



## **A Light In The Dark (Tales from the Deep Dark Book 1)**

*Nathan Lowell*

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When Captain Bjorn Gunderson docks with what he thinks is routine cargo, he embarks on an unexpected voyage. On a milk run from Welliver to Breakall, a tiny rock punctures his ship and leaves the crew adrift twenty-thousand years from home. With food, water, and air running out, a desperate crewman takes a reckless gamble, risking his life in a daring bid to find safety. What he finds instead puts them all at risk.

Join Captain Gunderson and his crew on the final voyage of the *Solar Clipper Wanderer* in book one of Tales from the Deep Dark -- *A Light in the Dark*.

An award winning producer of science fiction and fantasy podcasts, Nathan Lowell has produced eight novels totaling over 160 episodes and 70 hours of podcast fiction. Since 2008, four of his productions have been finalists in the Parsec Awards and his book--*Captain's Share*--won the 2010 Parsec Award for Best Podcast Fiction (Long Form). In 2010, Ridan Publishing began producing his work in paper and ebook formats. Those books are available online from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, the iBook Store, and from Ridan Publishing.

*A Light In the Dark* is the first of a series of novellas set in the Golden Age of the Solar Clipper. The series focuses on the happenings in and around a renegade outpost, a place outside the jurisdiction of the Confederated Planets--a place where the normal rules don't apply and where anything might happen.

Novel Nibbles are a series of shorter works offered in ebook only format for those who would like something to read on their smartphones and other small mobile devices. Coming in at around 20,000 words, they're shorter works for smaller screens.

## A Light In The Dark (Tales from the Deep Dark Book 1) Details

Date : Published (first published July 22nd 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Nathan Lowell

Format : Kindle Edition 156 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fiction, Space, Space Opera



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## **From Reader Review A Light In The Dark (Tales from the Deep Dark Book 1) for online ebook**

### **Sarah Barber says**

#### **I just love the deep dark....**

This is a great short story for those who know about the deep dark. For those who don't, it's a good way to learn.

As always, well written, good character development and good storyline.

I love everything else Nathan Lowell has written. I have all of the ".....share" books in paperbacks and the rest of his books are high on my wish list.

Please Mr Lowell, keep writing 'cos I'll surely keep reading!

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### **Jeff says**

As indicated in the blurb, this novella is set in Lowell's fascinating "Golden Age of the Solar Clipper" universe. And as always, he delivers a wonderful story. I've been a fan of his for a few years now, have listened to all of the Trader's Tales books (more than once), and have read the Kindle versions of those that are currently available. I've also listened to the audio versions of "South Coast" and "Ravenwood", as well as some of the other works he has voiced - so as such, my review may be viewed as a bit slanted (though I would point out that if it weren't for his talent, I would NOT be a fan - so how's that for circular logic?). As such, I jumped in with both feet when I learned of this novella, and was NOT disappointed.

To do a proper review, I suppose I have to release at least one spoiler, so if you're the type of reader that doesn't want to know anything at all about the story, then stop reading now.

Still here? :)

All right, you have been warned.

"A Light in the Dark" is the story of the origin of Odin's Outpost, a place briefly (and tantalizingly) mentioned in the one of the Trader's Tales novels. I'm embarrassed to admit I don't remember which one, but I recalled the reference, and was happy to find this follow-up. As with all of Lowell's writing, the setting is well described, characters are well developed (especially for a novella - where space is limited), and the prose in general is quite well done. As I said, the man is a very talented writer.

My only criticism at all is there were a couple of places where the editing fell through and pulled me briefly out of the story. However, now that I try to remember where this occurred, I can't for the life of me do so. Obviously, it wasn't all *that* jarring, eh?

For readers who are interested in a further exploration of the universe that helped shape Ishmael Wang, or those who want to dip a tentative toe in to see what all the fuss is about - I heartily recommend "A Light in the Dark". I consider it 99 cents well spent.

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### **Ryan Burt says**

- 1) Rating: 4 out of 5 stars
- 2) Genre: Science Fiction
- 3) Synopsis: Wanderer is just going on a short (3-hour??) cruise when they are stranded in the deep dark. Not stranded on an island but out in the middle of nowhere is even worse.
- 4) Feelings: I am a big Nathan Lowell fan. Maybe because this is shorter in length I was left wanting more. Nathan's books usually have a build up where you really learn to connect to several of his characters. This one didn't have as much time to develop that.
- 5) Final recommendation: Certainly, worth the \$0.99 I paid for it. A fun read with some interesting possibilities. Pick it up.

Ryan James Burt  
Husband, Father, and Writer  
<http://ryanjamesburt.wordpress.com/>

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### **Paulette Jaxton says**

A Light in the Dark is a novella by Nathan Lowell and takes place in his Golden Age of the Solar Clipper series. While not strictly a part of the Trader Tales series, it stems from a few paragraphs in Captain's Share and tells the tale of how Oden's Outpost came to be.

I read this one lazy Sunday afternoon while I was nursing a sour tummy on the couch, and really that's the best way to enjoy a story of this length. It's just long enough to engage you (and take your mind off what ails you) but not too long to finish reading in an afternoon.

As with most of his works, Mr. Lowell fills this story with great characters, rich world building, and well paced plotting. You discover who these people are quickly and if some of the details of their back-story are missing that's actually a plus. I like the fact that the reader isn't given all the gory details of what's going on behind Captain Bjorn Gunderson's back, if it means we get to know him well enough to understand why he does what he does about it.

I liked this story a lot, and I'm looking forward for more of these nommy nibbles from Mr. Lowell in the future.

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### **Shirley A. Coale says**

#### **Good background**

I like anything Nathan Lowell writes. But was especially glad to find a story that build background for the deep dark.

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### **John S Roth says**

#### **Great Short Story**

I am a dedicated fan of Mr. Lowell's writing, I thoroughly enjoyed this supporting piece to his "Clipper Ship" series. Again, the wonderful writing style of Mr. Lowell, allows each book to stand fully on its own merits. When read as part of the overall series, they weave an incredible and fascinating tapestry. I highly recommend the entire series!

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### **Peter Lento says**

#### **Nice back story**

A good story to tie into his other series. Explains how Something that plays a role got to be where it is in a logical way.

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### **Charlie says**

A fine story and one that can serve as a brief introduction into Nathan's Trader's Tales sequence. If this is your first venture into the Trader's Tales, I envy you the journey you are beginning.

This offering is a bit of a departure for those of us familiar with the Trader's Tales. To those used to the Nathan's usual [i.e., novel-length] fare, the brevity of the story might seem a bit of a letdown. Nathan has said that this length of story was an experiment. To my way of thinking, it was a successful one.

In fairness, I am a fan of Nathan's work - having first heard Quarter Share as a podcast on iTunes. I spend much of my day commuting back and forth [on foot and on train] and I listen to a fairly broad range of material. The Trader's Tales are stories I return to - and with good reason, but I leave you to discover that for yourself. I will be more than happy to listen to or read anything that Nathan chooses to share with the wide world. In point of fact, it took Nathan releasing this story in eBook format for me to establish an account with Amazon's Kindle store and download the app to my Mac and iPod Touch.

Give it a try, I think that you will find it a good read.

Safe journey.

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### **Roy says**

Nice novella introducing the Trader Series which I haven't yet read. This fits also in nicely as an addition to explaining a space station feature of the light sail merchant series that I have read.

The place to start is still probably "Quarter Share". I greatly enjoy Lowell's stories and the future they represent.

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### **Becky Black says**

I always enjoy Nathan's writing, but this felt a bit rushed. Like there was too much story for the short format. I know it's a setup for a series, but I did feel it hopped to fast from one event to the next, which is definitely not what I'd usually expect from this writer.

I'm also still deciding what I think about what the Captain did - which I won't mention for spoilers - to another character, and wondering if that will come back to bite him in the ass.

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### **Jessica says**

Yay, a new Golden Age story! As I read it, I could hear Nathan Lowell narrating it in my head.

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### **Thomas says**

WOW, just when I thought I'd given up on the written word (I have been listening to podiobooks/audiobooks and not actually reading for over a year) I go and read this little marvel in about two hours. Way to go, Nathan, way to go. I am looking forward to more of these tidbits and longer stories from you.

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### **Jan Bear says**

I'm a big fan of Nathan Lowell and love, love, love his narration. This one needed to be longer, to give more time to develop the characters and their motivations, as he does so well in his other books.

The end comes out of the blue (or the black) without the emotional build-up his other books have. It's not that the events are undramatic, but the author seems to dive for the finish line.

If you haven't read Nathan Lowell's books, start with Quarter Share and work your way back here. This is back story and will make no sense if you haven't read the series.

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**Laura says**

The characters continue to drive these stories, full of humanity and making good and bad choices that they learn from. I love this universe.

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**Dava Stewart says**

At first, I was afraid the jargon would impede my enjoyment of the story. But within a page or so, I didn't even notice it anymore -- and that is the mark of a good story.

My only criticism is that I got a little lost with the character names. Some characters are called by the first names and other by their last names -- or maybe sometimes one character is called by her first name and others by her last name? Sometimes they were also referred to by their position on the crew. Anyway, it took awhile to work out who was who.

This is sci-fi and I recommend it to people who like sci-fi. Something about it (not sure what, exactly) put me in mind of older sci-fi. Maybe "classic" is the word I'm searching for. It wasn't fantasy or steampunk or anything other than some folks in a space ship in deep space.

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