



# VIEWING & READING ORDER

Last update: 2/15/2013

## ABBREVIATION KEY:

- BE B5 episode (filmed)
- BF B5 film (TV or direct-to-DVD)
- BP B5 episode (proposed but not written)
- BT B5 film (theatrical—unproduced)
- BU B5 episode (unfilmed)
- CE Crusade episode (filmed)
- CU Crusade episode (unfilmed)
- DC B5 comic book (DC, monthly)
- DL B5 novel (Dell)
- DM B5 comic book (DC, miniseries)
- DN B5 novelization (Del Rey)
- DR B5 novel (Del Rey)
- LT B5 mini-comic (with *Lost Tales* DVD)
- MP B5 novel (Mongoose Publishing)
- SA B5 short story (*Amazing Stories*)
- SC B5 short story (Claudia Christian)
- SO B5 short story (*Official Magazine*)
- WS B5 graphic novel (Wildstorm—unproduced)

1 Claudia Christian's short story was released only as a PDF.

2 Three of the unpublished Mongoose novels were released as a PDF.

\* This viewing/reading order is intended for those who have already seen the series and are going through it a second time, chronologically. If you follow this order on first viewing, you'll be spoiled. Therefore, during your first time, you should:

- Watch and read *In the Beginning* at 2278, instead of before season 1.
- Read *The Shadow Within* after watching "Zha'dum," instead of before season 1.
- Read *To Dream in the City of Sorrows* after watching "Grey 17 Is Missing," instead of after reading "In Darkness Find Me."
- Read Del Rey's three novel trilogies between *Crusade* and *In the Beginning* (that is, before 2278) instead of where they individually occur on the timeline.
- Read *Visions of Peace: A Rangers Novel* at 2263, instead of before season 1.

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2115-2189

DR1 \* The Psi Corps Trilogy I: Dark Genesis—The Birth of the Psi Corps

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2195-2258

DR2 \* The Psi Corps Trilogy II: Deadly Relations—Bester Ascendant

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2232

MP3 \* Visions of Peace: A Rangers Novel [backstory]

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2245-2248

BF2 \* In the Beginning [main narrative]  
DN1 \* In the Beginning [novelization, main narrative]

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2256-2257

DL7 \* The Shadow Within

### BEFORE SEASON 1 2257

BF1 The Gathering

### SEASON 1 ("Signs and Portents") 2258

- BE1 Midnight on the Firing Line
- BE2 Soul Hunter
- BE3 Born to the Purple
- BE4 Infection
- BE5 The Parliament of Dreams
- BE6 Mind War
- BE7 The War Prayer
- BE8 And The Sky Full Of Stars
- BE9 Deathwalker
- BE10 Believers
- BE11 Survivors
- BE12 By Any Means Necessary
- BE13 Signs and Portents
- BE14 TKO
- BE15 Grail
- BE16 Eyes
- BE17 Legacies
- BE18 A Voice in the Wilderness, Part 1
- BE19 A Voice in the Wilderness, Part 2
- BE20 Babylon Squared
- BE21 The Quality of Mercy
- BE22 Chrysalis

### BETWEEN SEASONS 2258-2259

DR7 \* The Passing of the Techno-Mages I: Casting Shadows  
DR8 \* The Passing of the Techno-Mages II: Summoning Light

### SEASON 2 ("The Coming Of Shadows") 2259

- DL9 \* To Dream in the City of Sorrows [main narrative]
- DC1 In Darkness Find Me
- BE23 Points of Departure
- BE24 Revelations
- DC2 Treason
- DC3 In Harm's Way
- DC4 The Price of Peace
- DL1 Voices
- BE25 The Geometry of Shadows
- DC5 Shadows Past and Present, Part 1: With Friends Like These
- DC6 Shadows Past and Present, Part 2: Against the Odds

- DC7 Shadows Past and Present, Part 3: Survival the Hard Way
- DC8 Shadows Past and Present, Part 4: Silent Enemies
- DC9 Laser-Mirror-Starweb, Part 1: Duet for Human and Nam in C Sharp
- DC10 Laser-Mirror-Starweb, Part 2: Coda for Human and Nam in B Flat

- DC11 The Psi Corps and You
- BE26 A Distant Star
- BE27 The Long Dark
- BE28 A Spider in the Web
- BE29 Soul Mates
- BE30 A Race Through Dark Places
- DL3 Blood Oath
- BE31 The Coming of Shadows
- MP2 Ranger Dawning
- BE32 Gropos
- BE33 All Alone in the Night
- BE34 Acts of Sacrifice
- BE35 Hunter, Prey
- BE36 There All the Honor Lies
- BE37 And Now For a Word
- BE38 In the Shadow of Zha'dum
- BE39 Knives
- BE40 Confessions and Lamentations
- DL2 Accusations
- BE41 Divided Loyalties
- BE42 The Long, Twilight Struggle
- BE43 Comes the Inquisitor
- DL4 Clark's Law
- BE44 The Fall of Night
- DL6 Betrayals

### SEASON 3 ("Point of No Return") 2260

- BE45 Matters of Honor
- BE46 Convictions
- DL5 The Touch of Your Shadow, The Whisper of Your Name
- BE47 A Day in the Strife
- BE48 Passing Through Gethsemane
- BE49 Voices of Authority
- BE50 Dust to Dust
- BE51 Exogenesis
- BE52 Messages From Earth
- BE53 Point of No Return
- BE54 Severed Dreams
- BE55 Ceremonies of Light and Dark
- BE56 Sic Transit Vir
- BE57 A Late Delivery from Avalon
- BE58 Ship of Tears
- BE59 Interludes and Examinations
- WS1 Untitled graphic novel [unavailable]
- BE60 War Without End, Part 1
- BE61 War Without End, Part 2
- BE62 Walkabout
- BE63 Grey 17 Is Missing
- DL9 \* To Dream in the City of Sorrows [framing story]
- BE64 And the Rock Cried Out, No Hiding Place
- BE65 Shadow Dancing
- BE66 Zha'dum

### BETWEEN SEASONS 2260-2261

DR9 \* The Passing of the Techno-Mages III: Invoking Darkness

### SEASON 4 ("No Surrender, No Retreat") 2261

- BE67 The Hour of the Wolf
- BE68 Whatever Happened to Mr. Garibaldi?
- BE69 The Summoning
- DL8 Personal Agendas
- BE70 Falling Toward Apotheosis
- BE71 The Long Night
- BE72 Into the Fire
- DM1 In Valen's Name, Part 1
- DM2 In Valen's Name, Part 2
- DM3 In Valen's Name, Part 3
- BE73 Epiphanies
- BE74 The Illusion of Truth
- BF3 Thirdspace
- DN2 Thirdspace [novelization]
- BE75 Atonement
- BE76 Racing Mars
- BE77 Lines of Communication
- BE78 Conflicts of Interest
- BE79 Rumors, Bargains and Lies
- BE80 Moments of Transition
- BE81 No Surrender, No Retreat
- BE82 The Exercise of Vital Powers
- BE83 The Face of the Enemy
- BE84 Intersections in Real Time
- BE85 Between the Darkness and the Light
- BE86 Endgame
- BE87 Rising Star
- BE88 \* The Deconstruction of Falling Stars [in part]

### BETWEEN SEASONS 2261-2262

MP1 Baptism of Fire

### SEASON 5 ("The Wheel of Fire") 2262

- BE89 No Compromises
- BE90 The Very Long Night of Londo Mollari
- SO22 Hidden Agendas
- BE91 The Paragon of Animals
- BE92 A View from the Gallery
- BE93 Learning Curve
- BE94 Strange Relations
- BE95 Secrets of the Soul
- BU1 Gut Reactions
- BE96 Day of the Dead
- BE97 In the Kingdom of the Blind
- BE98 A Tragedy of Telepaths
- BE99 Phoenix Rising
- BE100 The Ragged Edge
- BE101 The Corps is Mother, The Corps is Father
- BE102 Meditations on the Abyss
- BE103 Darkness Ascending
- BE104 And All My Dreams, Torn Asunder
- BE105 Movements of Fire and Shadow
- BE106 The Fall of Centauri Prime

- SA597 The Shadow of His Thoughts
- BE107 Wheel of Fire
- BE108 Objects in Motion
- BE109 Objects at Rest
- SA599 Genius Loci
- SC1 Red Fury

### BETWEEN B5 AND CRUSADE 2263

MP3 \* Visions of Peace: A Rangers Novel [main story]  
BF4 The River of Souls  
DN3 The River of Souls [novelization—unavailable]

### BETWEEN B5 AND CRUSADE 2265

SO24 The Nautilus Coil  
BF6 The Legend of the Rangers: To Live and Die in Starlight

### BETWEEN B5 AND CRUSADE 2266

BF5 A Call to Arms  
DN4 A Call to Arms [novelization]

### CRUSADE 2267

- CE1 War Zone
- CE2 The Long Road
- CE6 Ruling from the Tomb
- CE8 Appearances and Other Deceits
- CE10 The Memory of War
- CE11 The Needs of Earth
- CE9 Racing the Night
- CE12 Visitors from Down the Street
- CE13 Each Night I Dream of Home
- CE4 The Path of Sorrows
- CE5 Patterns of the Soul
- CE3 The Well of Forever
- CE7 The Rules of the Game
- CU1 To the Ends of the Earth [published online]
- CU2 Value Judgments [published online]
- CU3 Darkness of the Soul [unavailable]
- CU4 Tried and True [in script book]
- CU5 Sword Trilogy, Part 1: War Story [in script book]
- CU6 Sword Trilogy, Part 2: The Walls of Hell [unavailable]
- CU7 Sword Trilogy, Part 3: (title unknown) [unavailable]
- CU8 End of the Line [published online]
- CU9 Little Bugs Have Lesser Bugs [in script book]

### AFTER CRUSADE 2262-2266

DR4 \* Legions of Fire I: The Long Night of Centauri Prime

### AFTER CRUSADE 2266-2273

DR5 \* Legions of Fire II: Armies of Light and Dark

### AFTER CRUSADE 2269

SO23 True Seeker

### AFTER CRUSADE BEFORE 2271

LT Untitled comic book ashcan

### AFTER CRUSADE 2271

BF7 The Lost Tales—Voices in the Dark: Over Here  
BF7 The Lost Tales—Voices in the Dark: Over There  
BF7 The Lost Tales—Garibaldi story [unfilmed]

### AFTER CRUSADE 2271-2281

DR3 \* The Psi Corps Trilogy III: Final Reckoning—The Fate of Bester

### AFTER CRUSADE 2274-2278

DR6 \* Legions of Fire III: Out of Darkness

### AFTER CRUSADE 2278

BF2 \* In the Beginning [framing story]  
DN1 \* In the Beginning [novelization, framing story]

### AFTER CRUSADE 2281

BE110 Sleeping in Light

### AFTER CRUSADE 2362

BE88 \* The Deconstruction of Falling Stars [in part]

### AFTER CRUSADE 2560-2593

SA602 Space, Time, and the Incurable Romantic

### AFTER CRUSADE 2762

BE88 \* The Deconstruction of Falling Stars [in part]

### AFTER CRUSADE 3262

BE88 \* The Deconstruction of Falling Stars [in part]

### AFTER CRUSADE 1,000,000+

BE88 \* The Deconstruction of Falling Stars [in part]

### UNKNOWN: WRITTEN BUT UNAVAILABLE

- BT1 The Memory of Shadows
- BT2 Wars of the Mind [unfilmed]
- MP4 Ashes of the Past
- MP5 Actions of Many
- MP6 Birth of Heroes
- DC12 The Book of War

### UNKNOWN: PROPOSED BUT NEVER WRITTEN

- BP Demon in the Dust / Demon on the Run
- BP The World Below / Midnight in the Sunken Cathedral Festival!
- BP All Our Songs Forgotten / Unnatural Selection
- BP Expectations
- BP Target: Unknown
- BP Metaphors and Body Counts
- BP The Very Long Night of Susan Ivanova
- BP The Commander's Hour
- BP The Customer Is Always Right
- BP Rites of Passage
- BP The Mysterious Mr. Jones
- BP Dream Within a Dream

**For those just watching the episodes and movies, and not reading the novels or comics, here's a simplified list:**

- Pilot film: *The Gathering*
- Season 1—all episodes
- Season 2—all episodes
- Season 3—all episodes
- Season 4—stop after episode "The Illusion of Truth"
- Film: *Thirdspace*
- Season 4—remaining episodes
- Film: *In the Beginning* (see note below \*)
- Season 5—stop after episode "Objects at Rest"
- Film: *River of Souls*
- Film: *The Legend of the Rangers*
- Film: *A Call to Arms*
- *Crusade* (see note below \*\*)
- Film: *The Lost Tales*
- Season 5—episode "Sleeping in Light" (see note below \*\*\*)

\* **Note regarding *In the Beginning*:** Technically, this film doesn't take place between seasons 4 and 5. However, that's the best time to watch it, as that's when it aired and it contains many spoilers about the first four seasons, so watching it any earlier than that will ruin a lot of surprises for you.

\*\* **Note regarding *Crusade*:** This series is presented in the wrong episode order on DVD, and should instead be viewed in the following order (endorsed by the show's creator), as the DVD order makes no sense whatsoever and seriously decreases viewing enjoyment:

- "War Zone"
- "The Long Road"
- "Ruling from the Tomb"
- "Appearances and Other Deceits"
- "The Memory of War"
- "The Needs of Earth"
- "Racing the Night"
- "Visitors from Down the Street"
- "Each Night I Dream of Home"
- "The Path of Sorrows"
- "Patterns of the Soul"
- "The Well of Forever"
- "The Rules of the Game"

\*\*\* **Note regarding the *B5* finale, "Sleeping in Light":** This really should be viewed last, for a number of reasons. For one thing, it takes place after all the movies chronologically. For another thing, *River of Souls*, *The Legend of the Rangers*, *A Call to Arms*, *Crusade* and *The Lost Tales*, though all enjoyable to some degree, are a drop in quality from the regular series, so watching the *B5* finale last means you get to end on a powerful and beautiful note that will leave you satisfied... whereas as if you watch it before the films, you'll end your viewing on *The Lost Tales*, which is the weakest of the films and will leave you feeling disappointed. Plus, "Sleeping in Light," without giving anything away, provides closure for the entire saga, so it makes sense to see it after everything else.

**Timeline Created by Rich Handley**

Owner, Hasslein Books ([www.hassleinbooks.com](http://www.hassleinbooks.com))

If you see anything missing or incorrect, please e-mail [info@hassleinbooks.com](mailto:info@hassleinbooks.com) and let me know. Thanks.