



Star Trek: Tales from the Captain's Table

Keith R.A. DeCandido

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In this follow-up to the bestselling *Captain's Table* series of books, nine new Star Trek® captains belly up to the bar to tell their tales of adventure and romance, of triumph and tragedy, of duty and honor, of debts paid and prices exacted, including:

Jonathan Archer of the Starship Enterprise™, as told by Louisa Swann

Chakotay of the U.S.S. Voyager™, as told by Christie Golden

David Gold of the U.S.S. da Vinci, as told by John J. Ordover

Kira Nerys of Deep Space 9™, as told by Heather Jarman

Klag, son of M'Raq, of the I.K.S. Gorkon, as told by Keith R.A. DeCandido

Jean-Luc Picard of the U.S.S. Stargazer, as told by Michael Jan Friedman

William T. Riker of the U.S.S. Titan, as told by Michael A. Martin & Andy Mangels

Elizabeth Shelby of the U.S.S. Trident, as told by Peter David

Demora Sulu of the U.S.S. Enterprise™-B, as told by David R. George III

From the weekly episodes of Star Trek: Enterprise to the monthly adventures of S.C., from the bestselling novel *Serpents Among the Ruins* to the bestselling series *New Frontier*, from the past tales of *Stargazer* to the new stories of *Titan*, from the glorious exploits of I.K.S. Gorkon to the post-finale chronicles of *Deep Space Nine* and *Voyager*, come nine new stories from the nine newest members of Star Trek's finest and bravest shipmasters.

Star Trek: Tales from the Captain's Table Details

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From Reader Review Star Trek: Tales from the Captain's Table for online ebook

Angela says

A short story collection featuring all eras of Star Trek. I really like the idea of 'The Captain's Table' bar and think they should do more books using this device. There's a variety of tales here, from the swashbuckling of Rikers honeymoon, to the seriousness of Kiras' brother, to the complete fantasy of Porthos the beagle spy. The fun of this book is that every story is vastly different. A good read.

Mark says

This amusing collection of short stories is edited by Keith R. A. DeCandido who also contributes a story featuring Klag. Other featured captains are Riker, Picard, Elizabeth Shelby, Kira Nerys, Chakotay, Demora Sulu, David Gold, and Jonathan Archer. Of course, none of them can live up to the legend of Porthos, badass beagle and cheese connoisseur.

Published in trade paperback by Pocket Books.

Jim says

This collection of stories is uneven, but overall a good read. All the stories are character pieces that don't focus on action or science, but life lessons learned by the characters. The only story that I flat out didn't like was the one focused on Captain Archer. If you liked the format of the Captain's Table series of novels, than I think this collection will satisfy you.

John Kirk says

As you'd expect from an anthology, this is a bit of a mixed bag. I bought it to read Peter David's story about Captain Shelby, which was excellent. KRAD's Klag story and John Ordover's Gold story were decent too. The others were ok to pass the time, but I probably won't bother re-reading them.

Looking at David George's story about Demora Sulu, this demonstrated the problem with a 1st person narrative: it didn't really feel convincing as an off-the-cuff story, particularly with the vocabulary used. It's fine for a professional writer, but it sounded a bit odd coming from a starship captain.

One odd quirk is that the framing story mentioned Chakotay's previous visit to the Captain's Table (when he talked about his Maquis days), but as far as I know that story hasn't actually been told. Frankly, I'd have been more interested in that than the story we actually got (as written by Christie Golden), which was heavy handed to say the least. It's also odd that Sulu has changed ship, so it doesn't quite fit in with her story.

The Riker and Archer stories both had the same idea, namely an unreliable narrator. I think that putting both

stories into the same book was poor editing, a bit like the first Tales of the Slayer anthology.

Picard's story was ok, but nothing special. That may just be me; I've never really been keen on Friedman's writing style.

Heather Jarman's Kira story had some interesting ideas, e.g. that she wasn't looking very glamorous after sleeping rough in the resistance, but I don't think the twists make sense. (view spoiler)

Amy says

VERY disappointed in this book. I was really looking forward to this compilation.

First of all, the setup is just cheesy and feels like a cop-out. And there is no consistency. A few stories include the storytelling framework within the story, e.g. the other bar patrons ask questions throughout. On the other extreme was Picard's story which wasn't even told in the first person. Someone edit this, please.

Also, would it kill them to explain at the beginning of each story who each captain is? It took me his whole story to figure out how Klag fit into the Star Trek universe (and I've seen that episode of TNG). I had to look up David Gold on Memory BETA (not memory Alpha-- so he was never featured in any canonical Star Trek episode or movie). Where there not enough captains from the TV series to choose from? There was only one representative each from Voyager, Deep Space 9, and Enterprise. And unless you count Demora Sulu, NONE from the original series. And I wouldn't expect anyone who is not a TNG fan to know who Shelby is either.

I hated Riker's story the most I think. Too big of a stretch. Why would a planet reject technology up to an arbitrary point? Oh, but they make an *exception* for universal translators? And Riker and Troi have to be temporarily genetically altered to have blue skin? And then Picard's story was another one, I did not understand the insect aliens or whatever was supposed to be going on there. I almost put the book down after those two stories.

Better stories were those of Shelby and Sulu. And (in spite the fact that I had NO idea who he was), I actually liked Gold's story. Chakotay and Klag were okay.

Lindsey Cook says

I enjoyed this one. Some stories were better then others. I particularly enjoyed Chakotay's, Golds and Kira's. Archer's was kinda funny, b/c you knew it was all made up. An enjoyable read.

Ojan says

Enjoyed the read. It was not outstanding when averaged out. With multiple short stories written in varying styles from multiple authors, it is difficult to judge the book as a whole. A couple stories were excellent, a couple were just okay. I very much liked the concept of "The Captain's Table" and will definitely look for

others in this series.

Allisson Reed says

Fun, light reading. Mission accomplished. Belly up to the mystical bar, prepare to be entertained.

Curren says

My 4 star review is sole based on judging this book for what it is: a Star Trek novel. There is a different author for each chapter, or "captain's story" so the writing quality varies. Most of the writing was okay, a few chapters were somewhat poorly written. Otherwise the idea behind the book is clever and I liked hearing stories about captains that I would not have seen on the tv shows. It helped me appreciate the characters more, and introduced me to new ones. If you are a Star Trek fan, this is a great book - especially if you have seen the shows but have not read a ST novel yet.

Fishsanwitt says

stamped

Jacque Hodges (Carter) says

I love Star Trek. There were a couple of tales that I didn't care for in particular but I think it was more because I wasn't familiar with the captain telling the story than the story itself. At any rate, Yay! Star Trek!

Marco says

Collection of short stories by quite a few starship commanders.
Nice read, good for a quick fix of Star Trek literature.

Trev says

A mixed bag to say the least. I think part of the enjoyment of this book will come from which of these characters you have followed in the various book series. For example, I found the story told by Demora Sulu a real struggle to get into (this being my first brush with this character) but half way through I got into that particular story.

All of them are well written even if some of them will leave you scratching your head wondering what is going on or why the story is what it is, but that is perhaps a personal thing and some people will find these

elements the better areas. If you are a fan of these captains then you will probably find this a good read, but if some of these people are new to you then you may want to read a few of their novels before attempting this.

The captains that I did know I found the stories to be in keeping with their characters and yes, one or two aspects may not seem right but this is science fiction!! Put simply, some of these stories are really good, others not so much.

David Palazzolo says

I only bought this book for the New Frontier story which I found riveting. I'll read the other stories after I finish the New Frontier novels. To that end:

Welcome to chapter 21 of the overall series of Star Trek: The New Frontier, or what I like to call Star Trek: The Prime Time Soap. This story picks up some time after Stone and Anvil. The tension between the Federation and the Selevian race left at the end of that novel has exploded into a full fledged war with the Tholians allying themselves with the Selevians and the Orion Pirates finding new opportunities to flourish by picking through the debris left behind after combat. The story focuses on Capt. Elizabeth Shelby and Lt Soleta who are en route to rendezvous with the USS Excalibur and run afoul of a band of Orion Pirates. The story does not end well for Soleta for reasons I will not go into here as it would spoil the end of the story but I will put it like this: If this was a true prime time soap, then this story could easily be the 2nd season cliffhanger.

Next is Star Trek: The New Frontier: After the Fall

Kei says

Good compilation of stories, overall, though the Archer one threw me for a bit of a loop.

I've always enjoyed the concept of and the existence of - The Captain's Table.
