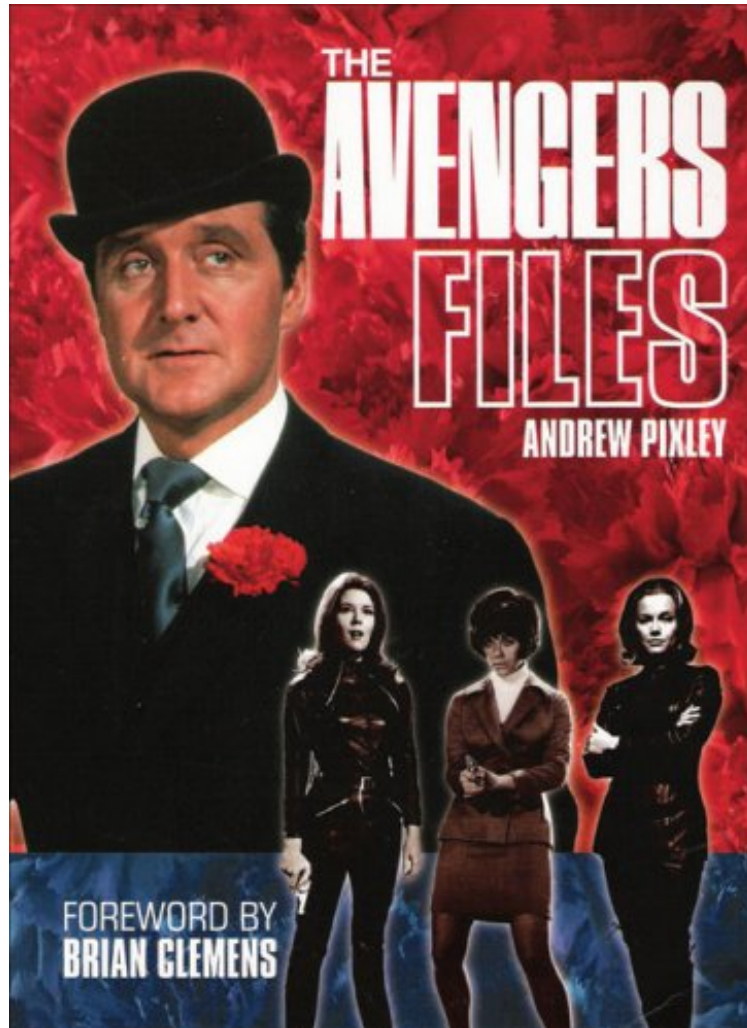


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## The Avengers

*Andrew Pixley*

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#4610823 in Books 2007-09-28Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.50 x 1.03 x 7.50l, 1.35 #File Name: 1905287380240 pages | File size: 43.Mb

**Andrew Pixley : The Avengers** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Avengers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The AvengersBy Jorge B RomeroMy favorite TV Show of all time. Lots and lots of pictures Very entertaining to read, looks great on my book shelf. Thanks, Jorge10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Plenty of Great Info, Bad FormatBy John LiosatosMy anticipation piqued when I saw the mail package containing this book in my mailbox. However, after the initial perusal through the pages of The Avengers Files, that anticipation soured, only to be overtaken by disappointment. Please do not misunderstand. There is plenty of great background information on all the main characters of The Avengers, from the David Keel Years to The New Avengers in the late 70s. The problem with this volume lies in its format.First, the blurb from the publisher

on this book's page claims that the book is "abundantly illustrated". This claim is simply not true. What pictures this book does include are limited to two glossy eight-page photo inserts placed in two different parts of the book. While the photos are quite lovely and glossy, in both monochrome and color, they hardly qualify as an abundance. In fact, I'd consider 16 pages of photos in a 352 page volume a dearth. The next problem has to do with the way Pixley presents the background information. The Avengers Files treats each episode as a real life event, even claiming that somewhere in the vast unknown lurks the real John Steed. Therefore, each story becomes its own case, each televised episode a surveillance film kept hidden away hush hush in the files of the ministry, with top secret and background information for each. Had Andrew Pixley chosen to present this info in an easy-to follow, year-by-year, story-by-story format, it would have worked much better. Instead, he gives each character his (or her) own chapter or chapters, with Steed getting the most chapters, being the longest-running character in the series, and recounts the background information in a prose style that is much like a novel. Unfortunately, this method is not conducive to a neat, chronological order of events. At one point, he discusses Steed's characteristics in the early 60s, then jumps to the mid 70s with the very next paragraph. There is plenty of great info here, but unfortunately it is scattered throughout the book in a hard-to-follow format. Another problem I have with this book is, when referencing each story, Pixley designates a four letter code for each. Thus, The Hidden Tiger is [TIGE], Murdersville becomes [MDVL], and a Sense of History goes by [HIST]. You can understand the problem right off the bat. If the reader is not familiar with the story titles, he will be hampered in his understanding of the reference. Give Pixley credit for including a definition of acronyms, or Codes, if you will, in Appendix A toward the end of this volume. However, if the reader has to constantly interrupt his reading to check up on a code, his enjoyment of the book will be severely strained. Also, I really don't understand the need for all the footnotes in the book. Most pages are inundated with them. If this is fiction, there really should be no need for them. Why not just include the footnote material as part of the main text? In this regard, Pixley went too far in his work of "espionage". Footnotes, just as the definitions of Codes in Appendix A, interrupt your reading. I consider this book an opportunity lost. Great research went into The Avengers Files to incorporate all this great background information into one easy-to-follow volume. Too bad this volume is not so easy to follow. This malady could have been easily fixed by putting all this info in an episode-by-episode format.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Avengers Files: A Unique Perspective By Kimberly Sue Thompson There are several Avengers books available to the average fan, but the problem is, they all read about the same. A synopsis of each episode, some background information, author's opinions etc. And that's fine for the most part, but quite frankly, how many episode synopsis does one need? Then we have Andrew Pixley's The Avengers Files, a refreshingly new perspective of the series done with some tongue-in-cheek views. We definitely get a synopsis of each episode, however, they are presented as "surveillance videos". Steed and Company are presented as real people and we are given backgrounds into their "real lives". For newer fans, this probably isn't a book to start with. Mr. Pixley uses abbreviations for episode titles and if you aren't familiar with the episodes themselves, it can be quite confusing. It's also not for the fan who takes the show too seriously as actual facts in regards to the characters, actors, writers, etc., are minimized. Mr. Pixley does pique one's interest in where he gets some of his information on the characters, leaving the reader to want to find the comics, books, episodes and such for further reading. Over all, this is a very fun book to read and is one of my favorites.

Between 1949 and 1978 undercover security agent John Steed saved the nation from such diverse threats as dope smuggling and extortion to rampaging androids and killer pussycats. Accompanied by colleagues such as Dr. David Keel and Dr. Martin King, anthropologist Catherine Gale, nightclub singer Venus Smith, business tycoon Emma Peel, former actress Tara King, reformed mercenary Mike Gambit, and ex-ballerina Purdey, this crimebusting team was known throughout the counter-intelligence world as The Avengers. With access to official documents and surveillance films, The Avengers Files celebrates the amazing adventures of these heroes and the skills which made them a force to be reckoned with.

From the Publisher Loosely set in the England of the 1960s and 1970s, The Avengers inhabited an extraordinary landscape of aristocrats, mad scientists, spies, and sports cars. Starring Patrick Macnee as the urbane, umbrella-toting spy John Steed and Diana Rigg (who succeeded Cathy Gale) as his alluring accomplice, Mrs. Emma Peel, The Avengers dazzled television audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. Now, for the first time, there is a comprehensive guide to that brilliant fictional universe. In The Avengers Files, cult TV authority Andrew Pixley looks at every detail and nuance of the series, from the original stories and scripts to the making of the films. Abundantly illustrated with many never-before-seen stills and behind-the-scenes shots, this is the book that Avengers fans everywhere have been waiting for. About the Author Andrew Pixley has contributed to Doctor Who Magazine, SFX, Starburst, and TV Times.