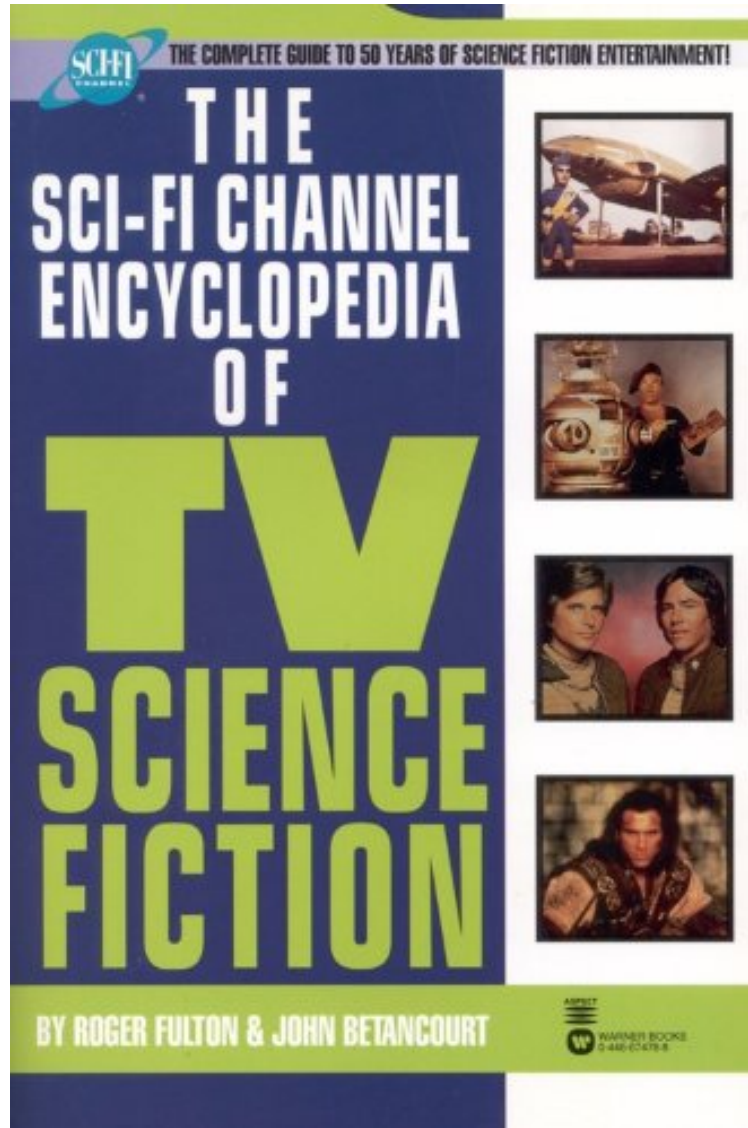


## The Sci-Fi Channel Encyclopedia of TV Science Fiction

Roger Fulton, John Betancourt

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#2668803 in Books 1998-12-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.50 x 6.00l, 1.92 #File Name: 0446674788688 pages | File size: 21.Mb

**Roger Fulton, John Betancourt : The Sci-Fi Channel Encyclopedia of TV Science Fiction** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sci-Fi Channel Encyclopedia of TV Science Fiction:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. BOOK IS NOT WHAT IS ADVERTISED By William M. Okay. First of all this is a reprint of a guide that was first published in Britain that does not seem to have been edited for American publication. Secondly, there are mistakes--pick your favorite series and browse and you'll find some--I did (in the SPACE:1999 section if you must know.) Also, each show is kind of reviewed but individual episodes are NOT

reviewed, which was not the impression I got from the TV commercial. And there is even a British series that the channel shows (MONSTERS) that is not listed. Now, if you were the sci fi channel, wouldn't you at least make sure every show that you broadcast was in the book?? Now, I gave the book 2 stars because it does have an awful lot of info in one convenient place. Still, I would recommend that anyone interested in this LOOKS at it first. Don't buy it sight unseen. And remember that british opinions on series do not always match american opinions.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. One of my favorite reference worksBy Michael J. Mazza"The Sci-Fi Channel Encyclopedia of TV Science Fiction" is an impressive achievement by co-authors Roger Fulton and John Betancourt. The book is a guide to dozens of science fiction TV series dating from the 1950s to the late 1990s. The authors include British and U.S. series (as well as a few productions from elsewhere). A nice touch is the inclusion of children's series and short-lived series (such as TV's "Planet of the Apes" and "The Fantastic Journey"). Fantasy, as well as sci-fi, series are included.For the main series profiled, the authors provide an introductory article as well as a complete episode guide. For each episode, they give a plot summary, as well as writing, directing, and guest-starring credits.Not all the series are given such detailed attention; some only have the episode titles listed, and some don't even get that. In general, shows that get less comprehensive attention are shows that are primarily thought of as representatives of another genre: "Bewitched" (sitcom), "The Six Million Dollar Man" (action/adventure), etc.Despite its sometimes incomplete nature, this is a wonderfully informative and entertaining book. Sci-fi staples and cult favorites are well represented: "Babylon 5," "Blake's 7," "Quantum Leap," "Star Trek" and its various sequels, "The X-Files," etc. I particularly liked the ample attention given to short-lived shows that were nonetheless loved by devoted circles of viewers.Of course, a book of this nature is generally out of date by the time it hits the bookshelves, so I am already anticipating a new edition. But until then, this book remains in an honored position in my library.6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. An incomplete "complete guide"By RichardWhile the book jacket calls this "The SCI-FI Channel Encyclopedia of TV Science Fiction," it is more a product of England's TVTimes. It is a very good resource for British SciFi and, for the price, is worth owning for that reason alone. However it is more notable for what it omits than what it includes. Space limits a point by point critique, but two things became apparent almost immediately. First, it does not have an index. While, like most encyclopedias, it is in alphabetical order, with out a comprehensive index it is impossible to cross reference information. Second, It has many glaring omissions. No work can be total, but the history of TV Sci-Fi is not that long. In the whole realm of TV shows, few are Sci-Fi, so a complete list should not be that hard to assemble. The authors have made a good try, but where they fall short is questionable. If "Journey to the Unknown" is classified as Sci-Fi, why is "Thriller" omitted? If Sci-Fi comedy such as "Captian Nice" and "Holmes and Yoyo" listed, where is "My Living Doll," "Mr. Terrific," or "It's About Time"? Why didn't the "Star Lost" make it to the "41 obscure Shows. . ." list at the end of the book? The inside jacket says that, "no true SF fan should be without this up-to-date reference guide." In reality, any true SF fan will find this book cute but annoying. And any casual TV fan looking to add to their reference library would do better buying "The Complete Directory to Prime Time Network TV Shows." It tends more to deliver what is promised

This guide features virtually every science fiction series in the past five decades, from Captain Video to Babylon 5, from One Step Beyond to The X-Files, My Favorite Martian, and 3rd Rock from the Sun. With every hit from Dr. Who to Star Trek: Voyager; every cult show from The Prisoner and The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy to Blake's 7; and every short-lived effort from The Fantastic Journey to Earth II, this is the definitive volume on televised science fiction entertainment.

About the AuthorJohn Gregory Betancourt is a best-selling fantasy science fiction author. Recently he has begun writing mysteries. His mysterynovella "Horse Pit" won the Black Orchid Award after its publication in Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine and is now available on .com in a Kindle edition.