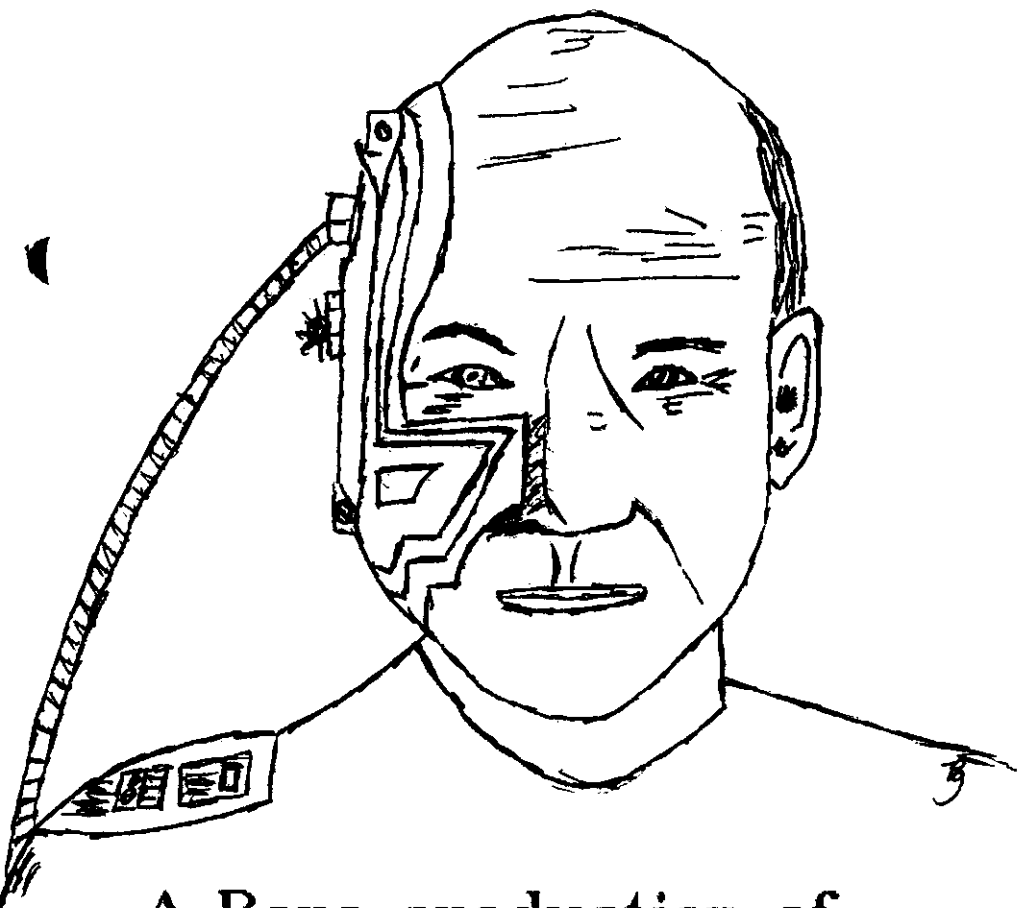


# The Dune Sea Express

#6 November 1990



A Borg production of  
"The Phantom of  
the Opera"



# Orbital Eccentricities

PG: See we told you the DSE would be different. We're calling it a fanzine, now. Do you like it? Isn't it cute?

JK: Now, if we just had some more stuff to fill it with. The local members of T & F are finally getting their acts together. So how about hearing from the rest of you out there. I know there's talent

PG: And we don't mean book reviews. Everyone and their dog has written us book reviews. I don't want to sound ungrateful but a fanzine cannot live on book reviews alone. Almost all we have in our poor, impoverished file cabinet are book reviews. We even have someone on staff whose sole purpose in life is to read books and review them for us. If you must review something how about a ST:TNG episode or a movie maybe?

JK: What we do need is anything else you'd care to write. We would like to see an article on Darth Vader's sex life.

PG: Or how about drawing a picture or a cartoon or send us the cartoon idea and we'll find someone who can draw it or vice versa.

JK: Recently, Trek & Friends had a brainstorming session. Some of the more notable ideas suggested were:

- The history of Dilithium crystals
- Will Luke Skywalker ever get a girl?
- Do Andorians make blue movies?
- What was ET's phone bill?
- Why hasn't Chewbacca's wife divorced him?
- Will there be anything for environmental activists to do in the 24th century?
- 24th century homework excuses
- In the future will bubble memory be reserved for blonds?
- How to pick up girls using the Jim Kirk method
- Fashion reviews of 24th century clothing?
- Riker's favorite recipes

PG: There were some others but I think you get the general idea. We'll always be in the market for short stories, poems, and the like.

JK: Whatever strikes your fancy. We'll even accept an unsolicited list.

Bye for now, the Eds.



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The Dune Sea Express is published bimonthly by Trek and Friends of San Angelo, Texas. This magazine is fan produced for the enjoyment of Star Trek and Science Fiction Fans in general, and is not intended to infringe on any established copyrights.

#### Staff:

- Joni Kouvelis and Pamela Girard .....Editors
- Traci Girard.....Misc. Assistant
- Stephen Schmidt.....Computer Advisor and Sanity Saver
- Jennifer Gonzales, Tom Helas,
- David Craig and Nancy Craig.....Advisors

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Please notify us of any change of address as soon as possible. Be sure to include your full name and old address printed clearly, so we can update our records.

Submissions should be type written if at all possible and submissions cannot be returned. Submission indicates permission allowing the Dune Sea Express to publish the work in part or its entirety.

Please send all correspondence to: The Dune Sea Express, C/O Pamela Girard, 3212 Oxford Dr., San Angelo, TX 76904.

"A Whovian Christmas" is copyright by Pamela Girard 1990

# A Whovian Christmas

by Pamela Girard

T'was the night before Christmas  
and all across the land,  
Not an invader could be found  
not even a Cyberman.  
The Daleks were silenced  
by Davros with care.  
In remembrance of a day  
he hadn't forgotten was there.

The TARDIS shifted silently  
through time and space.  
The Doctor, once again,  
having saved the human race.  
The tree was trimmed  
in green and red.  
The companions, anticipating Santa,  
went straight to bed.

The Doctor remained; A package  
from the cupboard, he pulled free.  
And placed  
under the Christmas tree.  
He looked tired and worn,  
but he'd given his best.  
And so, he settled in.  
for a well deserved rest.

When out in the Console room  
there arose such a clatter,  
The Doctor sprang from his bed  
to see what was the matter.  
Across the room, he flew,  
the covers floating to the floor.  
He tensed ready to spring  
as he warily opened the door.

The light illuminating the walls  
of the corridor space  
revealed an empty hallway  
to the Doctor's concerned face.  
Down the passage  
the Doctor silently stole.  
The invader, he sensed  
in his ship, his goal.

A faint glow appeared  
beneath the console room door.  
His hearts were pounding,  
his ears heard their roar.  
He quietly approached,  
opened the door a crack,  
took a peak, and what he saw  
made him look back.

A second TARDIS had appeared  
inside the Doctor's own.  
On the far side of the room  
it stood alone.  
And there by the tree  
a man dressed all in red,  
His features hid  
by a beard and cap on his head.

There was something about his manner  
that caused the Doctor to fear.  
The fellow picked up the card  
from the package, he'd found near.  
And as he read,  
to his eye came a tear.  
Which let the Doctor know  
he had nothing to fear.

He went back in his TARDIS  
and returned with a box.  
And leaving it under the tree,  
he glanced round like a wary fox.  
Then, satisfied, he'd gone unnoticed  
that all were still safe in their beds.  
He picked up the package,  
and the card, he'd read.

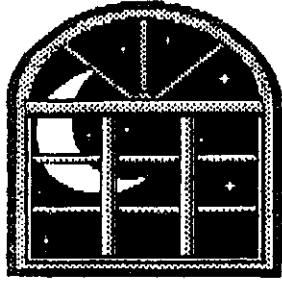
He opened the door to his TARDIS,  
a light shown bright as dawn.  
A wheezing, groaning sound,  
and then, he was gone.  
The Doctor stood quietly  
watching him take his leave,  
Wondering to himself  
about the tangled web we weave.

The Doctor moved quickly  
through the door  
And picked up the package  
the fellow had left on the floor.  
He opened the card  
and smiled as his read:

"My Dear Doctor,  
never fear.  
I did no damage  
while I was here.  
And before we again  
resume our fight  
A merry Christmas to all,  
and to all a good night."

Then, the Doctor picked up the package,  
and went back to bed.





# Voices From Space

by Tom Helms

The following transmissions were intercepted by a Federation listening post monitoring the Klingon Empire:

TO: Fleet Admiral Kong  
Imperial Fleet Headquarters  
First City, Kling 99872-0716  
KLINGON EMPIRE

FROM: Captain Klavd, IKV BEARCAT

Dear Admiral Kong,

On a standard border patrol mission my three ship unit chanced upon an alien vessel traveling at sublight speeds towards the Klingon Empire. I promptly sent a boarding party over to subdue the crew. They fought honorably yet futilely. No green cards were found so I knew they were illegal aliens. Strangely enough they had not heard of Klingons. They were quickly educated. After particularly painful interrogations we found out the crew was not told of the real mission. They claimed they had lost navigation and warp drive in a battle with aliens we had never heard of. Since they fought so honorably we found out their home planet and will send their coordinates and request having the honor of conquering them.

P.S. During the annual Fright Night party we found that putting bumps on our forehead made us even more fearsome looking. Many of the aliens went through interrogations much faster. As looks can kill, I would like to suggest the widespread use of this tactic in upcoming engagements.

Your Best and Most Humble  
Warrior,  
Klavd

\*\*\*\*\*

To Fleet Operations  
From IKV Enigma

Request most recent navigational data of solar systems in immediate area.  
<End Trans>

\*\*\*\*\*

To Head of Supplies and Procurement  
From Commander, IKV Revenger (135,69,42)-Klothos Sector

This communique is in reference to the 14 prior requests from this vessel concerning our lack of sanitation tissue. I would like to inform you that our need for this material is becoming desperate. Also I would like to request more sheets as they have been disappearing due to shortages in other areas.  
<End Trans>

\*\*\*\*\*

To IKV Revenger (135,69,42)-Klothos Sector  
From IKV Pugnacious (165,79,84)-Klothos Sector

Have extra 1000 rolls of sanitation tissue. Willing to trade for equally valuable materials.  
<End Trans>

\*\*\*\*\*

To IKV Enigma (???,???,???) - ?  
From Fleet Operations

We cannot supply navigational data due to absence of navigational coordinates in request.  
<End Trans>

\*\*\*\*\*

To IKV Pugnacious (165,79,84)-Klothos Sector  
From IKV Revenger (150,74,63)-Klothos Sector

Have information concerning last known whereabouts of James Kirk. Would also like to point out that my ship is bigger than yours. Don't leave the vicinity. Our arrival is imminent.  
<End Trans>

\*\*\*\*\*



# The Red Dragon Inn

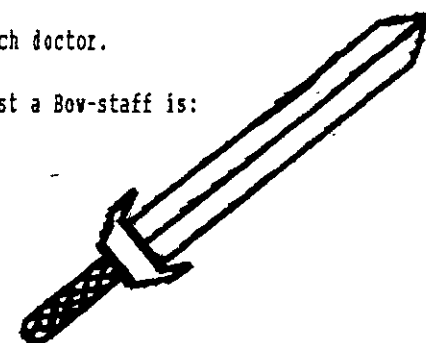


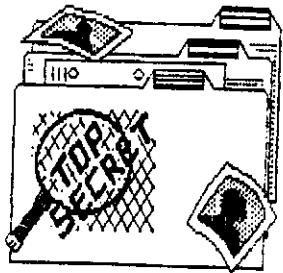
Greetings Fellow Adventurers! Welcome to the grand opening of the Red Dragon Inn. This column is for people who are interested in RPGs (Role Playing Games), computer games, ect. For the opening we have come across a few trivial questions to test your knowledge. We hope you enjoy these questions. Many happy adventures to you until we meet again. Steven Schmidt

1. What do you give a druid for Christmas?
  - a. A Stonehenge souvenir t-shirt.
  - b. Tree seeds.
  - c. An axe.
  - d. A subscription of 'Better homes and Gardens'.
2. A dagger is used for:
  - a. Cutting your nails.
  - b. Picking your teeth.
  - c. Getting table reservations.
  - d. Kenders from pockets.
3. What do give an ogre for his birthday?
  - a. A spiked flea collar.
  - b. Deodorant.
  - c. The fighter standing next to you.
  - d. The name of a good dentist
4. If slimed. What do you do?
  - a. Save some for Egon.
  - b. Take a shower.
  - c. Say 'Thank You.'
  - d. Ask for a raise.
5. If your spacesuit springs a leak?
  - a. Use chewing gum.
  - b. Wave goodbye.
  - c. Hold your breath.
  - d. Call time-out.



6. If you find a tribble you should:
  - a. Keep it.
  - b. Use it for as a nerf football.
  - c. Give it to a Klingon.
  - d. Feed it first, then c.
7. If you are in a sewer full of rats you should:
  - a. Look for Vincent.
  - b. Find nearest exit.
  - c. Call Domino's.
  - d. Pray for Turtle Power.
8. How do you entertain a Vulcan?
  - a. A Logic Contest.
  - b. Break dancing.
  - c. Super Jeopardy.
  - d. A broken tricorder.
9. When doing business with a Ferengi you should:
  - a. Refrain from doing so.
  - b. Give "oomox" to get good deals.
  - c. Count your change afterwards.
  - d. Check your back for knives on the way out.
10. When your computer breaks down you should:
  - a. Call Orkin.
  - b. Reboot -- with your foot.
  - c. Call a psychiatrist.
  - d. Find the bearest witch doctor.
11. The best defense against a Bow-staff is:
  - a. An axe.
  - b. Termites.
  - c. A bigger Bow-staff.
  - d. What's a Bow-staff?





# The Man With 12 Lives?

by Traci Girard

Has anyone else noticed that James Bond bears a striking resemblance to another character we all know and love, the Doctor. Is it possible that Bond regenerates and unlike the Doctor, we aren't allowed to see it happen? Could James Bond be a Timelord? Let's look at the evidence:

James Bond youths like the Doctor. Dalton's Bond is younger than Moore's Bond, just as Davison's Doctor is younger than Tom Baker's Doctor.

Each Bond has a different personality, as does the Doctor. Moore's Bond was more humorous while Dalton's is more vulnerable. Pertwee's Doctor was a dandy while Troughton's and Tom Baker's were clowns.

The different Doctor's have different names. They are referred to as: McCoy's Doctor, Pertwee's Doctor, Hartnell's Doctor. Like wise Bond has the same: Connery's Bond, Moore's Bond, Lazenby's Bond.

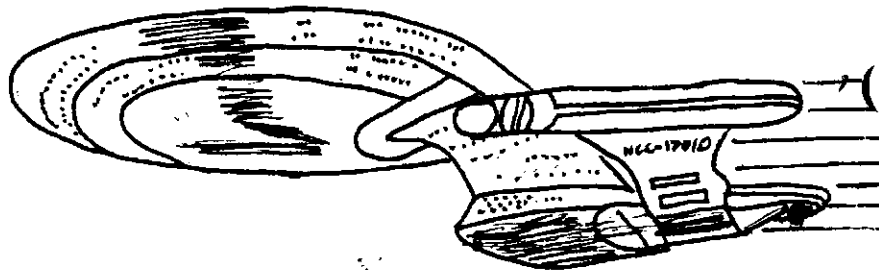
James Bond has different companions, as the Doctor does. Only there is definitely a female preference in Bond's case.

Gadgets are a common utensil for both. The Doctor has his sonic screwdriver, robot dog, and delta wave emitter. Bond has his radio broom, watch with cutting blade, tracers, and bugs.

Could James Bond's Aston Martin be his TARDIS? It changes license plates. It has all sorts of movable panels covering defense mechanisms among other things.

Quick wit is a Timelord trait that Bond certainly has. He also has the ability to find and get out of trouble on a regular basis, just as the Doctor does. James Bond's superhuman skills under stress, as well as his superior air toward the human race indicate that maybe he isn't human.

Evidence indicates that James Bond is a Timelord in practically every aspect of the word. With eight lives left Bond will probably be around for a long time to come.



## Checklist #2

### Star Trek Novels

#### From Bantam and Ballantine

The following is a list of Star Trek novels published by Bantam and Ballantine Books. Many of these are out of print and can be extremely rare collector's items if they are in good condition. Used book stores are a good place to hunt for them. These books can often be found at Cons and stores specializing in SF merchandise but be prepared to pay more. Reprint Companies are excellent places to look if you can afford to pay. Often they are the only place where you can find the book in print. The reprint books are usually hardback library editions. They are bound extremely well (I have had to complete my Foster Log Series with reprint editions and I firmly believe these books will long outlive my children.) you can usually expect to pay from \$12 to \$20 dollars for a reprint. The address of a reprint company is included with this list. You can also check with book search services but be careful to make sure there are no obligations to buy.

NOTE: The year listed with each book is the year it was first printed. Some of the books have had more than one printing. Also the books are listed by series not by the order published.

## Checklist

Ballantine Books, Inc. (Division of Random House, Inc. 201 E. 50th St., New York, NY 10022.)

Star Trek Log Series by Alan Dean Foster (These are the Cartoon episodes.)

- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 1 - 1974 (recently reprinted) Contains: Beyond the Farthest Star, Yesteryear, and One of Our Planets is Missing.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 2 - 1974 (recently reprinted) Contains: The Survivor, The Lorelei Signal, and The Infinite Vulcan.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 3 - 1975 (recently reprinted) Contains: Once Upon A Planet, Mudd's Passion, and The Magicks of Megas-Tu.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 4 - 1975 (recently reprinted) Contains: The Ferratin Incident, Time Trap, and More Tribbles, More Troubles.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 5 - 1975 (recently reprinted) Contains: The Ambergris Element, The Pirates of Orion, and Jihad.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 6 - 1976 (recently reprinted) Contains: Albatross, The Practical Joker, and How Sharper Than A Serpents Tooth.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 7 - 1976 (out of print) Contains: The Counter-Clock Incident.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 8 - 1976 (out of print) Contains: The Eye of the Beholder.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 9 - 1977 (out of print) Contains: BEN.
- \_\_\_ Star Trek Log 10 - 1978 (out of print) Contains: Slaver Weapon.

Logs 7-10 have not been reprinted in several years and are extremely rare. They are available in hardback from Amereon Ltd., P.O. Box 1200, Mattituck, NY 11952.

Bantam Books, Inc. (Division of Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103.)

Star Trek Series by James Blish (These are the live action episodes.)

- \_\_\_ Star Trek #1 - 1967
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #2 - 1968
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #3 - 1969
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #4 - 1971
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #5 - 1972
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #6 - 1972
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #7 - 1972
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #8 - 1972
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #9 - 1973
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #10 - 1974
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #11 - 1975
- \_\_\_ Star Trek #12 - 1977 (recently reprinted) J.A. Lawrence completed this volume after Blish's death.

## Checklist

Most of the Blish series is out of print but they are fairly common in used book stores. However, all but #12 can be obtained in 4 hardback volumes. Volume #12 was published after the 4 volume set was compiled, however, volume 4 included Blish's novel Spock Must Die. The hardback set may still be available from the publisher; E.P. Dutton, (division of NAL/Penguin, Inc.) 2 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

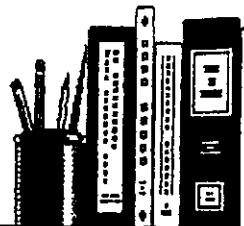
### Bantam Novels

- \_\_\_ Spock Must Die - 1970 by James Blish (recently reprinted)
- \_\_\_ Spock Messiah - 1976 by Theodore R. Cogswell (out of print, however, it is currently available in British edition from Star Tech, P.O. Box 456, Dunlap, TN 37327.)
- \_\_\_ Star Trek: The New Voyages - 1976 ed. by Sondra Marshak and Myrna Culbreath (recently reprinted)
- \_\_\_ Star Trek: The New Voyages 2 - 1977 ed. by Sondra Marshak and Myrna Culbreath (recently reprinted)
- \_\_\_ Planet of Judgement - 1977 by Joe Haldeman (out of print)
- \_\_\_ The Price of the Phoenix - 1977 by Sondra Marshak and Myrna Culbreath (out of print)
- \_\_\_ The Fate of the Phoenix - 1979 by Sondra Marshak and Myrna Culbreath (recently reprinted - sequel to The Price of the Phoenix)
- \_\_\_ Mudd's Angels - 1978 by J.A. Lawrence (out of print - completes the live action episodes. It is extremely rare)
- \_\_\_ The Starless World - 1978 by Gordon Eklund (out of print)
- \_\_\_ Trek to Madworld - 1978 by Stephen Goldin (recently reprinted)
- \_\_\_ Vulcan! - 1978 by Kathleen Sky (out of print)
- \_\_\_ Devil World - 1979 by Gordon Eklund (out of print)
- \_\_\_ World Without End - 1979 by Joe Haldeman (out of print)
- \_\_\_ The Galactic Whirlpool - 1980 by David Gerrold (recently reprinted)
- \_\_\_ Perry's Planet - 1980 by Jack C. Haldeman II (out of print)
- \_\_\_ Death's Angel - 1981 by Kathleen Sky (out of print)

It never hurts to write the publisher. If they don't have a book they may know where else you might try looking. Good hunting.

List compiled by Pamela Gizard.

# Suggestions For the Spacefaring Insomniac



By Sandra Provence Steele and Jackie Garrett-Curl

(NOTE: Not everyone knows the novel Ishmael by Barbara Hambly involves another '60's TV series called "Here Come the Brides." In this series the character of Aaron Stemple was played by Mark Lenard. The novel resolves the situation created in "Here Come the Brides." Obviously those who remember this very charming series will get much more out of the book than those who do not, but the book does stand on its own quite well. For this reason we are including two reviews of Ishmael. One from each viewpoint. Although I can't vouch for Sandra's objectivity or my own, as Ishmael is one of our favorite Trek novels. -PG)

## Ishmael review #1 by Jackie Garrett-Curl

Star Trek novel #23 offers an interesting mix of science fiction and old west. Ishmael is Barbara Hambly's first attempt at a Star Trek novel, and it shows. It is entertaining reading but not much more.

The basic premise is this: Spock is captured by the Klingons after sneaking on board their ship. He escapes to Earth in the year 1867. Due to the Klingon interrogation techniques Spock has a prize-winning case of amnesia. A string of complications follow.

Spock is befriended by Aaron Stemple and after four months of life in nineteenth century Earth; he is rescued, reunited with his friends, and returned to his own time with his memory intact. This synopsis contains information from the first 10 pages and the last 10 pages of the book. The rest of the novel merely fills space and serves little purpose.

First, it is ridiculous to believe that Kirk and Spock would keep secret anything having to do with the Klingons, especially Spock. He, himself, suggests that he commit espionage just to find out if something was going on. Get real! Spock?? Secondly, Kirk is a wimp throughout the book. The characterization is isn't done well at all. Within the first two pages he wishes Spock dead as opposed to him being a prisoner of the Klingons. True, Spock's being a prisoner would be bad, but Kirk's wishing him dead is out of character.

Other problems with the novel include: Stemple's understanding Spock's predicament and agreeing to help him, the eerie coincidence of Spock's and Stemple's relationship revealed at the end of the story, and the pointless, irrelevant subplots occurring on Earth while Spock was there. The Enterprise and her crew are almost a sideshow. They don't play a major role in the book

at all, and the finale isn't clear. I really don't know what happened even after reading it several times.

There are some redeeming qualities. The author has a talent for description, that keeps the reader interested. She will jump into the middle of a situation, then explain what led up to it. This embroils the readers in the midst of controversy first, captures them, and keeps them reading to find out what is going on. For example, the first page of Ishmael deals with Kirk: "He had not slept in two nights now. It was, he guessed, close to the end of the third...He hoped for the thousandth time that Spock was dead." Wow! I read that and thought I had bought the wrong book. I kept reading to find out what was going on--just as the author wanted me to.

To recap, Ishmael is a Star Trek novel that focuses mostly on Spock. It is not exciting, nor is it boring. It is obviously a first try with characters the author is not familiar with, or does not fully understand. It is not "really good" or "really bad". I wouldn't recommend spending the \$3.50 cover price, but if you can get it at a second hand store, go for it.

## Ishmael Review #2 by Sandra Provence Steele

Ishmael by Barbara Hambly

5 stars

In the mood for a great TV tie-in novel? Well this one is especially funny. Admittedly, the one flaw in this novel is that it requires a certain amount of foreknowledge on the reader's part. But, if that knowledge is there; this novel is a constant delight. (See the note at the beginning of the article-PG)

The Enterprise is visiting a starbase, when a Klingon freighter shows up emitting a strange power signal for a vessel of its class. Spock sneaks aboard to investigate and mysteriously disappears, leaving only a brief three word clue.

The rest of the novel is done in a split-chapter arrangement with some chapters following the detective work of Kirk and McCoy (the "Star Trek" segments) and the other chapters following Spock (the "Here Come the Brides" segments.)

The "Star Trek" segments provide an interesting look at a possible history of the Klingon Empire. The chapters are filled with unexpected plot twists and unsuspected allies. The "Brides" segments introduce an amnesiac Spock into the pioneer days of the Oregon Territory. Spock, now called Ishmael, makes a beautiful and humorous acclimatization to his new surroundings. He gains a more tolerant view toward human emotions and accepts his own quasi-humanity by refusing to stop trying under insurmountable odds.

The novel wraps things up in an intense emotional climax. The end is a little melodramatic however, I think that is a plus in this case and not a minus.



