



The Gateway Trip

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Here is a collection of short pieces about the many marvelous discoveries made by humankind using Heechee technology. Each piece includes illustrations by Kelly Freas.

The Gateway Trip Details

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Author : Frederik Pohl , Frank Kelly Freas (illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Gateway Trip for online ebook

Francisco Calvo vicente says

This small book contains a series of small tales describing some of the most interesting trips done from Gateway. It does not follow the story line of the others, and can be read alone (or not as it does not add a lot to the story).

James says

The Merchant of Venus is a great addition to the Heechee environment, the rest of this short book added little and felt like filler.

Jon Norimann says

The Gateway trip is a book split in two. The first half is a decent novel about exploration of Venus. The 2nd half reads like a wikipedia article on the discovery of the Heechee, ie the first four book in this series. In all this 3 hour read fills some holes from the first 4 books and is worth reading if you, like me, liked those. As stand alone SF its rather standard but at least its not long.

Vicvicente says

Muy interesante en muchos aspectos pero deja demasiadas cosas en el aire. La cultura Heeche es toda un desconocimiento absoluto y por lo tanto es muy extraño que el futuro esté basado en una cultura desconocida por completo. En el libro se centran demasiado en el drama humano del protector, a nivel psicológico, cosa que realmente no me parece tan significativa. Buen material pero no termina de rematarse.

Pia Mogollon says

A great companion reader to the first four Heechee saga novels. I feel like this could be a pretty good guide to how technology could be used to actually serve all humanity. Pohl, like others before and after has written a wonderful and exciting series of human trial and ultimate conquest over social ills using the theme of utopic or semi-utopic technological advancement. I would say definitely the latter in Pohl's case. Semi-utopic because in his future society while might poverty be eliminated, there is still crime. So there were some things he wasn't able to envision technology wise and there were ideas that he broached but didn't really expand on. He also doesn't seem to question the ideas of property, hierarchy or why there should be any sort of inequality at all.

Victor Villaseñor says

subió mucho del 3 y 4, no alcanza al primero ni al segundo , pero hace que te den muchas ganas de volverlos a leer.

Lean Portico, tiene de los cierres más canijos que me ha tocado leer

Florin Constantinescu says

Companion collection to the Heechee saga, this collection is just another excuse to re-print the decently good novella "The Merchants of Venus" where the first mention of Heechee appears.

The remaining "stories" in this collection hardly read like fiction, they are more like summaries of the books in the "main sequence", or meta-fiction if you will, and can be happily skipped.

Michael says

The Gateway Trip is an odd bird. Released after the "final" Heechee novel, it contains an adaption of the graphic novel version of "The Merchants of Venus", vignettes of Gateway explorations, and some great illustrations by Frank Kelly Freas which may or may not jive with your well-established vision of what Gateway and the Heechee ships look like. The book is certainly better than Annals, despite being a rehash of old territory; Pohl recaptures a little of the claustrophobic, hopeless feel of the early books.

Jeraviz says

Cuando nos ha gustado un libro o una saga, siempre hemos querido saber más sobre ese mundo, esos personajes o esas situaciones que se hablan de pasada en la historia principal pero que por motivos de ritmo literario (es decir, no hacer libros de 1500 páginas) no tienen cabida.

Pues Frederik Pohl reúne en esta colección de relatos todas esas misiones de los exploradores de Pórtico que siempre hemos querido saber, cómo fue la primera llegada de un Heechee a la Tierra, o cómo fue el primer contacto con una inteligencia extraterrestre.

Para quien haya leído la saga completa es un buen punto para cerrar todos esos cabos que se van comentando a lo largo de 4 libros.

Para quien todavía no haya empezado, me atrevo a decir que si lo leen podrán sumergirse en la atmósfera que construye Pohl ya que tampoco hay grandes spoilers.

Kathy Sebesta says

I'm a Heechee fan from way back but I don't remember ever reading this. Despite the subtitle there is only one actual story here and it is one I've enjoyed at least once in an anthology. Everything else is explanations of all things Heechee, from first hint to where-are-they-hiding, none of which is terribly interesting since all

were eventually worked up into longer works.

Brad says

This book comprehensively covers the Heechee series through the first two books and then some.

The fiction is essentially framed as Pohl's notes on the Heechee. The strongest parts of the book are vignettes and a short story about the Gateway prospectors. They are entertaining stories that return to the mysteries of the Heechee and the uncertainty of space travel. As the book progresses, the stories are overtaken by Pohl's material on the Heechee, which is thorough but told elsewhere in the Heechee series.

The science covers Pohl's typical, classic science fiction themes--a broad array of astronomical tidbits, some alien civilizations and worlds, and a few conjectures about computation. It does not explore any specific sciences very thoroughly, which is the point of this fun collection of short stories and material.

Claudia says

Although it is not a sequel, it contains the journeys made by first prospectors after finding the Heechee ships, stories told by Audee Walthers, known to readers from the previous books in the series. It doesn't really bring anything new - just a few more events and consequences of what Heechee meant to humankind.

Joseph Santiago says

This book took a little time to get into with the old computer language mixed in with therapy. I ended up loving it. This was thought provoking looking at the year it was written and amazing that it stands the test of time. This is a good read.

Mr. Joe

Robert says

I didn't even know about this book even after having read Pohl's other Heechee books. I am glad I discovered it though as not only filling in some holes in the Heechee background I rather enjoyed Pohl's scientific extrapolations at the core of some of the stories. I know Pohl had a good scientific background and throwing in some of the basics of star development, the evolution of life, astrophysics, and other fundamental science really made a difference to me. I am sorry to see the master pass away so recently and will probably try and read any of his other books I haven't so far. I met him a couple of times over the years and most recently just 3 or 4 years ago at a Tampa con. Believe, his body may have been aged but his mind was still extremely sharp for a fellow of his age at the time.

Punk says

SF. These short stories fill in some of the holes left by the Heechee novels. They probably would have had more of an impact on me if the novels themselves weren't mostly one big hole in my memory, but I recognized most of the characters and stories these vignettes allude to. It's basically a clip show. It wouldn't make much sense to someone who hasn't read the Heechee novels, and if you have read them, you probably don't need to read this as there's not much new information in them. The longest piece, "The Merchants of Venus," clocks in at 100 pages and is a reprint of the novella that first introduced the Heechee. Everything else is bite-size and reads like an article in an encyclopedia.

I liked it anyway. C'mon. It's Pohl. "The Starseekers" was my favorite piece, giving background on how the Gateway Corporation, trying to get more prospectors in its ships, devised science bonuses for astronomical discoveries and some of the incredible things the prospectors found.

Four stars. My only complaint were all the foreboding, "If only they had known how important those microwave-sniffing thingies were! But that is a story for another time..." type comments. I paraphrase, but you get the point. That happens about once a chapter. And it gets old fast. OH, and it's illustrated in black and white pointillism, which is cute at first, but then the ladies start wearing their skintight jumpsuits unzipped to the navel and I get a little cranky. It evokes a pulp fiction sensibility, yes, but Pohl's writing is so much more than spacemen with rayguns and dumb chicks with boobs, so it's a little mismatched.
