

Star Trek Script, "The Man Trap"

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1966



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2022.063

Unit Date

1966

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection contains an autographed copy of the script for *Star Trek*, "The Man Trap", the first episode of the original *Star Trek* television series to be broadcast. The episode first aired in the United States on September 8, 1966. The screenplay was written by George Clayton Johnson, and this script is signed by *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry and actor James Doohan.

Creator

Roddenberry, Gene

Creator

Doohan, James

Creator

Johnson, George Clayton

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

This collection was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in 2016.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the *Star Trek* Script, "The Man Trap" was completed in October 2022.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], *Star Trek* Script, "The Man Trap", 1966, Ms2022-063, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Historical Note - Star Trek

Star Trek (also called *Star Trek: The Original Series*) is a television series created by Gene Roddenberry. The first episode, "The Man Trap" was written by George Clayton Johnson and first aired in the United States on September 8, 1966. Although the series only ran for three seasons (1966-1969), it became a cult classic with a large fanbase and eventually spawned a number of additional TV series, films, books, and more.

Biographical Note - Gene Roddenberry

Gene Roddenberry was born Eugene Wesley Roddenberry, Sr., in El Paso, Texas, in 1921. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1941 and flew B-17 planes in the South Pacific and later served as a plane crash investigator in the United States, ultimately earning the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. After World War II, he worked as an airline pilot and worked for the Los Angeles Police Department.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Roddenberry wrote scripts for television programs. In 1964, he began pitching *Star Trek*. He initially had difficulty gaining support for the show, but the pilot premiered on September 8, 1966. While the original *Star Trek* series was cancelled in 1969, Roddenberry continued to write other TV shows and films. He returned as a producer of the series *Star Trek: The Next Generation* in 1987. He was the first writer/producer to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame upon reception in 1986. Roddenberry died on October 24, 1991.

External Sources:

CBS Studios, Inc. "Roddenberry." Official *Star Trek* website.

https://www.startrek.com/database_article/roddenberry. Accessed October 12, 2022.

Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Gene Roddenberry." *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, June 19, 2020, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Gene-Roddenberry>. Accessed October 12, 2022.

Biographical Note - James Doohan

James Doohan was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, on March 3, 1920. He joined the Royal Canadian Artillery in 1939 and became an officer. He served in World War II and was wounded in combat at D-Day. After his service, Doohan performed in radio shows and trained as an actor at the Neighborhood Playhouse in New York City. He performed in over 4,000 radio shows and over 400 television programs, but is best known for his role as "Scotty" in the original *Star Trek* series, which aired from 1966 to 1969, as well as various *Star*

Trek films. He maintained an active public presence until his death in 2005.

External Sources:

"Doohan." https://www.startrek.com/database_article/doohan. Accessed October 12, 2022.

Scope and Content

This collection contains a copy of the script for the first episode of the original *Star Trek* television series to be aired. Titled "The Man Trap", the screenplay was written by George Clayton Johnson. This script is addressed "To Rocco" by James Doohan, who played the character Scotty. A director's note is signed in pen by "Gene," producer and creator Gene Roddenberry.

Keywords

Science Fiction

Speculative Fiction

Star trek, the original series

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Description of Subordinate Components

Star Trek Script, "The Man Trap"

Unit Date 1966-06-16

folder 1