
Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 27-03-2008 11:24

Apparently there is a good chance of seeing number six naked in the next series.

Nine other reasons to watch the show
[click here](#)

Here's a quick recap of the last three seasons for the uninitiated
[and click here](#)

I don't think I have ever anticipated the return of a show as eagerly. Maybe it's something to do with the fact that I know this to be the final season or maybe because the characters are so (for want of a better word) human. The protagonists are all flawed whilst some of the antagonists seem redeemable.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 27-03-2008 13:54

You can already see Number 6 naked. Someone posted the link a while back.

I'm almost as excited about the new season as I am about GTA IV.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Lyra - 27-03-2008 14:01

This is the sort of thing that annoys me. Back when this first started I was all 'yeah I'm definitely going to watch this from the start like what I did with Buffy' etc. And then I forget and hey presto there's 21 series to somehow catch up on. And I *really* wanted to watch this.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 27-03-2008 14:05

There's only three seasons so far. And you can watch them all in a row pretty quickly. Trust me, I've done it twice.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by JtS - 27-03-2008 14:30

Three seasons plus the opening mini-series plus Razor.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by hobbes - 27-03-2008 14:30

Lend us them, GY!

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Mitch - 27-03-2008 14:32

I've only seen the last series (and the DVD movie), but it's the same sort of jaw-dropping "I can't believe something this good ever got made for mainstream TV" effect as The Wire.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Lyra - 27-03-2008 14:46

Three seasons plus the opening mini-series plus Razor.

Argh. What??? I hate the fact that Lovefilm has closed down my local video shop. I could've gone and borrowed it. No I won't sign up for lovefilm, don't ask me to.

The stupid thing was with this that I spent about 6 months at work doing the dvds for the original series and we were all *obsessed* with it for ages and someone even went to a signing and got Dirk Benedict to sign a poster for us and everything and yet - still - I managed to forget about and miss the new series.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 27-03-2008 14:48

I would, Hobbes, but the admins wouldn't like it.

You don't really need to watch the mini-series. Most of it is covered in flashback during the first season, and is better for it. It's a bit overlong to watch in one sitting as well.

Razor is good, but it's very much standalone. You get a bit of backstory for Admiral Cain, and there are some teasing hints for season 4, but that's about it.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 27-03-2008 18:31

You can rent series box sets (for a week) for £5 or £6 from Blockbuster.

Next week is my last of unemployment (fingers crossed) and I am aiming to have a Galactica marathon.

SPOILER STARTS

Are the "remaining" five cylons the same as the five disciples of the 13th lord of Kobol? And is the tribe of the 13th Lord of Kobol the same as those that settled earth?

I'm sure i will discover these answers in the coming week, but i was just wondering if anyone knew off hand

SPOILER ENDS

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by hobbes - 28-03-2008 09:19

But is it as good as Babylon 5?

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 28-03-2008 09:57

You're kidding, right?

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by hobbes - 28-03-2008 10:23

Actually, not really. Series 2-4 of Babylon 5 was excellent.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 28-03-2008 10:30

Yes, they were. But BSG is in another category completely.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 28-03-2008 12:58

I was incredibly surprised by how much I like BG. I hated the original, always saw it as part of that Incredible Hulk, Buck Rogers, A-Team, Knight Rider group of programmes.

Now I have to wait for series 4 to come out on DVD, dammit.

I've never heard of Razor. Where does that sit in the chronology?

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 28-03-2008 19:04

Razor tells us the backstory of The Pegasus, Admiral Cain and some woman (whose name i forget). With the exception of the penultimate scene it does not add anything important to the Galactica storyline - just gives us background to the mentality and motivations of Cain and the Pegasus crew. It draws a interesting conclusion in that if Rosilin had not been around to badger Adama into protecting the civilian fleet, than the Galactica and its crew may have made some of the decisons that Cain and the Pegasus crew made.

spoiler

The only thing of note (IMO) is after an attack on a Cylon Basestar, the soon to die lead is told by the hybrid cyclon (you know - them in the gooey bath) that "starbuck will lead humanity to its doom"

spoiler ends

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 28-03-2008 19:16

*****SPOILERS*****

Not strictly true. It's all left delightfully ambiguous. The hybrid says "Kara Thrace will lead humanity to its end" and calls her a "harbinger of death" and "herald of the apocalypse", but it could just as easily be the Cylon's apocalypse.

*****SPOILERS END*****

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 02-04-2008 10:59

Anyone got any suggestions for watching BSG this weekend? My method for watching Hulu hasn't been working for the last week, so I'm trying to find an alternative.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Lyra - 02-04-2008 11:04

I ordered series 1 for £10 secondhand on Amazon! yay

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by JtS - 02-04-2008 13:49

GY I was looking yesterday and on the official website it has the last few episodes of Season 3 (I think) so they might whack Season 4 on there too.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 04-04-2008 14:57

I had watched an episode here and there, but had never really been grabbed by the show. Then the SciFi Network ran a complete marathon in anticipation of tonight's new episode, and now I'm hooked (which is good, as once The Wire finished, I was worried I'd have no TV to look forward to).

I find some of the show's mythology a little confusing (are there different strands of each type of Cylon? Does the Sharon from the ship have the same memories, motives as the ones that are stationed elsewhere?), but am very impressed with the characterizations.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 04-04-2008 15:54

You can only view those in the US. The site is doing an early screener in about an hour. I have used a US proxy to view US only stuff before, but it's not working at the moment.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed Miller - 04-04-2008 16:52

As I recall, the Cylons download the memories of the others of their kind every time they die and are reborn.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 04-04-2008 17:39

I see.

*****Older Series Spoilers*****

So once one of them (say the Six who exploded the nuclear weapon and who had been abused) dies, all of them get its memories. So when they destroyed the Resurrection Ship, that meant that the memories of the Cylons who died after that don't get transmitted back?

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed Miller - 04-04-2008 17:52

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If there's no resurrection ship, they don't get resurrected at all. Although, I don't remember how that all went down. Maybe there's a back-up server somewhere.

I don't recall if they get all the memories of all the cylons that have been previously resurrected in the vat of goo, or if its just the memories of their model.

But either way, as long as they're alive, their experiences and thoughts will diverge. So good boomer and evil boomer were actually very different people.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 04-04-2008 17:57

I think there must have been a back-up server somewhere (Old Caprica?). Anyway, thank you for the explanation. This whole thing still does my head in a little bit (as does all of the competing Cylon/Human religious stuff), but it is great.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 04-04-2008 18:49

I found a good, though lengthy, overview of the series on Salon.com. One of the things it mentions, that I had no idea about, was that the original series (and, to an extent, the new one) was meant to be a retelling of the Book of Mormon.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed Miller - 04-04-2008 19:34

Which in turned ripped off the Book of Exodus.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by JtS - 05-04-2008 08:40

Aaaaghhhh

The episode is definitely on the site, but it won't show in my location.

I tried a proxy server, but flash doesn't work on a proxy server. Anyone know a work around?

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 05-04-2008 09:15

I've seen the first two. A bit slow, to be honest. It looks like it's all Big Story Arc between now and the finish line. Some top Baltar scenes, though.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 05-04-2008 14:26

I've seen the first new episode, and agree with The Horse about it being a bit slow. Much more character building than plot moving. I think that approach makes sense after the end of the last series, as so much craziness occurred that it's good to see how everyone has reacted.

That being said, it's a bit of a disappointment to learn that the second ep is also slow. You'd think with the cliffhanger at the end of the first, that the second ep would have to resolve something.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 05-04-2008 19:34

Just seen the new one and although i agree with the horse and Gyuri I'd just like to add that

spoiler the opening space battle was spectacular and i would not be suprised if the budget for the first few episodes was blown on that scene alone. Also, did anybody else feel cheated by the fact that tigh pulling the gun on adama was just a dream sequence (what a cop out). ***spoiler ends***

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 05-04-2008 19:39

You're right, DS, that opening battle was excellent right up until the fitting deus ex machina ending.

I didn't feel cheated by the Tigh shooting scene, b/c when it started I immediately thought it was a dream. Then, the post-shooting beat held a bit longer than I expected and I started to think it had been real. When it was finally revealed to be in his head, I didn't feel cheated, but happily jerked around.

On another note, I really don't think Starbuck is a Cylon, but can't figure out how she lost the time and got a brand new ship.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 05-04-2008 23:15

Personally I like the Big Story Arc approach - the first season got a bit tiring with the whole -of-humanity-in-peril-every-single-episode narrative. Obviously you want to mix up the character building and the action, but I lean to the former.

I'm with you on Starbuck - it's just too obvious. I'm torn between it being Adama or Roslin, but it's conceivable it's Baltar as well. Alternatively the final Cylon will be completely new (the one who created the others, on Earth, perhaps?)

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 05-04-2008 23:20

*****Potentially Spoiler Like*****

Ron Moore (exec producer) has said that the Last Supper-inspired publicity photo for the new season (which I'll attempt to display below) has many of the season's character arcs contained within it. I have no idea if that's true, but it's a great publicity shot.

http://nymag.com/images/2/daily/entertainment/08/04/02_battlestar_lg.jpg

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 06-04-2008 09:31

So when they destroyed the Resurrection Ship, that meant that the memories of the Cylons who died after that don't get transmitted back?

There's more than one Resurrection Ship.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 06-04-2008 10:13

The fifth cylon is sitting between Lee and Tigh

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 06-04-2008 12:57

More to the point, the Resurrection ship (s) is the backup server, not the main one. In the episode where they blow it up (or maybe one of the ones just before it), they explain that when Cylons "die" they get downloaded back to the homeworld, or if they're not close enough, to a Resurrection Ship. It allows them to extend their range. There's a resurrection facility on Caprica as well - remember how Kara keeps killing Leoben.

Here's the Battlestar Wiki's description.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 06-04-2008 14:31

Thanks AG and GY. So the destruction of the Resurrection Ship was only meaningful if they were also outside of the range of any other resurrection facility.

GY's link also clarified that consciousness within one type of Cylon is variable. Boomer's consciousness was only shared with the resurrected Boomer, not all other Sharon models.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 06-04-2008 15:29

GY's link also clarified that consciousness within one type of Cylon is variable. Boomer's consciousness was only shared with the resurrected Boomer, not all other Sharon models.

Hang on, is that true? Doesn't Sharon claim to know all about Boomer's relationship with the Chief when she comes on board Galactica in season 2?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 06-04-2008 15:41

You know those Cylons do love to gossip. . .

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 08-04-2008 10:25

Ginger Yellow wrote:

Personally I like the Big Story Arc approach - the first season got a bit tiring with the whole -of-humanity-in-peril-every-single-episode narrative.

In the middle, though, are episodes with a self-contained story that starts and ends within the hour, but which pushes the big story along as well. For which, see ep3 of the new series, which is a corker.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 09-04-2008 22:43

Horse, how have you seen the next two episodes? its not fair. and can i have copies?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 09-04-2008 23:08

I'm a TV critic (although I'm not reviewing Battlestar), and no you can't. The people at Sky would nuke me.

I got eps 4-6 today. Ep4 has some very well-written two-handers but it is, again, rather uneventful.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 16-04-2008 14:18

Awful review in The Guardian, although the comments are worth reading.

(Incidentally BG got less than a quarter of a million viewers last night on Sky One - Lost regularly tops 1m on the same channel.)

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 16-04-2008 14:37

Hmm ... sci-fi - a forced marriage between two sections of a bookshop to create another. I mean, they don't do it with other sections, do they? Hum-trav, pol-poe, min-bod-spi-his, bio-spo ... well, sports biography clearly exists. And actually science fiction has nothing to do with science. So all of the above is nonsense. Most probably all of the below, too.

What I'm trying to say is, I'm not very good at sci-fi - in books, on television, anywhere. There's not enough food in it, or baths - the important things in life. When was the last time you saw a bathroom on a spaceship? Or a kitchen? Or a bedroom for that matter, and any of the things that go on in there? It's so concerned with the massive issues - time, space, war, distant galaxies, the future of the human race - that it forgets the little things that make life interesting and human and sensual. Sci-fi has no smell. The Horse, I'm not sure if you meant "awful" as in the show was panned, or "awful" as in, damn, what the hell is this person going on about and why are they drawing a paycheck to write about this. If it was the second thought, then I whole-heartedly agree. Though not quite as clueless and bad as this Guardian review of The Wire, it sure wasn't good.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 16-04-2008 14:53

I meant the second one.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by JtS - 16-04-2008 15:01

That's a shocker isn't it.

If sky one was on virgin they'd almost double those viewing figures (I'd imagine)

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Mitch - 16-04-2008 15:43

That review of The Wire is pretty wide of the mark, isn't it?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 16-04-2008 15:58

It sure was. I use it as my measuring stick of egregiously stupid and hackish criticism. I've never understood why some TV criticism is done by people who have a natural dislike of TV. Of course, in the US this is becoming less of an issue as many TV (and film) critics at mainstream news organs have been fired in the latest round of newspaper downsizing.

On the good side of TV criticism, I'd put Alan Sepinwall who writes for the Star Ledger in NJ and has his own cite. Here are some of his BSG reviews.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Matej - 22-04-2008 20:02

I am actually up to date now. It is a unusual pleasure to be able to wait for the next one to be posted online.

oh... and unbox Xe... I mean D'Anna.

How long before a complete DVD series? (Lyra?)

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 24-04-2008 19:48

Exclusive footage of the Cylon civil war.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 12-05-2008 14:02

So we've caught up with The Horse's posts now, and apart from ep. 4, I'm not sure where the "slow" accusation is coming from. We're only six episodes in and already we've had Starbuck back from the dead, possibly a Cylon, Starbuck going a bit nuts, Starbuck looking for Earth with half of the main characters, civil war among the Cylons, raiders and centurions getting free will and using it, a raider recognising Anders as a Cylon, Baltar becoming a fully fledged messiah, Tory embracing her inner Cylon and killing Callie, Tigh developing a fucked up relationship with Six, Chief Tyrol losing it and being demoted, Lee quitting the fleet and taking on Roslin, Roslin going dictator-lite, the Threes about to be deboxed and much, much more. That seems like quite a lot for six episodes. There hasn't been all that much space combat, it's true, but new BSG was never really about that.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 12-05-2008 14:29

1-2 were slow, I didn't say any of the others were. 4 was a bit uneventful. 5-7 were cracking.

Overall, though, I do feel it's been a bit talky. And it's getting a bit too mystical for my liking.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 12-05-2008 14:52

Talky is good, as long as it's well written. We need more talky sci-fi and less wizz-bang.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 12-05-2008 15:14

Sure, but it used to keep both those balls in the air.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Felicity, I guess so - 13-05-2008 13:33

I'm only up to episode 4, but this is turning into one of the darkest mainstream series ever broadcast. Can it get any darker? Well Starbuck n Sam have a few issues to resolve yet...

Tory (aptly named?) lashing out at Calley was a great moment.

I guess Baltar & his harem are there for light relief, but even he ends most episodes covered in blood and snot.

I just absolutely love it, sigh.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Eggchaser - 13-05-2008 16:22

Has it been revealed that everyone's a Cylon yet? I don't follow the show (or this thread) but that's my uninformed bet.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 13-05-2008 16:45

I'm leaning towards that theory as well. It's almost the only way to explain Tigh as one of the final five, given that he served with Adama in the original war.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 13-05-2008 16:55

Wow. Good theory!

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Mitch - 13-05-2008 17:06

Or, if not quite that, that the Cylons engineered all the human-race, rather than the other way round.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 13-05-2008 17:07

I think the Galactica Watercooler podcast had a lengthy discussion of the possible outcomes after the Razor special. The everyone's a Cylon theory also helps explain the All Along The Watchtower incident, for reasons I can't quite recall.

The great attraction of the idea is the possibilities it opens up for when they find Earth. Maybe the Cylons and the Colonists will find out their true nature, gang up and kill all the humans. Maybe the humans were waiting, 2001 style, until their creations reached a certain stage of development (ie able to replicate their own creation) before calling them back to earth to join them in paradise. Maybe the humans are tyrannical bastards and will enslave them all.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by The Horse - 13-05-2008 17:24

Did Baltar not concoct a genuine human/Cylon test? Mind you, he could have been programmed to believe that he had.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 13-05-2008 17:59

There are quite a few gaping plot holes surrounding the Colonist/Cylon test. The whole premise of the test subplot was that colonists are biologically indistinguishable from Cylons, except through the test. And yet they glow when having sex, they can interface with machines by jabbing a lead into their arms, Colonist/Cylon offspring have magic cancer curing blood, they have superhuman strength, and so on. You'd think those properties would have fairly obvious markers.

That said, Moore has said that the Final Five are different from normal Cylons, so it's perfectly possible that the Colonists could be different as well - after all, there's no necessary reason why the humans should have designed the Colonists in the same way as the Colonists built the Cylons.

Still, it's all fun speculation at this stage.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 13-05-2008 19:51

Who are you calling "colonists?" The humans are all colonists.

You'd think those properties would have fairly obvious markers.

Presumably, the Cylons are able to beat the test if they want to. Besides, didn't Balthar rig the test to give the answer that he wanted?

The glowing spine thing was just a gimmick they haven't used since the first season.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 13-05-2008 20:13

"Colonists" helps distinguish the "humans" from the 13 tribe.

As for the test, not really. He eventually got an apparently working test, but he destroyed it before many people were subjected to it.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 13-05-2008 21:13

I see.

Indeed, we are the 13th tribe. All of us here. Fantastic.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 14-05-2008 12:23

Speak for yourself. I'm pretty sure I'm Cylon.

And on that note...what are the odds that they bring in Bob Dylan to play the 12th Cylon? And have any of those podcasts suggested an even halfway plausible suggestion why that song might be a Cylon homing signal?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 14-05-2008 12:35

Yes. I had planned to describe it in my post above, but I couldn't recall the details. It's to do with being recognisably earthian (to us), but not tied to a specific time and person (being a non-famous cover). I'm 90% certain it was Galactica Watercooler, but it might have been BSG Cast. Again it all ties in to the "everyone's a Cylon" theory - if the song was left by earth humans, then that means they know about the Final Five.

Check out the podcasts between the final episode of season 3 and Razor. They're worth listening to/watching regardless, especially if you're into Firefly. GWC did a Firefly rewatch during the downtime.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 14-05-2008 15:03

If the song was left by earth humans 5000 years earlier, it implies absolutely no linguistic drift in the intervening period, which would be pretty impressive.

It also implies that humans left the rest of the colonists after the Dylan Era. Which suggests that all that stuff about Athena, Apollo and the zodiac stuff is humans having a lark with more primitive peoples.

And that when they get to earth, it will be roughly the seventy-first or seventy-second century.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 14-05-2008 15:31

"If the song was left by earth humans 5000 years earlier, it implies absolutely no linguistic drift in the intervening period, which would be pretty impressive."

Yeah, but I don't think BSG's attention to detail includes historico-linguistic authenticity. All the colonists speak the same dialect of English, after all. And the 3,600 year old sacred scrolls are in English.

Besides, the cover was an instrumental, wasn't it (although the Four did subconsciously verbalise some of the lyrics)? I'm not sure what you mean in the second paragraph. The Thirteenth Tribe did leave the colonists after the flight from Kobol, according to the mythology. And anyway, the argument is that the Colonists were created by the "Thirteenth Tribe". The Greek stuff could have been planted in their heads.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 15:38

That's not right, is it? As I understand it, the 13th tribe left from Kobol for Earth before the exodus of the other 12 tribes to the new colonies.

See here. http://en.battlestarwiki.org/wiki/Thirteenth_Tribe_%28RDM%29

As I understand it, the 13th tribe left Kobol for Earth about 4,000 years pre-Cylon-nuking-the-fuck-out-of-the-colonies. The other 12 left Kobol about 2,000 years ago due to some calamity (I can't recall why the fleet just didn't settle on Kobol when they were there. What was wrong with it?)

Apparently, there was interaction between the Earth folk and the Kobol folk in that 2,000 year period between the exoduses, which is why all of the Lords of Kobol have Greek names.

As for "All Along the Watchtower," I figured the implication was that Bob Dylan didn't write it. He was just the first to write it down. It's in the very fabric of the universe, but only certain superior beings - Dylan, Hendrix, the final five Cylons - have the ability to hear it clearly.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 14-05-2008 15:56

Huh. I think the Battlestar Wiki needs better coordination. I was relying on the History of the Twelve Colonies entry, which states:

In despair, Athena threw herself from the Gates of Hera, to her death. The leaders of the tribes were interred with her, and the populace of the tribes were taken in a "Galleon" (a spacecraft) to their places of refuge. Twelve tribes find and occupy a solar system with at least 12 habitable worlds, while a thirteenth tribe locates a world they named Earth. Zeus warned the survivors that any return to Kobol "would exact a price in blood."

But the section you cite has "textual" support, so let's go with that. It still doesn't make much difference if the Colonials are pseudo-Cylons with fabricated histories.

As for "All Along the Watchtower," I figured the implication was that Bob Dylan didn't write it. He was just the first to write it down. It's in the very fabric of the universe, but only certain superior beings - Dylan, Hendrix, the final five Cylons - have the ability to hear it clearly.

Yeah, that's definitely a strong possibility. I'm pretty sure Ronald D Moore has said that it's definitely not supposed to be the Bob Dylan song per se. And it fits with the "All this has happened before and will happen again" stuff.

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 16:12

Yes, that entry is unclear. In all the other parts of the wiki, it says the 13th tribe left first.

Zeus warning that a return to Kobol would "exact a price of blood" may relate to why they can't just settle on Kobol. Perhaps they don't want to go there because the Cylons know where it is. But why then do they think they'll have better luck on earth, especially after what happened on New Caprica?

Another possibility I've read is that perhaps this is the distant, distant future and the original settlers of Kobol (some 5,000-6,000 years ago, perhaps) were from Earth. So this could easily be the 100th century CE. In which case, when they reach earth, they may find that it's a nuked over wasteland. Or perhaps its a nuked-over wasteland that has recovered and is now a paradise - like in that book about what would happen to Earth if people disappeared.

Here's another interesting note in the wiki piece on the episode titled "Home: Part II" (where they were on Kobol and the business with the Arrow and all of that).

"If each of the Twelve Tribes had an associated symbol that the Thirteenth Tribe identified in their constellations, did the Thirteenth Tribe have one of their own? There is a thirteenth constellation in the Zodiac, Ophiuchus the snake-bearer, which is not included in astrology. Ophiuchus may, however, be included in Greek mythology, as it is speculated that the snake-bearer represents Asclepius, the healer. The story of Asclepius is that he learned the secrets of life and death while watching one snake cure another snake he had wounded. Zeus struck Asclepius down out of fear that, under his care, the human race could become immortal."

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Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 14-05-2008 16:17

Another possibility I've read is that perhaps this is the distant, distant future and the original settlers of Kobol (some 5,000-6,000 years ago, perhaps) were from Earth.

That's always been my assumption. I didn't realise it wasn't standard (that or this is the distant past).

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 16:35

I started with the assumption that this is the distant past because in the 1970s series, the intro had Lorne Green doing a speech about how maybe the Egyptians, et al, had actually come from outer space. So I thought that was the idea. Perhaps it is, but the other way around.

As I recall, in the 19th century, a lot of people actually believed this, not because of evidence, but because they were racists and couldn't imagine how Africans did anything as impressive as the pyramids and therefore they must have been aliens.

Or perhaps the idea is, fitting with the "this has all happened before" theme, that every few thousand years, humans up sticks and move to a new solar system, sometimes returning to one their ancestors had left millenia before. The Colonists came from Kobol and are now going to Earth. But the original Kobolians came from Earth and then perhaps the original Terrans came from Kobol, and so on.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 14-05-2008 17:45

As for "All Along the Watchtower," I figured the implication was that Bob Dylan didn't write it. He was just the first to write it down. It's in the very fabric of the universe, but only certain superior beings - Dylan, Hendrix, the final five Cylons - have the ability to hear it clearly.

Didn't the first Dirk Gently novel have a similar premise about Bach's music being part of the fabric of the universe?

The 70s version was influence by all that wacked-out Erich von Daniker stuff that was trendy at the time. I'm glad they jettisoned most of that...I would have been ever happier if they had ditched the "gods" part altogether, but anyways...

I think that all the colonists are clearly descended from citizens of the NPS. Not just because that's actually true of most of the actors (Helo's father was actually Premier of the Yukon for about 8 years); but *damn* if Caprica doesn't look like Vancouver (and Kobol like any number of places in the BC interior). That must mean something.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 18:11

I think the only non-Canadians in the group are Jamie Bamber/Lee Adama (English), James Callis/Balthar (same), Katee Sackhoff/Starbuck (from Oregon, which is almost Canada), Edward Olmos/Capt. Adama and Mary McConnell/President Rosilyn.

Olmos and McConnell were the only ones who were remotely well-known before the show. Everyone else, I think, just got the job by auditioning.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 14-05-2008 19:08

Among the Cylons, Xena is from New Zealand and Dean Stockwell is from the planet "Suave". The rest, I think, are Canadian.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 19:11

I forgot about them. They probably didn't have to audition. The producers probably thought "we need to get some people that were on shows loved by the sort of saddos who regularly watch the Sci-Fi Channel. Er, but let's not overdo it too much. So no George Takei."

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Antonio Gramsci - 14-05-2008 19:15

You're forgetting Richard Hatch. Which is like the ultimate in self-referential saddo-ness.

And anyways, what's wrong with that approach to saddoes? Chekhov's turn as head of psy corps in Babylon 5 was excellent.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-05-2008 21:14

Nothing wrong with it. I'm just saying...

Richard Hatch's presence is a whole other level of geek pandering, so I didn't mention that.

I don't know why they gave him a role. Apparently, he tried to prevent the show from happening.

Apparently, the guy who played the original Starbuck (and was on the A-Team, Dirk Benedict) thinks having Starbuck be a woman is PC-gone-mad or somesuch. I'm not sure, but it created a bit of kerfuffle.

Of course, he's wrong. The show wouldn't be nearly as interesting if Starbuck - not to mention the president, Cally and a few others - weren't female, as I've explained before.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Felicity, I guess so - 06-06-2008 16:13

So Murdoch can now add to his list of crimes having BSG advertised all over the place as being on tv at 9pm on tuesday only for it to be replaced by... the 'Lost' season finale.

Which I'd already seen.

Which meant I had to go back to my marking.

What a cunt.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 09-06-2008 12:10

SPOILER!!

I almost pissed myself laughing when Deanna made her Roslin-is-a-Cylon gag. Does rather scupper my own Roslin-is-a-Cylon theory though. The whole wounded-Baltar-gives-Roslin-her-humanity thing was a bit heavy handed, I thought. They normally handle those topics a bit more subtly.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 09-06-2008 15:36

I was ok with that heavy-handed scene. I felt the situation merited it given how much those two hate each other.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Felicity, I guess so - 11-06-2008 13:50

At the point where Baltar was about to die, he looked like the dead Che on the Bolivian table top. Deliberate I'm sure, given his 'Prison Notebooks' last season and Jesus robes recently-they have so much fun with that character don't they?

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 11-06-2008 13:59

He must be great to play, as well. Callis must be having the time of his life.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Felicity, I guess so - 13-06-2008 13:47

The random collection of BSG obsessives I work with are about to launch a 'Final Cylon' sweepstakes-everyone puts a fiver in, names their choice in a sealed envelope, and the winner(s) scoop the lot.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 13-06-2008 19:31

Just seen the final episode of the series...£rack me. the best cliffhange EVER...EVER.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 14-06-2008 04:06

Shit.

I'm unclear. When's the next episode?

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Tactical Genius - 15-06-2008 08:51

Was episode 10 the last ever episode?

Just seen it.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by CarnivorousVulgaris - 15-06-2008 09:41

No, there will be a further ten episodes. They've not been scheduled as yet. They'll probably air in 2009. Until then, there will apparently be another series of "Webisodes" to tie fans over.

My word, that finale was a kick in the balls. Have my own theories on how it's going to pan out but I have to applaud them for making such a bold narrative move.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Matej - 15-06-2008 13:00

I'm an episode behind, but I thought "The Hub" was a terrific episode. Glad to see Baltar getting some humor scenes again.

We just started watching from the first season again, and fuck is "33" good. For the first regular episode, they really got it right from the start.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by CarnivorousVulgaris - 15-06-2008 13:27

They did indeed. Ronald D. Moore won a Hugo Award for that episode, if I remember correctly.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 15-06-2008 15:33

DS,

I agree, the ending of the last episode was fantastic (actually, the whole episode was great). I'm a little irritated that, despite all of the episodes being shot, SciFi decided to split the series in two and is waiting until 2009 to air the second half. I don't have that kind of patience for something that is so good.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Desperately Seeking - 15-06-2008 21:19

...SPOILER...(kinda)

Did anyone else think the last scene was going to cut to the statue of liberty?

....SPOILER....endeth

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 15-06-2008 21:28

Yes.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 15-06-2008 22:36

I was hoping it wouldn't, though I wouldn't have minded Heston turning over in his grave.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 16-06-2008 10:49

It's really fucking absurd this gap. Presumably they wanted to milk it for as long as possible to see if it gained any new viewers before putting spin-offs into production, but they're playing a dangerous game. The hardcore are obviously going to watch it whenever it airs, but how many more casual viewers are going to hang around for another six months at least?

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by CarnivorousVulgaris - 16-06-2008 11:56

Ginger Yellow wrote:

It's really fucking absurd this gap. Presumably they wanted to milk it for as long as possible to see if it gained any new viewers before putting spin-offs into production, but they're playing a dangerous game. The hardcore are obviously going to watch it whenever it airs, but how many more casual viewers are going to hang around for another six months at least?

The unusually-long gap in scheduling is due to the writer's strike, not a decision by the programme makers. The reason the remaining ten episodes aren't being aired is because they haven't been made yet. They got through the first half of Season Four before the strike hit.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 16-06-2008 15:30

I'm ok with the hiatus, I just wish I'd known it was coming before thinking the series was about to end. They told us this was the last season when, in fact, it really isn't. I guess I just don't read enough of the fan sites to know what's going on.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Sir Fartle - 16-06-2008 15:40

I don't like this show, it takes itself too seriously...

I prefer the old one with Templeton Peck and that fella from Bonanza. Now that was fun...

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 16-06-2008 15:47

I realise it's because of the writers' strike, but I'd heard that filming is now finished on all the episodes. Obviously you need some time for postproduction, but this seems like an awful lot.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Mitch - 16-06-2008 15:52

I read an interview with the series-creator chap, and it sounded like they didn't really have the ending planned out until they filmed the last episode, which doesn't bode well...

They're filming the prequel pilot show now, so I don't know if that's going to be shown before the second half of this series?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Tactical Genius - 17-06-2008 14:16

The same thing happened with heroes.
Has that started again yet?

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Gyuri - 17-06-2008 15:06

TG,

Heroes isn't coming back until the fall.

Mitch,

I'm not so worried about their professed lack of planning. They've been saying that since the beginning (when they said they hadn't really thought out much after the mini-series and pilot).

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Matej - 22-06-2008 12:08

A really good finale, but it felt more than a bit rushed.

Really interested to see where it goes now.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Ginger Yellow - 23-06-2008 13:33

Lots of good speculation on GWC. The planet isn't really Earth (they didn't show us any continents); the nuclear holocaust - assuming that's what happened - happened a couple of weeks ago; an inscribed cross is visible in the wreckage, so maybe the Cylon religion is actually Christianity (making Baltar literally the second coming of Christ, presumably), the destruction of the resurrection ship is what the hybrid meant by "harbinger of death", etc. Expect lots more in the months ahead.

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by harbinger of hope - 24-06-2008 02:03

Exactly how long was that Writer's Strike anyway. Wasn't it just a few weeks. Lost managed to survive it without too much of a gap.

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by Matej - 24-06-2008 02:06

Lost didn't run any shows during the strike. (They waited until Spring.)

=====

Re:Battlestar Galactica

Posted by harbinger of hope - 24-06-2008 02:10

Lost managed to survive it without too much of a gap.

I meant the gap in the season for Lost was pretty short, certainly compared with the current BSG one.

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