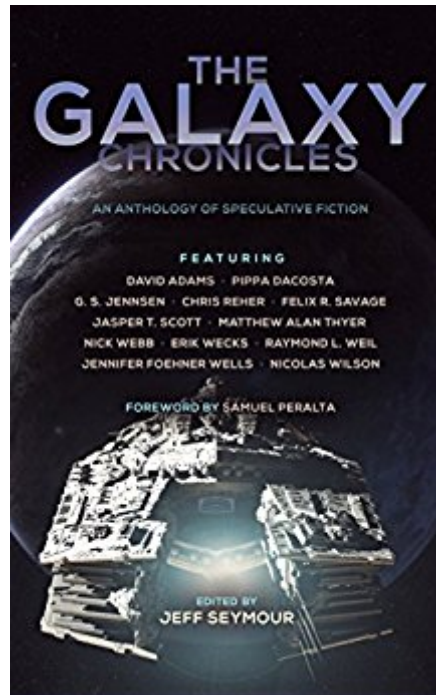


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The Galaxy Chronicles (The Future Chronicles)



Synopsis

Space. Some call it the ultimate frontier. Humans are the verge of breaking its bonds with Earth and reaching other planets, other worlds, other galaxies. And when we do, will we go forth in peace? Or take with us our conflicts, our battles, our wars? In this latest title in the acclaimed 'Future Chronicles' series of speculative fiction anthologies, twelve authors take us on that incredible journey with adventurers, colonists, and space marines as they push the boundaries against the unknown, against alien empires, and themselves. "The Galaxy Chronicles" features stories by USA Today and bestselling authors Nick Webb (Constitution), Raymond L. Weil (The Lost Fleet), Jasper T. Scott (Dark Space), plus nine more of today's top authors in speculative and science fiction.

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Customer Reviews

When I was a teenager, I read Isaac Asimov's Foundation. The idea of a galactic empire that existed across the stars and throughout millennia fascinated me. When I read his robot books with Daneel Olivaw, I discovered the vastly different planets that could exist from just human's own invention and innovation. The different flora, fauna, life spans, diseases, landforms, technology...you

name it and suddenly with those few books my mind was opened to the possibility of what existed beyond our own little planet. In steps the latest edition of the Future Chronicles -- The Galaxy Chronicles. Twelve stories from some of the greatest and most imaginative writers out there right now telling the tales from beyond the stars. The stories live up to the billing, with each a delight, taking a different approach to the overall theme. Full disclosure: I have stories in three other Future Chronicles titles, but have no involvement in this production. I just enjoyed the heck out of it. I won't go over each story -- other reviews take care of that -- but I will briefly mention a few stories that resonated with me. Erik Wecks starts off the collection with a fast-paced space heist -- "A Mercenary in Escrow." I loved it, seeing a version of The Italian Job in space as the Deek, the captain of a ship, willingly goes to prison to save the rest of his crew. Three years later, Deek is out, but he isn't safe as he now belongs to the company he screwed before he went in the clink. What happens and what will his crew do? Great pacing and great storytelling tell the reader they are in for a treat the rest of the anthology. I got a huge kick out of Jennifer Wells' "Symbiont Seeking Symbiont."

Humanity is always striving for something more -- something beyond their grasp. One small step into the universe, a voyage to discover, a journey to unknown frontiers. The Galaxy Chronicles takes that desire and brings us new worlds, new visions to view through the eyes of twelve talented authors. The collection starts out with "A Mercenary in Escrow" where we are introduced to a mercenary captain who does three years in prison in an effort to save his crew from the consequences of breaking a contract. But, as he soon learns, it's the actions of his crew that will really determine his future. 5 Stars "Excelsior" takes us into a Cold War between two factions that control the earth, and the political maneuverings that could destroy - or save - humanity. Could a new world be the answer to save them all? 4.5 Stars Pippa DaCosta gives us her story "Falling," introducing us to how Caleb Shepperd first met Fran. For fans of her Girl from Above series this will give you a peek into the past, and it's a great introduction to the characters for those new to the series. 4 Stars "Apogee" is a thrilling story of the start of a revolution, as a planet seeks to reclaim its freedom from the heavy rule of the Earth Alliance. But starting a war is never easy, and sometimes decisions have to be made that are difficult to live with. Could you do what needed to be done? 5 Stars Giraffe is Felix R. Savage's story "Keep Off the Grass" is an interesting individual, and this story - showing us a future where Japanese Catholics are living in space to save themselves from persecution - makes me want to read more. I'm very interested to see what this author can come up with next!

Space is the next frontier, presenting mankind with numerous challenges to try and conquer. These short stories span the breadth and depth of those possibilities in universes so distant from our own, stimulating our imaginations with what we might find out there. Science fiction has always swept us away and embraced these ideas and this anthology wonderfully continues in that storytelling tradition. From hard sci-fi to alien encounters, to space battles and scoundrels on the run from the law, this anthology captures the majesty and deadly beauty of life out amongst the stars. Starting with a beautiful and moving foreword by anthology producer Samuel Peralta about model rocketry and a brief history on the development of space flight, we get twelve tales from out in the cosmos:

Erik Wecksâ™ âœA Mercenary in Escrowâ•â “Deek and his crew are mercenaries working a job for the Tsunomo corporation but when the job goes sideways, he picks the best of his worst options. Three years later, when he meets up with his crew, he finds things have changed between them, feeling betrayed. But is there more to this situation than meets the eye? A daring escape, colorful characters, witty banter, tense circumstances and clever plot twists highlight this tale as Deek tries to worm his way out of another impossible situation.

Jasper T. Scottâ™s âœExcelsiorâ•â “Captain Alexander is about to leave his wife to go on a mission for the Alliance that will last at least ten years. But when the Confederates discover a big Alliance secret, the cold war goes hot as Alexander must race to carry out their secret mission. When it all goes to hell, how will they possibly succeed?

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