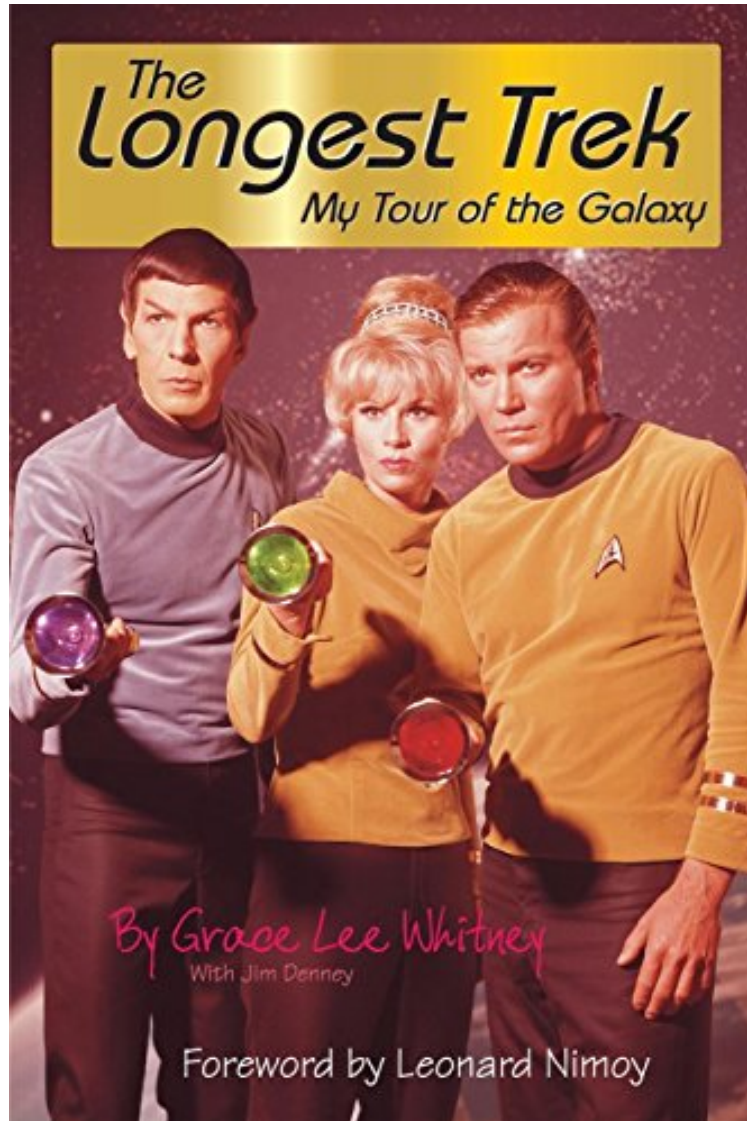


[Read free ebook] The Longest Trek: My Tour of the Galaxy

## The Longest Trek: My Tour of the Galaxy

*Grace Lee Whitney*

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#253905 in Books Linden Publishing 1998-07-01 1998-07-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.96 x .52 x 6.151, .76 #File Name: 1884956033208 pages | File size: 58.Mb

**Grace Lee Whitney : The Longest Trek: My Tour of the Galaxy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Longest Trek: My Tour of the Galaxy:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Remember 1966 By Long term customer Interesting read that opens with the apparent defining scenario of Ms Whitney's life- an after work party on a Friday night in 1966 with the cast of a new TV series that have been working together for just a few months. After a few drinks, Ms Whitney is pulled aside by an "executive" for a private discussion about her career and shortly thereafter sexually assaulted. She is not a nave

teenager, but a worldly wise 35 year old woman, a mother of two who has been in the entertainment industry for most of her life. Although she had been cast as a lead, only a few days later she receives the devastating news that she has been written out of the show that had become greatly meaningful to her. As she openly admits, she responds to this by dramatically increasing her alcohol consumption. It is interesting to note the parallels between Ms Whitney and Leonard Nimoy. Both had been in the industry for many years with various bit roles. Both believed that they had finally found a "home" or a "family" in the Star Trek program and both descended heavily into substance abuse when this turned out not to be the case. From there she accounts the story of her life, and the reader comes to understand how this became her defining moment. An interesting read for Trekkers, for folks interested in early television and for the Recovery and Spirituality Communities. The early episodes of Star Trek where she had a significant role are described in detail, bringing back poignant memories. If it would make her feel any better, other cast members who were with the show for all three seasons complained in their autobiographies that they got the short shrift because their roles were often so tiny. They, too, often felt as though they were "written out of the show". With regards to the reasons for her dismissal, several people have written about it and it is now 50 years ago. It is not possible to know for sure. Then, as now, it was a "dog eat dog" world and employers did not need a reason to get rid of you, but would invent one if pressed. I personally believe that her performances were so intense and poignant that audiences would be rooting for her, and not accept Captain Kirk getting involved, even briefly, with other women. If she couldn't be the Captain's girlfriend, then they had to find another role for her, and probably a lesser role. Showing up hungover even once might have tipped the scale. A large portion of the book is devoted to her recovery from substance abuse, and provides a lot of inspiration. Those uniforms were so ridiculously sexist- can you imagine requiring women to wear something like that now? Not just mini-skirts, hot pants. You basically limit your eligible employees to the thinnest 10% of females. You would have massive lawsuits. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Grace Lee Whitney continues to reach people with her wonderful account of how hope and courage can transform a person's life. By Dr. Dan Levinson Grace Lee Whitney and I were very close friends for the past 24 years, and so I obtained a hardback copy of her book in 2003. It is a wonderful story of hope, courage, and spirituality, so I got a softbound copy last month for some people in a rehab facility. I feel that they will benefit greatly from reading her account of her recovery from a seemingly hopeless situation, and how she was able to help so many people during the last 34 years of her life. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Press on, upward and onward. By Jim Serger Terrific insight into the world of a superstar. This novel sheds light on why we never give up, why we have friends and the sheer willpower of a human being to overcome the odds. Ebb and Flow of life was heartfelt through this awesome piece of work, she truly and openly shares her stories to allow us the reader to learn the depths and challenges she overcame and conquered to achieve success, both in public and in private. The Author Jim Denney did an amazing job. His wordsmith style was a live and well, bringing out her craft that much more.

She opened for jazz great Billie Holiday, shared the set with Marilyn Monroe, and flirted on-screen with Jack Lemmon. In her dream role, Gene Roddenberry beamed her aboard the Starship Enterprise as Yeoman Janice Rand in the original "Star Trek" series. But a terrifying sexual assault on the studio lot and her lifelong feelings of emptiness and isolation would soon combine to turn her starry dream into a nightmare.

From Booklist Whitney's Star Trek character, Yeoman Janice Rand, appeared for only half a season, yet fans still send her mail. Her assisted account of her hitch on the Enterprise begins with her nightmarish rape by an executive she declines to name. Later she imparts how that incident affected her: she became alcoholic. Meanwhile, we learn that she smoked and had sex when very young--both behaviors, she says, are early signs of an addictive personality. She recounts her spiritual journey, from the Methodist Church to rejecting religion to Judaism, pointing out that spiritual understanding is a very important aspect of recovery, but her Star Trek production memories and analyses, especially her remarks about getting the role and later having it written out of the show, and her resume of her non-ST career are more interesting. She is civil, perhaps remarkably so, when discussing people who victimized her or said nasty things about her and winds up exemplifying how one can, it seems, rise above anything. Jeff Ahrens 3 STARS (OUT OF 3) -- A good read! ... Former Star Trek star Grace Lee Whitney opens this account of her life at the point where Americans know her best--Star Trek. ... The TV show embraced her [and] promised to make her a star. ... But a sexual assault on the studio lot by a man she'll call only "The Executive" brought Whitney's pink slip from the show after just half a season. ... While her problems began long before she hopped aboard the Starship Enterprise, her substance abuse developed into a full-blown, threatening, menacing beast. ... They don't get any tougher than Grace Lee Whitney, who is 17 years sober this year. ... Whitney said she was a bit scared about the book's release. You'll see why. She throws it all out there. -- THE DETROIT NEWS / Saturday, October 3, 1998 Grace Lee Whitney had extensive TV credits before her dream role as Yeoman Janice Rand on the original Star Trek series. This book probes her life both within and outside the show, examining her evolving talents and career and a nightmare which overtook and changed her life. Star Trek fans will find this riveting -- a must have item for any collector. -- REVIEWERS BOOKWATCH / October 1998 Grace Lee Whitney's Hollywood memoir, THE LONGEST TREK [is] no cute collection of tribble stories.

Whitney's role was abruptly dropped after she was raped by an executive of the show's production company. The crime sent her into a tailspin of drugs and sex addiction. ... It's been a burden on my soul all these years, she admits. I beat myself up. I felt cheated, but I've had to turn it around. She's ditched years of remorse, tears, rage and resentment, partly through writing her book. She says her story couldn't be more timely as America tries to come to grips with unwanted sexual advances in the workplace. Her friend, Leonard Nimoy, wrote the foreword. ... Whitney stays upbeat about the life she's led. It lifts you up to see that you're still alive. I can't be sorry. -- TV HOST, Portland, Oregon / September 1998

Grace Lee Whitney's Star Trek character, Yeoman Janice Rand, appeared for only half a season, yet fans still send her mail. Her account of her hitch on the Enterprise begins with her nightmarish rape by an executive she declines to name. ... She recounts her spiritual journey, pointing out that spiritual understanding is a very important aspect of recovery. But her Star Trek production memories and analyses, especially her remarks about getting the role and later having it written out of the show, and her resume of her non-Star Trek career, are more interesting. She is civil, perhaps remarkably so, when discussing people who victimized her, ... exemplifying how one can rise above anything. -- BOOKLIST / September 15, 1998

It has been a long voyage home for Actress Grace Lee Whitney. Whitney talks in depth about her horrific spiral through all of the seven deadly sins and eventual spiritual salvation in her frank autobiography, "The Longest Trek: My Tour of the Galaxy." ... The name of Whitney's book refers both to her short stint as a member of the original "Star Trek" cast in 1966 and her current belief she has risen out of the ashes of her own life. ... Whitney's not the first member of the "Star Trek" family to write a book; however, none that have gone before her have written so boldly about their lives. -- THE FRESNO BEE / September 27, 1998

Leonard Nimoy was one of the first to read Grace Lee Whitney's book. ... If I could get a positive recommendation from him, she says, I would know that I had done good work. ... The book is dedicated to her sons, her Star Trek castmates, and Harlan Ellison--all of whom have played a role in her life. ... She details her relationship with Ellison, her two failed marriages and the plastic surgery she had--all before she found the courage to give up drinking and to accept God. ... Reading her book, Star Trek fans will notice the parallel between the real life Grace Lee Whitney has finally found and the fantasy world created by Gene Roddenberry. Both universes are filled with unconditional love, acceptance of self, and that belief that something is there, beyond the stars. -- Paramount's STAR TREK COMMUNICATOR / October/November 1998

From the Author I wrote THE LONGEST TREK for my fans, because they've been asking for this book for years. I wrote it for my two sons, because they have never before heard the full story of the things I did and the things I went through when they were young. And I wrote it for myself, because I needed to purge those events from my memory and my soul, and get them down on paper. It has been a liberating, exciting adventure to tell my story, and to witness the response it has gotten from people around the country. During the writing of the book, I was worried that the fans would hate me because of some of the awful things I've done in my life, which I freely disclose in THE LONGEST TREK. But no! Everyone has been wonderful to me, showering me with love and support! To everyone I've talked to or heard from since the book came out, THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart! After the manuscript was completed, the first person I wanted to show it to was my friend Leonard Nimoy--Star Trek's Mr. Spock--who literally saved my life in those terrible days after I was written out of Star Trek. I sent the book to him, then I fretted and wondered, What will Leonard think? What if he hates the book? I didn't have long to wait. A couple days later, my phone rang. It was Leonard. Grace, he said, would you like to hear the foreword I've written for your book? Here, in part, is what he read to me: I call her Amazing Grace.' She rejects that name and denies that she is amazing, but I insist, because she is. ... If you think this is simply another book of Star Trek anecdotes and inside jokes, take a deep breath and plunge in. This is a Star Trek book which will transform people's lives. It will give insight into a human condition and guidance to many in need. It is a blessing to all of us that she has put this life of hers to such generous use. My thanks to Grace--always amazing. I cried when I first heard those words from my dear friend, Leonard Nimoy. The very first day of the book's release, I was a guest at a science fiction convention in Pasadena, and I signed a copy for Ann Lockhart, a beautiful young actress you'll remember from Battlestar Galactica and many other shows. The next morning, she came up to me and her face was alight, and she said, Grace, your story is so incredible, I couldn't put it down until I'd finished it! Your book kept me up all night! It has been one of the great blessings of my life to have heard that same comment from dozens more people in recent weeks. When I called Harlan Ellison and told him I had written an entire chapter on my cookies and milk days with him, I think it scared him half to death! Oh, no! he groaned. What did you write about me?! But after I sent him a copy, he called back and said, Grace, you're terrific! Thank you for sharing your story with the world! I go to Star Trek conventions and book signings around the country, and everywhere I go, people line up around the block to get a copy. In Detroit, Portland, New York, New Jersey, L.A., Las Vegas--everywhere I go, I take cartons of books and they sell out in a few hours! And when I'm out of books, I tell people, Check .com--they'll never run out of copies! And after you read the book, please drop me a note in care of my publisher (the address is in the book), and tell me what you think! With love, GRACE LEE WHITNEY