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Memories Of The Future - Volume 1



Synopsis

From Encounter at Farpoint to Datalore, relive the first half of Star Trek: The Next Generation's unintentionally hilarious first season through the eyes, ears and memories of cast member and fan Wil Wheaton (Wesley Crusher) as he shares his unique perspective in the episode guide you didn't even know you were dying to read. ENJOY snarky episode recaps! EXPAND your Technobabble vocabulary! AMUSE your friends with quotable dialog! BOLDLY go behind the scenes!

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Adaptations

Customer Reviews

There's something inherently sad about child actors. They're called upon to do what older actors have been doing their whole lives, often acting alongside people who know their craft so much better than they do. To match the level of their adult counterparts, they have to work just that much harder, and they still get pigeonholed into fairly flat characters. For a lot of directors, even a poor child actor is good enough to fill out the character that has been created for him or her, so

expectations are usually pretty low. In the end, a lot of child actors either burn out or give up. Wil Wheaton wasn't a bad actor as a kid - anyone who watched *Stand By Me* can agree on that. He certainly wasn't what he could have become, but as child actors went, he did okay. Perhaps if he had been given the right roles with the right people, he would still be acting today and impressing us with the depth of his talent. As it was, he was on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, which sent him down, let us say, a different path. Wheaton's experience on TNG was one that a lot of the fans (and I count myself among them) seriously under-appreciate. From the age of fourteen, he was given the unenviable role of playing one of the most despised characters in modern science fiction, at least before Jar Jar showed up. In the early heyday of the internet, before liveblogging and Twitter and Facebook, there was Usenet - an early internet discussion group. And one of those early groups was the infamous `alt.wesley.crusher.die.die.die`. The fans would speak of "The Wesley Crusher Problem" and write horrible fanfiction that would put Ensign Crusher through some of the most depraved torments they could think of. A small, but very vocal segment of the TNG fan base actively hated Wesley and, by extension, Wheaton.

I NEVER disliked Wesley Crusher. Just thought I'd get that out of the way. I preferred him FAR over Tasha or Troi. I always just accepted his part in the cast as a supporting character and took his presence at face value. I had no idea of all the negative opinions of the Wesley character until well into the 2nd season, and I remember being completely baffled by it and not a little indignant about it on Wil Wheaton's behalf. I've enjoyed Wil's blog and a several of his other books. He's a very funny and engaging writer and SMART. I'm still a little surprised that he never got a post-graduate degree in engineering or science. He's also especially funny in his too-few appearances as himself in *The Big Bang Theory*, where even though he's supposed to be "too cool for school," he really fits right in with all those brainiacs. (Note to BBT execs: make Wil a regular character! Or at least bring him in more often.) But about the book: it's a really quick and easy read, and it's funny with a huge helping of snark. At times, maybe a little too much snark. I understand where he might cringe to see his adolescent self on the screen for jillions of people to see, but his reminiscences are touched with the memories of so many unfortunate and hurtful experiences, both with the stupid-crazy Trek fans AND with some of the people who worked on the show (I should clarify that it was only the production crew that he had problems with, NOT the cast. Thus far I have not read or heard that he had any negative experiences from the other cast members.) None of the bad stories are told here, but I and others who've kept up with him on and off through the years have read enough to know what he's not telling us in the book. None of it was his fault. It was all completely out of his control.

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