



Fallen Heroes

Dafydd ab Hugh

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When a troop of alien warriors demands the return of an imprisoned comrade -- a prisoner no one on *Deep Space Nine* knows anything about -- Commander Benjamin Sisko has a deadly fight on his hands. Under sudden attack from the heavily armed warriors, Sisko and his crew struggle desperately to repel the invaders and save the lives of everyone on board.

Meanwhile, a strange device from the Gamma Quadrant has shifted Ferengi barkeeper Quark and Security Chief Odo three days into the future to a silent *Deep Space Nine*. To save the station they must discover what caused the invasion to take place, and find a pathway back through time itself.

Fallen Heroes Details

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From Reader Review Fallen Heroes for online ebook

rivka says

+1/2 star for the plot; -1/2 star for some of the technical absurdities

The aliens' armor is impervious to energy weapons but completely useless against their own projectile weapons? And the attempt to explain this is that the technology for the armor and the weapons keeps pace with each other??? Nobody tell the cops who wear body armor against bullets, hmm?

And the whole bit with the replicators and matter v. energy made no sense either, as well as being inconsistent with canon.

Nonetheless, a fun read.

Caroline says

Could not finish. None of the characters even feel (or speak) like the ones from DS9, and the language used gets so tiresome after a while - so the author knows "smart" words (and/or knows how to use a thesaurus) this wasn't the best place to use them all... I still can't get over the "dilate and disgorge" to explain that a door slid open and someone walked through - those aren't really even good verbs for these actions.

Emma says

Considering this book seems to be set in either late season 1/early season 2, none of the characters behaved or spoke like their TV counterparts.

Jerome Maida says

Excellent book! When a troop of alien warriors demands the return of an imprisoned comrade - a prisoner no one on Deep Space Nine knows anything about - Commander Benjamin Sisko has a deadly fight on his hands. Under sudden attack from the heavily armed warriors, Sisko and his crew struggle desperately to repel the invaders and save the lives of everyone on board.

Meanwhile, a strange device from the Gamma Quadrant has shifted Ferengi barkeeper Quark and Security Chief Odo three days into the future to a silent Deep Space Nine. To save the station they must discover what caused the invasion to take place - and find a pathway through time itself.

"Fallen Heroes" is the kind of fun story that utilizes time-travel extremely well and in which every character shines in the face of what appears to be certain doom. While some may find some of our heroes' inevitable deaths and "resurrections" to be predictable, each death has each character playing to their strengths and leaving a clue for those stuck in the horrific future to determine what appears to be an invulnerable foe. That Quark and Odo - and perhaps one lone survivor - are left to work together to save everyone on DS9 is told with perfect chemistry.

After reading this, I really wish Dafydd ab Hugh had done more "Trek" novels. This tale reminds us why we love these characters and is full of emotion and suspense.

Dan says

There are certainly some good aspects of Fallen Heroes, and it's true that the novel takes some risks that other novels of the time tended to avoid. Even the reset button ending doesn't bother me as much as it really should, and I chalk that up to the heroic actions undertaken by Quark and Odo that sell the ending for me. However, there are some very rough characterizations here, as well as some astounding leaps of logic that drive the rating down. Definitely an interesting story, but with a lot of issues that took me out of the story from time to time. 2.5/5.

Full review: <http://www.treklit.com/2018/10/DS95.html>

Luke Sims-Jenkins says

What an unexpected gem., but I'd also say that when reading this, you need to take into account when it was written. It was written around season two of the show and set I think between seasons 1 and 2.

This is a dark and violent novel and one where these days you can easily guess how the story will pan out and the origins of the alien race don't quite work either, but those are tiny niggles. The characters all work well, but not 100% of the time, but for a book written so early in the series run and being a very early DS9 novel, it hits more than it misses.

A fun recommended read and feels like a time capsule in a way a novel like Ghost Ship or early Voyager novels do. Except this ones very very solid.

Lynette says

Another of my favourite Trek books. Probably my favourite DS9 books.

Jesse Lehrer says

The first actually decent book in the series. Odo and Quark are a great combo to have isolated together but it wasn't as good as it could have been, though it did have its moments. This would have been a fantastic tv episode, as a book it felt pretty drawn out, visiting the out-of-time character deaths for EVERY character was too repetitive. But the plot was interesting enough for me to finish it.

verdict: read it! its the best so far despite its shortcomings

Dann says

Generic sci-fi dreck, *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine – Fallen Heroes* is a rather clichéd time-travel adventure. Written by Dafydd ab Hugh (and narrated in the audiobook by Rene Auberjonois), Odo and Quark are accidentally transported three days into the future where they find that Deep Space Nine has been attacked by an alien ship and that the station crew has been massacred, which leads them to search for a way to get back to their own time and prevent the attack from ever happening. The storytelling is pretty good; particularly in how it's able to switch back and forth between the two time frames, seamlessly going from the attack to the aftermath that Odo and Quark come upon. However, the alien attackers are rather uninteresting and the plot is extremely predictable. Additionally, the time-travel element lets the audience know that everything can be undone and dulls the effects of what are some very powerful scenes. *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine – Fallen Heroes* feels like a rote episode of the series in which nothing of consequence happens and everything resets at the end.

Kimberly says

If you like books where no one behaves in character, where every detail is over explained, where folks who are actually pretty smart act like common sense is a limited resource, and where everything falls all the way to shit only to be conveniently rolled back into a rip off of the tired "It Was All a Dream" trope, then this book is for you!

Everyone else will think it's trash, though. I mean, even for a *Star Trek* novel. Even for a *Deep Space 9* novel.

unknown says

I went through a brief, regrettable phase in middle school during which I purchased many *Star Trek* novels (and many, many *Star Wars* novels). Most of them were pretty bad, or I never got around to reading them. This one, though, is pretty awesome, even if you never really watched *Deep Space Nine*, which I hadn't (and still haven't, except for maybe half a season on DVD).

The genre property tie-in novel is a weird thing. It gives the fan more of what they want, right? More of Luke Skywalker or Captain Picard or Sydney Bristow or Buffy. I certainly read enough of them, but they never really gave me what I wanted. Kibitz all you will about what is canon and what isn't, a tie-in novel is never real in my brain the same way the TV show is real in my brain. It's like methadone, stringing you along until the next fix -- movie, season, episode, whatever. *Buffy* Season 8 is not more *Buffy*, whoever is writing it (and thank goodness, because that shit makes season seven look like *The Wire*).

I'm basing all of this on vague memory, because I don't have the patience for this stuff any more, just like I don't have an interest in pretty much any episodic mystery-of-the-week type book series. I read about four *Stephanie Plum* books in high school for some reason (my friend Julie). I was at Target today and noticed that 13 books later, *Stephanie* still hasn't quite made up her mind about with guy she likes (there are even stickers in the back that say, basically, Team Edward and Team Jacob, except they are for Team *Stephanie Plum* Characters Whose Names I Don't Want to Admit I Totally Still Remember). Is that interesting to people? (Julie? Lady I work with who, every time I say "oh, what are you reading?" holds up a book with a

big cartoon number on the cover?)

I don't have any complaints about this here Deep Space Nine book though. Fast-paced, thrilling story, fun with time travel, and EVERYONE DIES! It's pretty badass. I even bought a copy on audiobook somewhere, but alas, I no longer own a tape player so it is trapped on the cassette. Sad, really.

Am I really embarrassed that I like this book? Kind of. Not really. Even then, I knew there were better books out there, though, and I probably wouldn't want to admit how many hours I have spent poring over the details of the Star Wars Expanded Universe. Did you know Han and Leia got married, and then had three kids, and they all became Jedi, and then eventually one became basically the next Darth Vader, and I think was killed by the other twin? I didn't even read most of those books, but for some reason I still know about them. Old habits. And wikipedia.

Facebook 30 Day Book Challenge Day 18: Book you're most embarrassed to say you like.

EDIT: I just stumbled across the (former, hasn't published in 15 years) author's blog and read his post about New York legalizing gay marriage and now I'm *really* embarrassed to say I like this book. So, good choice, me.

Emily says

3.5 stars.

I've read a few Star Trek novels now (although this is my first DS9), and I know you generally have to go into them suspending some disbelief, but this actually wasn't that bad as far as unrealistic events go. There were certainly a few times where I thought someone was acting out of character, but it was a great story that at times I couldn't put down. It was one of those books you can only open when you know you have a decent amount of time because once you start, you won't want to stop until you've had your fill. The one complaint I did have was the last few pages. The climax itself was fantastic, but that very last bit just seemed slightly lazy. But the last third was really intense, and that greatness hugely overrides that annoyance in my brain. Overall, it was very entertaining and was *exactly* what I needed: just a fun, but still shocking, gripping, and dark Star Trek novel. Not exactly an easy thing to master, but Fallen Heroes did it well. I'll be holding onto this one for sure.

John Barclay says

A fun fast paced little time travel tale. It's interesting to see the characters and their interplay. Still, it's slight and simple and lacking any real twist to make it more than a straightforward heroic save the day kind of story.

David Sarkies says

An action packed Star Trek novel

6 April 2012

Normally I would probably not give a tie-in novel such a high score except for the fact that this was actually one of the best Star Trek novels that I have actually read (though that is not saying much considering I have not read many Star Trek novels). Once again this novel involved a murder and also involves Odo trying to figure out who the murderer is (it seems like DS9 gets its fair share of murderers passing through) however the difference is that pretty much everybody on DS9 is dead.

Now, unfortunately I cannot remember much about this novel beyond the basic plot. Okay, I can't remember how it ended, but that is not too much of a problem because you probably do not want to know how it ends, unless you've actually read it then you already know how it ends. Well, you can probably guess how it ends anyway because the series continues on after this novel and everybody is still alive. However, that is one of the problem with tie-in novels: you cannot make any drastic changes to the series into which the novel is being tied. However, the author does do a very good job at looking back over the previous season and the previous novels.

This story is set in the past and the present. The present is an empty DS9 with only Quark and Odo wondering around trying to work out what has happened. The past involves DS9 getting invaded by an alien force that is attempting to rescue a prisoner that nobody knows anything about, and involves everybody, except Odo and Quark, getting killed. This does make an interesting technique, and also throwing Odo and Quark together (which happens quite often in the series) would work to bring out the best in the writer. If it works then it will work really well, however if the author fails to capitalise on the opposites of the two characters, then the whole technique will fall flat.

This is one of the things that does make DS9 stand out from the other Star Trek series. Okay, while it still follows the same formula and the rather unrealistic view of human evolution in the future, it does bring the entire series back down to Earth. However, one of my friends once commented that science-fiction may be good but science-fiction for the sake of science-fiction is not. This in a way is what Star Trek is about: it is science-fiction for the sake of science-fiction. As I have also suggested in the past is that science-fiction is not truly a genre (well, there are only three genres: drama, prose, and poetry, but the definition has changed somewhat) but rather a setting or a vehicle. Is a murder-mystery set in space science-fiction or a mystery novel; is Star Wars science-fiction or adventure; is a court room drama set on an alien planet science-fiction or a courtroom drama. This is in a way what I have noticed, especially as I expose myself to science-fiction I have read in the past and also ones that I am reading in the present.

This particular book is simply an action-adventure set on a space station. Since it is in space, and in the future, I am more likely to set it under the heading science-fiction rather than adventure. It is an adventure, and the other books in the series have been a mix of mystery and adventure. In a way this book is also a mystery as Odo and Quark attempt to find out what happened. A part of me, seeing the rave that this book gets, and also the fact that I really enjoyed it when I read it, makes me want to read it again. Fortunately Star Trek books are quite short, but then when I look at my shelf, and all of the books I want to read (and reread), unfortunately (or fortunately), the tie-ins tend to find themselves relegated to the bottom, somewhat above the books that I would simply not even consider glancing at again.

Kirsten says

I wanted something something light and fluffy - this was good, but was it ever DARK. It was nice to revisit these characters, but everybody dies horribly (and then there's a time travel jump to conveniently erase it). It was surprisingly tough to watch them all die, really.
