

**ICON Festival – SF&F + RPG – October 3-5 Tel Aviv**

**This Year's theme: "Atikot" – Antiquities**

**TICKETS&PROGRAM <https://tickets.sf-f.org.il/icon2023/>**



**חדשות האגודה – ספטמבר 2023 The Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy**

**תל אביב:** מועדון ספטמבר בתל-אביב יעסוק בספר זוכה פרס גפן "קול הצללים" מאת פרנסס הרדינג (הוצאת עוז) ויתקיים ביום חמישי, 9.12 ב-19:30, בדירה בת"א. לקבלת המיקום יש להירשם במייל של דפנה קירש. בדף האירוע בפייסבוק. מועדון אוקטובר בתל-אביב יעסוק בספר "עץ השקרים" מאת פרנסס הרדינג (הוצאת עוז) ויתקיים ביום רביעי, 10.14 ב-16:00, ויתקיים במסגרת פסטיבל אייקון.

**ירושלים:** לפרטים על המפגשים של המועדון הקריאה ניתן להצטרף לקבוצת הפייסבוק: **מועדון הקריאה הירושלמי של האגודה**, או ליצור קשר במייל עם מרכזת המועדון בירושלים - **גלי אחיטוב**, ולהצטרף לקבוצת הוואטסאפ של המועדון.

כל האירועים של האגודה מופיעים בלוח האירועים (שפע אירועים מעניינים, הרצאות, סדנאות, מפגשים ועוד) לקבלת עדכונים שוטפים על מפגשי מועדון הקריאה ברחבי הארץ ניתן להצטרף לרשימת התפוצה או בדף האגודה בפייסבוק. Society information is available (in Hebrew) at the Society's site: <http://www.sf-f.org.il>

**This month's roundup:**

- Star Trek vs. Star Trek vs. Star Trek – Part VII: vs. STAR WARS

Our usual tidbits from the Web.

**HAPPY JEWISH NEW YEAR – SHANA TOVA !**

– Your editor, Leybl Botwinik

MARS: Dreamtime (Illustrated: Jose Sanchez)

**Feedback from Fans:**

Dear Leybl,  
Thank you for the enlightening features from NASA in the latest issue of CC, particularly the part about ophthalmic lens materials and coatings. Despite the fact that I took graduate-level courses some four decades ago in the optics of spectacle lenses, and have been practicing optometry ever since, I still learned much from the material that you published. To be sure, numerous newer lens plastics and coatings have hit the market in the ensuing years, enriching our lives with better vision as well as aesthetics, not to mention improved comfort - glass lenses are heavy!

Gary Roth, O.D.

LB: Thanks for this, Gary. Pleasure is mine. Take care!



# Star Trek vs. Star Trek vs. Star Trek – Part VII: vs. STAR WARS

Reviewed by: Leybl Botwinik

So, .... Star Trek franchise vs Star Wars franchise – which is better?

Hmm...this seems to be a dilemma for most fans of either universe. Before I set down my own opinion, I decided to see what others think. After breezing through a few articles, I selected 3 that show various perspectives on the issue in question. As pointed out in article#3 by Dylan Roth, what seemed apparent in the early years of each franchise has slowly faded away or changed – in **some ways**, and sometimes in **many ways** – there seems to be a steady convergence of genres even though they are still unique universes.

Before you get to article #3 (the reason I numbered them) I recommend you take a quick look at the other two articles:

Article #1 – a bit simplistic – (if only because I suspect that either a poor writer or an AI app prepared it 😊) – of course, you are welcome to skip it too. It is a very, very general overview of the two franchises, and seems to make some strange presumptions.

Article #2 is worth looking at, particularly since it has accompanying elated videos. It also contains a 2-column comparison chart with numerous characteristics presented.

### **AND NOW – my take ‘Science’ vs. ‘Fiction’:**

What always fascinated me in Star Trek was the problem-solving aspect. It is more often than not an intellectual exercise on how to get out of a situation, or how to best involve oneself, without possibly causing turmoil for others – using the “Prime Directive” as a kind of litmus testing device. The fun parts – other than the fisticuffs of TOS, or the moral/ethical dilemmas touched on in TNG – include how far the rules can be bent (and in which way), by the various captains and crew members. Star Trek – is what we could call ‘hard core’ SF, with many pure Science issues handled in the episodes, in addition to ethical and social issues.

Star Wars, on the other hand, is mostly swashbuckling fun, with a lot of political agenda and various black-and-white moral issues: The good guys vs. the bad guys. Simple (or simpler than Star Trek) – and enjoyable without me needing to rack my brain – how would I have reacted, or what would I have done, given a particular situation. – Epic fiction.

I enjoy both, with more weight given the Star Trek episodes – because I like a good problem that needs a solution. I enjoy Star Wars for relaxing, letting the mind wander and enjoying the action and exotic landscapes and settings.



## #1: Which is Better, Star Wars or Star Trek? by 1883

In the world of science fiction, two entities rule the roost Star Wars and Star Trek. Both are science-based and involve spaceships and aliens.

1966 was the year the Star Trek TV series was originally made, and this helped shape the beginning of the popular Star Wars films. Without the help of the two, Star Wars movies wouldn't have a plot, for Star Trek influenced it.

Star Trek consists of 13 titles, the first film was made in 1979, and the latest one is Star Trek Beyond which was released in 2016. Star Trek movies have a storyline that leads to the next reason. Therefore, one needs to watch Star Trek movies in order to avoid getting left out.

Both Star Wars and Star Trek base all their movies in space, and all revolve around science. But both are different. How so?

**Read the rest here:** <https://1883magazine.com/which-is-better-star-wars-or-star-trek/>

## #2: Star Trek vs. Star Wars

**Star Trek**, originally a TV series, is a space western science fiction that centers around a crew who serves in *Starfleet*, a space-based peacekeeping and humanitarian armada. **Star Wars**, originally a trilogy, is a space opera fantasy franchise set in the distant past of a fictional galaxy, revolving around princes, princesses, knighthood, and chivalry. Both these highly popular and successful franchises are now being revived with new movies directed by J.J. Abrams.

Until the recent movies, *Star Trek* has been more of a cult phenomena than *Star Wars*, and therefore did not have the same level of mainstream fandom and cultural influence. *Star Wars* is grander in scope and has a complex web of political agendas, alien species, personal feuds, and galaxy-wide domination. The *Star Trek* world is modern, sleek, and shiny, while some of *Star Wars*' settings are dirty and grimy.

**Read the rest here:** [https://www.diffen.com/difference/Star\\_Trek\\_vs\\_Star\\_Wars](https://www.diffen.com/difference/Star_Trek_vs_Star_Wars)

## #3: Star Trek vs. Star Wars: Which one is better in 2023?

**By Dylan Roth**

For as long as both entities have existed, fans of science fiction and fantasy have debated the merits of *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*. But for most of the 45 years that the two franchises have overlapped, *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* haven't actually had much in common, apart from their cosmic setting. *Star Trek* is an aspirational sci-fi series set in humanity's future, while *Star Wars* is a bombastic fantasy adventure that takes place in a far-off galaxy. One has primarily lived on weekly television, while the other has broken big-screen box office numbers.

### CONTENTS

- **Star Trek and Star Wars have both leaned heavily into fan service**
- **The streaming era has let both franchises experiment**
- **The streaming bubble is forcing Star Trek and Star Wars to pump the brakes — and that's good**

**Read the rest here:** <https://www.digitaltrends.com/movies/star-wars-vs-star-trek-which-one-is-better/>

## Fun from the Web

- **Good News Israel: Making Science Fiction a Reality – Latest Medical Achievements**  
<https://unitedwithisrael.org/good-news-israel-making-science-fiction-a-reality-latest-medical-achievements/>
- **Could an 'Earth-like' planet be hiding in our solar system's outer reaches?**  
<https://www.space.com/earth-like-planet-hiding-in-outer-solar-system>
- **Missions to the moon: Past, present and future**  
<https://www.space.com/all-moon-missions>

### TV&MOVIES

- **Take an interstellar cruise into the cosmos in new limited series 'The Space Between'**  
<https://www.space.com/boom-studios-space-between-exclusive-look>
- **Get a sneak peek at Hulu alien-invasion flick 'No One Will Save You' (video)**  
<https://www.space.com/hulu-alien-invasion-movie-no-one-will-save-you>
- **Star Trek Day 2023: Celebrate Trek's 1966 'Original Series' with warptastic specials**  
<https://www.space.com/star-trek-day-september-2023>
- **'Star Trek: Lower Decks' drops a wild new Season 4 trailer and official poster (video)**  
<https://www.space.com/star-trek-lower-decks-season-4-trailer>
- **'Star Trek's' Celia Rose Gooding reveals how she channels Lt. Uhura interview excerpt**  
<https://r.smartbrief.com/resp/rhruCKmagYDxnjIKCifOtUBWcNwgTK?format=multipart>

- **Star Wars: 10 episodes of Star Wars to watch before Ahsoka**  
<https://www.space.com/ten-episodes-of-star-wars-to-watch-before-ahsoka>
- **Star Wars: Watch how 'Ahsoka' explores the bond between Jedi masters and apprentices**  
<https://www.space.com/star-wars-ahsoka-featurette-jedi-master-apprentice>

- **Star Wars: Outlaws**  
<https://www.space.com/everything-we-know-about-star-wars-outlaws>
- **Star Wars: Who is Grand Admiral Thrawn?**  
<https://www.space.com/who-is-grand-admiral-thrawn>
- **Star Wars: Peek at Short Story Collection, 'From A Certain Point Of View: Return Of The Jedi'**  
<https://www.space.com/star-wars-story-collection-from-a-certain-point-of-view>
- **Why 'Star Wars' needs its own answer to 'Star Trek: Lower Decks'**  
<https://www.space.com/star-wars-needs-a-lower-decks-style-show>
- **Star Wars should have focused on the Sith ages ago**  
<https://www.space.com/star-wars-should-have-focused-on-the-sith-ages-ago>

### COMICS

- **Marvel's 'Predator vs. Wolverine #1' claws its way through 8 awesome variant covers**  
<https://www.space.com/predator-wolverine-marvel-comics-variant-covers>

### BOOKS

- **'Star Trek' creature designer Neville Page on creating aliens and his new book (exclusive)**  
<https://www.space.com/star-trek-creature-designer-neville-page-book>

- **Star Wars – Two new books offer daring tales from the galaxy far, far away**  
<https://www.space.com/star-wars-books-tales-of-light-and-life-crimson-climb>

## GAMES

- **New 'Starfield' live-action trailer slingshots fans straight into the cosmos (video)**  
<https://www.space.com/starfield-live-action-trailer-gamescon-2023>
- **Watch: The Expanse's Cara Gee Explore Telltale's New Expanse Video Game**  
<https://gizmodo.com/the-expense-telltale-game-cara-gee-drummer-playthrough-1850700562>
- **Everything we know about Warhammer 40K: Space Marine 2**  
<https://www.space.com/warhammer-40k-space-marine-2-everything-we-know>

## Stargate Interview: Amanda Tapping, Brad Wright, & Google's Laurence Moroney talk Stargate AI 2.0:



(The Companion)

Sci-fi is full of cautionary tales about artificial intelligence, machines rising up to make us obsolete, and, if we're especially unlucky, wipe us out. But what does the cutting edge of AI technology actually look like today? Well, it might shock you to learn that it's busy learning how to write scripts for new Stargate episodes.

**Full Story:** <https://www.space.com/stargate-ai-2-interview-with-amanda-tapping-brad-wright-laurence-moroney>

**MORE NEXT TIME!**

For Comments: E-mail: [levbl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:levbl_botwinik@yahoo.com). Tel: Leybl Botwinik +972-54-537-7729  
 Editor: Leybl Botwinik. Founding Editor: Aharon Sheer (א"ר). Logo by: Miriam Ben-Loulu (מ"ל).  
 For free email delivery (PDF format) write to [levbl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:levbl_botwinik@yahoo.com)  
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