the unproduced episodes written by renowned science fiction masters. Read the memos from Roddenberry and his staff, and NBC, concerning all 26 Season Two episodes. Witness the continuing deception by the network over the show's ratings, and how the fans took on a corporate giant to save their favorite series. Early Reviews: "Compelling, page-turning ... the most important book of Star Trek journalism ever done and is just as gripping as [Marc Cushman's] look at the shows and launch of the first season." - Jeff Bond, Editor, Geek Magazine "With These Are the Voyages - TOS: Season Two, author Marc Cushman has topped his amazing predecessor!" - Scott Mantz, Access Hollywood "You can trust these books! You won't be reading a P.R. man's spins. This is honest and this is how it was being there making Star Trek." - Walter Koenig (Chekov). Season One is on in hardback, softback and Kindle

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Customer Reviews

First, full disclosure: I was asked to serve as one of several proofreaders of the manuscript for "These Are the Voyages - TOS: Season Two." I had been one of those who, while enthralled with the material, had decried the first edition of "Season One" for its numerous typographical errors. So when the opportunity was offered to me to help with the second volume, I grabbed it. I am honored to have been a very small part of this very large project. Star Trek is more than a great television show; it's one of those rare creations that has transcended its medium to shape culture, influence lives and inspire all manner of noble things. This series of books by Marc Cushman chronicles in granular detail the history and inner workings of the series that started the phenomenon. They are and will continue to be important reference works that I predict will have relevance at least until the century in which Star Trek is set. Hyperbole? Time will tell. This volume begins with the rocky interregnum between the first and second seasons, when Star Trek's fate was still up in the air, and continues through the end of the season, when Star Trek's fate was, once again, up in the air. As with the first volume, Cushman gives each episode a thorough chronological treatment, with copious quotes from primary source production memos as scripts are bought, massaged into shape, cast and shot. This is where this book becomes visceral for long-time fans, who can't know enough about their favorite episodes. He even manages to find more to glean from well-tilled territory like "The Trouble with Tribbles." Cushman also availed himself of numerous contemporary publications to fill in with fan reaction, media coverage and interviews with actors.

The first volume of These Are The Voyages was a revelation: instead of confirming the all-too familiar story of Star Trek as a low-rated series with only cult appeal, Marc Cushman's research revealed that the series was exceptionally popular with the general public, enough to frequently beat some fairly stiff competition from ABC and CBS. It also revealed just how the episodes were made, while giving some insight on how the series managed to draw the ire of NBC's top brass. Now, we have the second volume, and the results are no less illuminating. We hear of how Leonard Nimoy nearly left the series, the circumstances behind the sale of Desilu and the departure of Gene Coon, and yes, that famous letter-writing campaign to save the show. Once again, the accepted history is

not the real history, and we learn how Star Trek managed to hold a strong second against even stronger competition (Gomer Pyle, USMC being the stiffest) and with some seriously limp shows surrounding it. And those 100-200 thousand letters you've heard about? Try ONE MILLION. And a protest at NBC's Burbank offices. And more. Furthermore, the amount of coverage of the stars in the gossip rags and stories of the cast getting mobbed implies that Star Trek was an outright phenomenon. The real value, however, is in the exposure of just how human the people making this program were. Besides the stories of William Shatner's ego and waistline (both of which are addressed fairly), we learn about the various pressures that weighed down on Gene Coon until he became burned out on Star Trek, and get a pretty good amount of the story (but sadly not all) of how Coon's replacement, John Meredyth Lucas, managed not to stay on as producer after the second season.

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