

ROD SERLING / TWILIGHT ZONE FACTSHEET

Updated: 9/6/2009

THE TWILIGHT ZONE:

- Rod Serling wrote 92 of the show's 156 scripts; the team of Serling... Richard Matheson and Charles Beaumont were responsible for writing 127 of the show's episodes¹
- The show's first season was sponsored by General Foods and Kimberly-Clark
- Sponsor Colgate-Palmolive replaced Kimberly-Clark in the second season; Liggett & Myers succeeded General Foods in April 1961
- To cut production costs -- seven fewer episodes were produced during the second season, and six episodes were also produced on videotape instead of film
- Serling's on-camera opening narration began with the second season
- Serling's dramatic writing for *Twilight Zone* was honored by two Emmy awards (his fourth for season one, and fifth for season two)
- In its fourth season, *Twilight Zone* was expanded to one hour -- to fill the slot left by *Fair Exchange* -- which had been cancelled
- There were two television "revivals" of *Twilight Zone*... one ran from 1985-1989 (CBS) and another was broadcast on UPN during the 2001-2003 season
- Many of the original *Twilight Zone* scripts were updated and produced in a syndicated radio series launched in 2002
- "Twilight Zone" is a term used by Air Force pilots when crossing from day to night while flying over the earth²
- although the phrase "submitted for your approval" is closely associated with the show, it actually only appears in three episodes ("Cavender is Coming," "In Praise of Pip," and "A Kind of a Stopwatch").
- only 10 episodes of TWZ do NOT end with the words "... 'The Twilight Zone.' " Do you know which ones?³
- among famous actors, Jack Klugman and Burgess Meredith hold the record for most appearances in "The Twilight Zone" (4)⁴
- After Rod Serling himself, Charles Beaumont holds the record for writing the most scripts for "The Twilight Zone" (22)⁵

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Twilight_Zone_%281959_TV_series%29

² <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0052520/trivia>

³ Presnell, Don and Marty McGee. *A Critical History of The Twilight Zone, 1959-1964* (McFarland & Company, 1998), p. 245 (*Four of Us Are Dying, Long Live Walter Jamison, Night of the Meek, Death's-head Revisited, I Sing the Body Electric, Cavender is Coming, He's Alive, Jess-Belle, On Thursday We Leave for Home & I am the Night--Color Me Black*)

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 222-3

ROD SERLING:

- Rod Serling was the first writer to receive the “George Foster Peabody Award”⁶
- Serling is ranked #1 in *TV Guide's* list of the "25 Greatest Sci-Fi Legends."⁷
- Serling created and wrote *The Loner* -- an American western series which ran on CBS during the 1965-66 season.⁸
- Rod Serling holds the record for most Emmy Awards for dramatic writing (six).⁹
- nearly 100 of Rod Serling’s scripts had been produced by the time “The Twilight Zone” premiered in 1959
- Rod Serling was president of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences from 1965-66.¹⁰
- Two of Rod Serling’s Emmy-winning television dramas (*Requiem for a Heavyweight* and *Patterns*) were also produced as major motion pictures.

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⁵ Ibid., p. 215

⁶ <http://www.google.com/search?q=rod+serling+peabody+award&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a>

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ <http://www.theithacajournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090809/VIEWPOINTS02/908090301&template=printart>

¹⁰ <http://www.museum.tv/archives/etv/S/htmlS/serlingrod/serlingrod.htm>