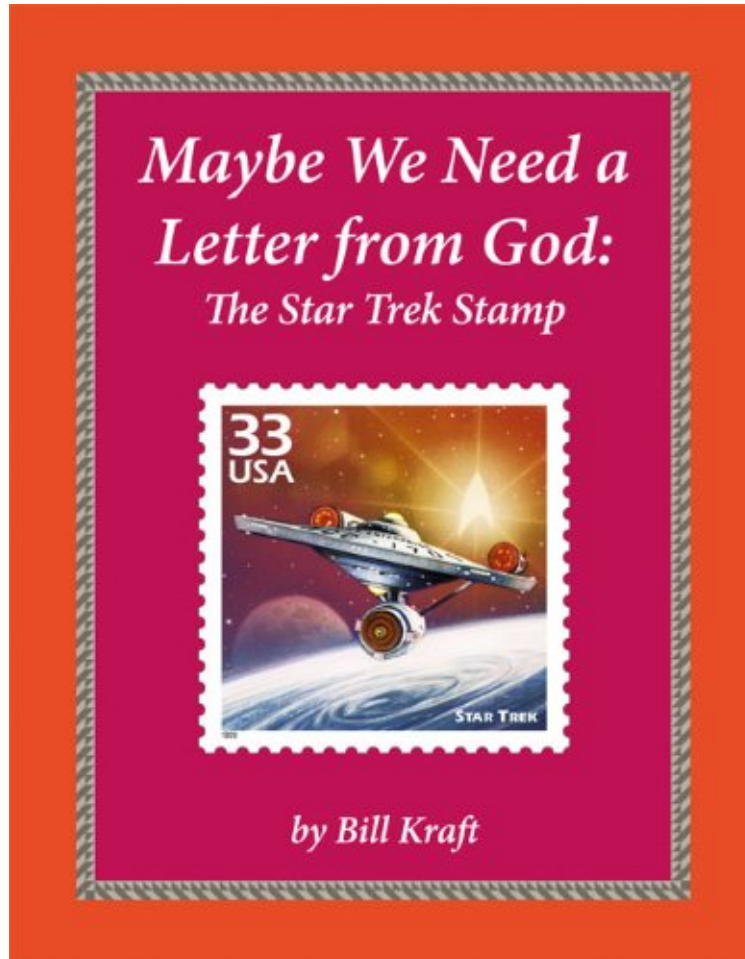


(Free) Maybe We Need a Letter from God: The Star Trek Stamp

## Maybe We Need a Letter from God: The Star Trek Stamp

*Bill Kraft*

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**Bill Kraft : Maybe We Need a Letter from God: The Star Trek Stamp** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Maybe We Need a Letter from God: The Star Trek Stamp*:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. More than a blast from the past By Anne Collins Smith My first impression on reading this book was nostalgia: it carried me back to the days when people communicated primarily by postal mail rather than email, by telephone rather than Skype, in printed newspapers and broadcast radio rather than Internet news sites. In that sense, it's a valuable historical account of a campaign waged the old-fashioned way. But it's much more. I remember writing the letter I submitted to the Post Office in support of the Enterprise stamp. I gave it my best; as a young philosophy instructor, I poured my best logical argumentation into it along with my heartfelt belief in the value of the project. But I kept in mind that old saying about trying to overcome (even unreasonable) regulations: "You can't fight City Hall." I didn't actually believe that the Post Office would ever change its mind. AND THEN IT DID. And there, I think, lies the true value of this book. It's about a grassroots effort that took on a quasi-

government entity and won. It's about people's beliefs and convictions overturning bureaucratic rigidity. It reminds each of us that we CAN make a difference. Bill Kraft's campaign for the Enterprise stamp didn't just give us a stamp. It gave us hope in the democratic process, hope in the input of the everyday citizen--in short, hope in the future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Kraft's book presents in letter and commentary form the amazing widespread support he sought and received from scientists. By Roberta Tennant A deep understanding of and dedication to the underlying philosophy of Star Trek: The Original Series was the driving force behind Bill Kraft's effort to bring a Star Trek commemorative stamp to the people of this country and this planet. Star Trek is about acceptance, tolerance, seeking and understanding. In its portrayal of space exploration, it was an inspiration to many young people over the years who later entered the space field as well as to future scientists of all disciplines. The series, which was far too brief due to lack of understanding by the network executives, also promoted values of peaceful co-existence that resonate to this day. Mr. Kraft's book presents in letter and commentary form the amazing widespread support he sought and received from scientists, political leaders, figures prominent in science fiction, and people from all walks of life. He also reveals the other side of the picture, the obstacles that were placed in the path of this fine endeavor, a voyage of its own kind! Highly recommended for all those who love and understand Star Trek and those who wish to learn more about its legendary and universal appeal! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Bill Kraft's work is a testament to the struggle he's ... By aj Bill Kraft's work is a testament to the struggle he's endured in trying to get a U.S. Star Trek Postage stamp...the man is a Bulldozer when it comes to lobbying for this type of project...he doesn't give up, which is proof of his worthiness. "dammit Jim, MAKE OUR STAMP!!" Amichai Jesurun Schneller

The drive to honor Star Trek on a U.S. postage stamp is unique. "Maybe We Need a Letter from God: The Star Trek Stamp" traces an old-fashioned grassroots movement, long before easy access to the speed of the Internet, that involved a strategy of signed petitions, endorsement letters and media exposure. Fueled by the spontaneous combustion of fan fervor, the Star Trek Stamp Committee embarked on a journey that took over a decade to complete. A dubious Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, a bureaucratic "force field," thwarted the Star Trek Stamp Committee's efforts for 13 years. The book includes over eighty endorsement letters from some of the most renowned individuals in the worlds of science, science fiction and government, along with documentation from some of the nation's leading newspapers such as "USA Today," the "Los Angeles Times," the "Chicago Sun Times," and "Time Magazine."

About the Author Bill Kraft, the youngest of eleven children, is a native of Strasburg, North Dakota, and an alumnus of St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota. He taught high school English in Pipestone, Minnesota and St. Cloud Cathedral High School and spent ten years with the Central Minnesota Libraries Exchange at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. He is an aficionado of authors Ray Bradbury, Thomas Wolfe and Washington Irving. In 2012 he fulfilled a life-long dream with a pilgrimage to the Thomas Wolfe Memorial and gravesite in Asheville, North Carolina. That pilgrimage was preceded by another in 2008 to Sleepy Hollow, New York, and the former Washington Irving residence. Meeting Ray Bradbury at St. Cloud State University in 2000 remains a milestone event. Bill has a special passion for the music of Franz Schubert and Ralph Vaughan Williams. A bit of a cinephile, too, he reveres Lawrence of Arabia as the Mount Rushmore of movies. He and his wife live in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.