# Star Trek Beyond

The latest installment of the rebooted classic series is an action driven character study in the classic Gene Roddenberry style. It is always exciting to see Kirk, Spock, Bones, Chekov and Scotty battling the latest alien that threatens the Federation. The story goes beyond the surface and into some of the backstories of the crew and, on that level, the movie works. The effects are amazing and the level of tension high. Even though you know how the story ends, how they get there is what *Star Trek* has always been about.

*Star Trek Beyond* is about a group of interconnected people going into the unknown, facing new worlds in ways that try to promote peace in the face of haters and destroyers. No easy task. What we know from years of trekking is that the prime directive to not interfere with a civilization does not apply when that uncivilized population is trying to destroy everything you believe in—you have to defend yourself. The battle is not good versus evil. The battle is: whose ideology will be embraced and followed? Will you choose to be a person filled with anger and hatred, or become a member of a community of acceptance, friendship and loyalty? *Star Trek Beyond* has a strong opinion on this and it is the bond and connection of the crew that is their greatest strength and triumph.

The movie pays sweet tributes to Leonard Nimoy whose absence is felt by everyone who has ever seen an episode of the original series and his appearances in these continuing journeys. The producers and directors of these movies have such a reverence for the message. This and the connection to the iconic characters and how

they live on, perfectly portrayed by the new actors who play them, is what keeps fans like me going back for more.

*Star Trek,* as a franchise, boldly goes where no one has gone before, beyond entertainment into the morality tales that made the original so special. I love the voyages of the Starship Enterprise. May she live long and prosper. I give *Star Trek Beyond* five golden tickets.