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*J.J. Abrams, Robert Orci, Alex Kurtzman, Tim Jones, Mike Johnson
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J.J. Abrams, Robert Orci, Alex Kurtzman, Tim Jones, Mike Johnson : Star Trek: Countdown before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Star Trek: Countdown:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Prequel to a surprisingly good movie.By Kindle CustomerI'll admit two things right now. I was a big fan of ST the Next Generation when it was on TV. And, I didn't think I would like the New 2009 Star Trek movie/ST Revamp. It turned out to be an excellent Sci Fi Action movie and a big surprise

for me. For people who did not see the 2009 movie I won't spoil too much of what hasn't been shown in trailers and reviews. I didn't intend on watching this movie until "word of mouth" spread that it was "not bad". Also an addition (alteration) to the script ensures that Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek Vision isn't just thrown out the window by Paramount. Having read this comic book prequel 5 years after seeing the movie, I like it a lot as a set up to the theatrical release and an ode to the Big Fans of ST The Next Generation. To Abrams, Orci, Kurtzman, et al., thanks for the nostalgia.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fills in Gaps
By Laurie J. Stier
I bought this because it was on sale and I was curious how they'd resolved Data and B-4. It does answer questions about Nero's motivation, which should really have been answered in the film. The art isn't that great and the writing of the characters is a bit off.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Unremarkable, But Still Entertaining
By Rob M**NOTE, this review contains spoilers if you haven't seen the companion film**
While still entertaining, STAR TREK: COUNTDOWN, the prequel to Abram's STAR TREK (2009), is mediocre and (frankly) a little unnecessary. The story surrounds the destruction of Romulus and Nero's transformation from a mild-mannered miner to a ruthless, vengeance-driven war criminal. There are two major problems with the story: (1) Much, if not most, of the material in the book is already covered in the movie during Spock's retelling to Kirk. Sure, the book adds details that we might not have known, but none of these really add anything to the story. This issue is somewhat understandable because the book was released before the film, but if you've already seen the film the reiteration of the back-story causes the book to story a bit (in contrast, the prequel to the second film (Star Trek: Countdown to Darkness) manages to tell a story that is less dependent on the film material, thus standing better on its own). (2) Nero's change doesn't really make much sense. In the 2009 film, we see a Nero who is cruel, hardhearted, and hotheaded. We don't question that character because his cause is somewhat understandable and we assume he's always had those traits, though the destruction of Romulus certainly would have accentuated them. But in the first half of COUNTDOWN, Nero is depicted as a 'family man' with a gentle heart and an abundance of logic and good sense. Then, after the destruction of his homeworld, he completely changes. Granted, having one's entire civilization destroyed might send someone off the deep-end, but to make this character change believable, we should have seen some hints of 'Evil-Nero' earlier. These two problems aside, reading COUNTDOWN is not a major commitment (it's only 98 pages long), and the story is engaging enough. It does explain a few minor loose ends from the film (e.g., the origin of Nero's ship), and if you really enjoyed STAR TREK (2009), COUNTDOWN is still a worthwhile read. As a side note, the art by David Messina is solid but unremarkable. The characters look like, well, the film characters -- nothing terribly unique.

The countdown to the motion picture event of 2009 begins here, in the exclusive graphic novel prequel to Star Trek, the upcoming blockbuster film from Paramount Pictures! JJ Abrams, Roberto Orci, and Alex Kurtzman present the origin of Nero, the mysterious Romulan who will ultimately threaten the survival of the entire universe. Don't miss this story that brings STAR TREK back to the big screen!

About the Author
A highly imaginative and engaging writer whose written stories for some of the biggest characters in comic book history, including Batman and Superman, Mike Johnson also has the distinction of having scripted more Star Trek comic book stories than any writer ever. Seriously. Johnson's first work with IDW was in 2009, when he wrote the miniseries Star Trek: Countdown, a well-received prequel to the 2009 J.J. Abrams film. Following Countdown, Johnson would go on to write many more Star Trek stories, including (but not limited to) Star Trek: Khan, Star Trek: Starfleet Academy, Star Trek: Nero, the crossover Star Trek/Green Lantern, and both of IDW's ongoing Star Trek series, the most recent being Boldly Go with artist Tony Shasteen. An almost life-long Trek fan who was watching the original series in reruns as a child and Star Trek: The Next Generation from day one, his favorite characters are Data and Spock.