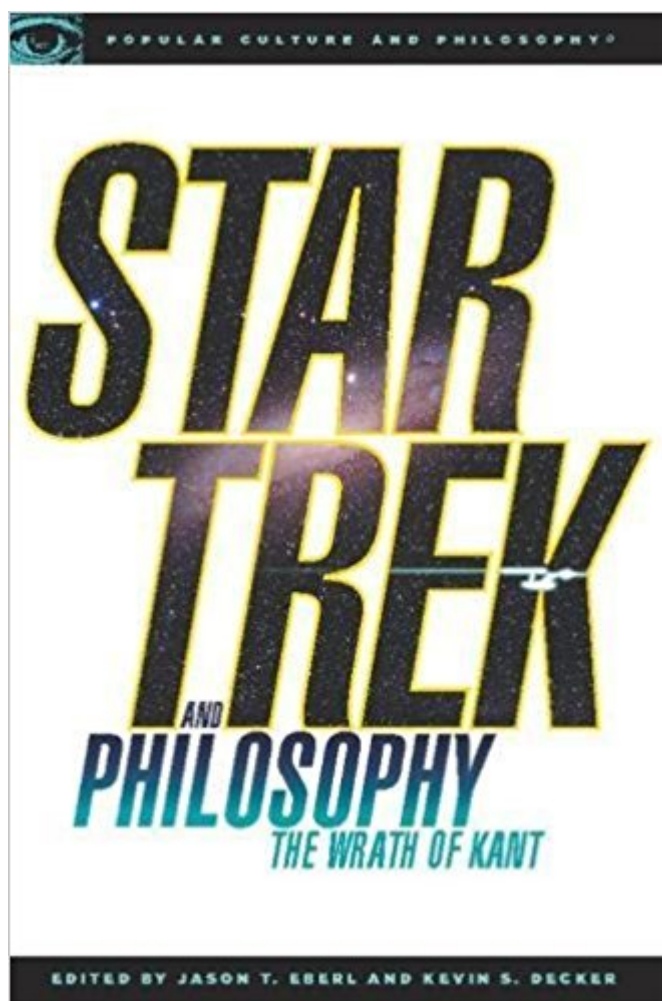


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# Star Trek And Philosophy: The Wrath Of Kant (Popular Culture And Philosophy)



## Synopsis

Philosophy and space travel are characterized by the same fundamental purpose: exploration. An essential guide for both philosophers and Trekkers, *Star Trek and Philosophy* combines a philosophical spirit of inquiry with the beloved television and film series to consider questions not only about the scientific prospects of interstellar travel but also the inward journey to examine the human condition. The expansive topics range from the possibilities for communication among different cultural backgrounds to questions about the stoic temperament exhibited by Vulcans to Ferengi business practices. Specifically chosen to break new ground in exploring the philosophical dimensions of *Star Trek*, these articles boldly go where no philosopher has gone before.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Humorously subtitled 'The Wrath of Kant,' this book examines the relationship between *Star Trek* and various schools of philosophy, and enlists the help of 21 professional philosophers to show how the theories of philosophers such as Wittgenstein and Nietzsche made their way into the scripts of a network television show." —[Annotation](#) ©2008 Book News Inc. Portland, OR

From cult to mainstream, the *Star Trek* epic has gone where no work of dramatic art has gone before, to become the most popular imaginary world yet conceived. The same restless and relentless spirit of exploration that propels the voyages of the starship *Enterprise* is also the driving

force of philosophical wonder throughout human history. Star Trek and philosophy share the same prime directive: testing ideas from our past and present to progressively improve our future. In *Star Trek and Philosophy*, twenty-one professional philosophers put their brains into warp drive to probe the limits of the limitless, expanding our knowledge of the furthest reaches of thought while also delving deep into the human essence. A philosophical feast for Trekkies and other sci-fi fans. One of the things that makes Star Trek so exciting is the philosophical angle it has often presented. Reading this terrific book will prolong and deepen that excitement.

—Jorge J. E. Gracia, editor of *Mel Gibson's Passion and Philosophy*

Playful, subtle, and rich with cultural references but actively create it. As well as beaming up famous philosophers like Kant and Nietzsche, this wonderful book plunges us into recent philosophical discussions, some of which have arisen in the wake of the accelerated technological developments of the past fifty years.

—Margret Grebowicz, editor of *SciFi in the Mind's Eye*

Boldly going where so many have gone before, these twenty-one philosophers manage to do the impossible: they find new ways to talk about this most talked about of TV franchises.

—James B. South, editor of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Philosophy*

Star Trek in all its incarnations remains one of the most philosophically fascinating TV and movie epics. *Star Trek and Philosophy* appeals to both philosophers and fans.

—Richard Hanley, author of *Is Data Human?*

*The Metaphysics of Star Trek*

I haven't read this book in its entirety, but the parts I have read have been most enlightening. I recommend this book to any fan who wants to understand the philosophy behind Star Trek.

HAVING BEEN "HOOKED" ON STAR TREK SINCE 1966, I LOVE ANYTHING that allows individuals new to HAVING BEEN A TREKKIE SINCE 1966 I enjoy any book that allows people to learn more about the ethics and history of the episodes of Star Trek. It never was nor is just a "mindless" adventure into space but an intelligent expose of many cultural and historical events disguised into future events. It has taught me to be inquisitive, pursue the historical references, and adhere to the ethics long abandoned by much of society today. This book gives one pause to look back on each episode. Especially the Original Trek and Next Generation which were written under the auspices of GENE RODENBERRY

a must for insightful trekkies

If you like Star Trek at all, you should get this book. The book is a lot of fun and highlights how surprisingly deep the writers of Star Trek have been over the years. Borg vs Individualism. Revenge vs Justice. Cloning and ethics and so much more.

This book will change your life.

I found The Ethics of Star Trek to be more informative.

I thought there would be more from the Original Series, or at least something from it, but everything is The Next Generation. The topics, therefore, run away from social problems and ideological study, focusing rather on the "popular" "philosophical" topics of, say, teleportation, space-time issues, artificial intelligence, maybe some linguistics, and pseudo-science. Also, on the sub-title: 'The Wrath of Kant', is misleading, because there is virtually nothing on TOS or its feature films, nor, virtually anything of interest to Kantian or idealist, continental scholars.

This book will appeal to the die hard loyal fans of the original television series. Any anecdotal information on the greatest science fiction show ever produced is greatly appreciated. Even if you're too young to know the show on a personal level you will enjoy this insight into one of the best sci-fi crafted worlds ever written and displayed on television.

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