



## Star Trek: Strange New Worlds VIII

By Dean Wesley Smith, Paula M. Block, Elisa J. Kassin, Derek Tyler Attico

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This newest volume of *Strange New Worlds* features original *Star Trek*’s, *Star Trek: The Next Generation* ’s, *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*’s, *Star Trek: Voyager*’s, and *Star Trek: Enterprise*™ stories written by Star Trek fans, for Star Trek fans!

Each of these stories features our favorite Trek characters in new and adventurous situations. In this anthology, we get to experience a new version of the Kobayashi Maru, feel what it’s like to be inside the Borg collective, delight in tasting new foods, and encourage Starfleet’s future.

This year’s *Strange New Worlds* winners encompass newcomers and veterans alike, including Alan James Garbers, Kevin Lauderdale, Kevin Andrew Hosey, Paul C. Tseng, Kevin G. Summers, Sarah A. Seaborne, John Takis, Dan C. Duval, Amy Vincent, David DeLee, Muri McCage, Susan S. McCrackin, M.C. Demarco, Annie Reed, Amy Sisson, J.B. Stevens, Robert Burke Richardson, Lorraine Anderson, A. Rhea King, Derrek Tyler Attico, Geoffrey Thorne, and Paul J. Kaplan.

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## **Editorial Review**

About the Author

Dean Wesley Smith

Considered one of the most prolific writers working in modern fiction, *USA TODAY* bestselling writer, Dean Wesley Smith published far over a hundred novels in forty years, and hundreds of short stories across many genres. He currently produces novels in four major series, including the time travel Thunder Mountain novels set in the old west, the galaxy-spanning Seeders Universe series, the urban fantasy Ghost of a Chance series, and the superhero series starring Poker Boy. During his career he also wrote a couple dozen Star Trek novels, the only two original Men in Black novels, Spider-Man and X-Men novels, plus novels set in gaming and television worlds.

Paula M. Block

Paula M. Block (with Terry J. Erdmann) is a co-author of the ebook novella *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine—Lust's Latinum Lost (And Found)*. She has also written the non-fiction books: *Star Trek Costumes: Five Decades of Fashion from the Final Frontier*; *Star Trek Pop-Ups*; *Star Trek The Original Topps Trading Card Series*; *Star Trek The Next Generation 365*; *Star Trek The Original Series 365*; *Star Trek 101*; *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine Companion*; *The Secrets of Star Trek: Insurrection*; *The Magic of Tribbles*; and *Star Trek: Action!* Her additional titles include *Monk: The Official Episode Guide* and *The 4400 Companion*. As a licensing director for Paramount Pictures, Paula was co-editor of Pocket Books' short story series *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*.

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## **Introduction**

Dean Wesley Smith

Every year you, the fans, take me on a pleasure ride into the amazing past of the *Star Trek*® universe.

Now, granted, I am a story junkie. I'm a person who loves reading *Star Trek* more than anything else I can think of doing (except writing *Star Trek*). Every October, boxes and boxes of great stories arrive at my doorstep, and every year those stories usher me into the *Star Trek* universe, in ways, and to places, I would have never thought to go by myself.

But besides that, your stories take me into my own past.

The original *Star Trek* series premiered in September of 1966 and was aired on Friday nights in Boise, Idaho. I remember how I would rush home from high school to watch it. I never missed an episode back in the days before videotape machines. I didn't dare -- there was the awful chance that the episode might not air again. (Yes, I realize that I just dated myself and told you how old I really am.)

The superb *Star Trek* stories you send in to the contest take me back to my high school days. They remind

me of my friends and take me back to the nights of worrying about being drafted and the uncertainty of life -- deciding if I should go to college or just go skiing.

I did both, didn't get drafted, and years went by. When *Star Trek: The Next Generation*® started, a group of us, all hopeful writers, would gather at Nina Kiriki Hoffman's house to watch it every week. We would talk about the episode that we had just seen, talk about writing, and simply enjoy each other's company. If someone had told me that I would be writing *Star Trek* professionally, I would have just laughed. And wonderful anthologies like this weren't even distant thoughts. Every one of the *Next Generation* stories we receive reminds me of those delightful "Trek parties" we used to love so much.

*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*® broadcast its first show via satellite, ahead of when it aired on regular local channels. My wife, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, and I lived in the country and had a satellite dish. We had just finished watching the very first show, about three days before almost anyone else in our area would see it, when John Ordover called. At the time, Kris was editing *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction* and I was editing *Pulphouse Magazine*. Before John started at Pocket Books for the *Star Trek* program, I had bought a story from him, so it wasn't such a surprise to receive his call.

We ended up talking about the new series and how cool it was. The conversation progressed and he asked if Kris and I would be interested in writing one of the first *Deep Space Nine* novels. Well, duh. What a silly question. It came out a year later under our Sandy Schofield name. These are the memories that the *Deep Space Nine* entries trigger in my mind. They remind me of those days out in the country, watching shows ahead of everyone else, and getting the first chance at doing something I couldn't even have dreamed of doing ten years earlier.

*Star Trek: Voyager*® and *Star Trek: Enterprise*™ both have a similar feeling for me; they lead me to the same place in my memory, even though their starts are years apart. Besides the fact that I love the shows, they bring on a faint recollection of worry and panic, as well as a satisfying feeling of success.

Okay, why such a mix of emotions? Well, Kris and I were hired, for both series, to do the very first original books. When we wrote those books, it was months before the shows aired. We had only a trailer, some still pictures, and a few scripts for guidance. By then, we knew how important getting the characters in *Star Trek* dead-on was for the fans. And we had never seen the characters, heard them speak. Nor had we experienced the life an actor gives to each of the people that we were writing about. Trust me, that sets off a real fear for a *Trek* fan like me -- and a lot of pleasure when we realized that we didn't miss by too much.

Now do you see why your stories are like traveling in time for me? My life, especially my adult life, has been tied in and around *Star Trek*. And I consider myself the luckiest person alive for that.

So, send in more stories for the next contest so that I can take new thrilling rides through the history of *Star Trek*, and take everyone else down their own Memory Lane.

Remember, read the rules in the back of this book, read the stories in this book, read previous volumes to really understand what types of stories we are choosing. Then sit down and write a story (or two, or three). Have fun. Take us all to new corners of this vast universe. And send them all in.

Then maybe, just maybe, you'll get a phone call saying we would like to include your story in the next volume of *Strange New Worlds*. Trust me, this is one phone call that will be a unique memory to attach to this great universe.

I hope you enjoy these stories. I sure did.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Robin Millard:**

As people who live in the actual modest era should be update about what going on or information even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what one you should start with. This Star Trek: Strange New Worlds VIII is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

#### **Donald Mobley:**

Now a day people that Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each info they get. How a lot more to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Reading a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specially this Star Trek: Strange New Worlds VIII book since this book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

#### **Ron Matthies:**

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#### **Juana Kitchen:**

Within this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you are related is just spending your time not much but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of the books in the top collection in your reading list is actually Star Trek: Strange New Worlds VIII. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

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