

# Captain Power & The Soldiers Of The Future: The Complete Series



(<http://www.dvdsnapshot.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/CaptainPower.jpg>) **Official Synopsis:**

In the year 2147 humanity has been nearly wiped out after the Metal Wars, where machine battled man – and machine won. Out of the ashes of defeat came Jonathan Power (Tim Dunigan) and his masters of combat, humanity's only hope of defeating Lord Dread (David Hemblen) and his Bio Dread Empire. Guided by his father's credo, "...to protect and preserve all life," they became known as *Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future*, revolutionizing television in 1987 by combining live action and computer-generated imagery in a series for the first time. Created and produced by Gary Goddard (*Masters of the Universe*), with J. Michael Straczynski (*Babylon 5*) serving as story editor and head writer, the show's technical achievements and special effects were truly one of a kind, creating an unprecedented media frenzy.

This complete series collection features all 22 episodes of the cult classic as well as the never-before-aired in the U.S. TV Movie, *The Legend Begins*, for an entire new audience of science fiction fans. With hours of newly produced special features including the world premiere documentary film *Out of the Ashes: the Making of Captain Power*.

## Our Take:

You've gotta love **Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future**. Well, okay, you don't have to love it, but you have to admire it.

For those of you who don't remember, **Captain Power** was a short lived TV show and toy line in the 1980's, in which you could use the toy ships to actually fire at the bad guys on your TV screen when the show aired, and it would register the hits on your toy and give you points for it. It was a really cool concept, and I'm not sure why it never took off, or why the concept itself never really went anywhere.

Regardless, I only remember watching a handful of shows when it originally aired, so I was eager to go back and revisit the series with the new **Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future: The Complete Series** DVD set. With behind the scenes talent such as J. Michael Straczynski (creator of **Babylon 5**) and Larry DiTillio (**Transformers**) involved, I hoped for a really cool flash back to the past and future.

And like I said, you have to respect **Captain Power**. You can feel the genesis of **Babylon 5** coursing through the show's veins. The creators tried to create a futuristic world that kids would love, but also give the adults watching something to latch onto. So in the course of the season, themes and plot points are developed that include romance, death, betrayal, legacy, honor, and much more. I mean, one of the main characters is killed in the season finale. That's pretty heavy stuff for a kids show.

The downside is that the show is kind of hard to watch as an adult viewer in 2012. The special effects, while great for their time, don't hold up today, but worse, the production values are really poor. The show wasn't exactly low-budget, but all of the budget went into the then-fledgling CGI effects and the interactivity between toy and show. But the end result is that the show looks kind of shoddy overall. While it's got some good stories, there's just no denying that the age of the show is a factor.

### Special Features:

- *Out of the Ashes: The Making of Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future* - An in-depth 90-minute documentary with new interviews with all of the major cast and showrunners. Terrific stuff.
- Season 2: Declassified – A detailed description of what would have happened in the second season, told by the show's creators.
- Original TV Film *The Legend Begins*
- Cast & Crew Commentary of Six Episodes
- Photo Gallery
- Original Trailer

### Conclusion:

Captain Power and the Soldiers of the Future: The Complete Series is the kind of thing that DVD was made for. Fans who remember the show fondly will be thrilled to see it. (Me, I'd love to see if any working toys out there could still interact with the show.) With a really great 90-minute making-of documentary and other great features, plus nice packaging and a comprehensive booklet, this package is A+ material. If only the show itself was at the same level.

### Overall Picture:

Show: **B-**

Extra Features: **A+**

Written by **Mike Spring** (<http://www.dvdsnapshot.com/author/mike-spring/>) .

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