



Down a Lost Road: Extended Edition (Lost Road Chronicles: Extended Editions, #1)

J. Leigh Bralick

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Special Extended Edition of the original *Down a Lost Road* novel.

Sixteen-year-old Merelin Lindon always knew there was something different about her family. There were the ethereal glimmers that always showed up in photos of her dad. The way her mom always seemed to know exactly what she was thinking. The nagging feeling that she never quite belonged. To make it all worse, her father disappeared four years ago, and Merelin could never shake the feeling that everyone stopped looking for him much too quickly.

Then one day she receives a strange medallion that belonged to her missing father, and everything changes. She finds herself in another world—a strange, beautiful world filled with powerful beings and an ancient civilization teetering at the edge of annihilation, facing an enemy they have no weapons to fight. Some fear she will be their ruin. Some of them think she will save them all. And one of them makes her imagine she could.

Yatol has been training all his life as a Guardian of the star road, but it has been four years since anyone came across from the world on the other side. Then, without warning, the portal opens and leaves a girl at his feet. She has no knowledge of her role in his world, or the meaning of the object she carries, but Yatol cannot help feeling drawn to her stubborn strength and spirit. And if she is who she says she is, then Yatol has a promise to fulfill.

This special extended edition is the same core story as *Down a Lost Road*, but the addition of Yatol's point of view brings to life the people and struggles of Arah Byen in a way that has never been seen before.

Down a Lost Road: Extended Edition (Lost Road Chronicles: Extended Editions, #1) Details

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From Reader Review Down a Lost Road: Extended Edition (Lost Road Chronicles: Extended Editions, #1) for online ebook

Megan Morris says

This series has been one of my favorite fantasy series of all time for a while now and I was so excited to learn that an Extended Edition was released. In a time where a lot of fantasy novels have similarities this series is very original. You might think that the new edition is just the same story line but from Yatol's POV but nope, it's all new material, which was really exciting!

This extended edition of DaLR is everything I wanted when first reading the series back in 2012!

Not to say that the first DaLR was lacking, but as you do with so many books, you find yourself wanting to know what the other main character was thinking, how he or she was feeling. And in this extended edition you get that and actually a whole lot more of an insiders view to Arah Byen. No spoilers but you get further insight to the Brethren and a bit more knowledge on how they operate, as well as the relationships between Yatol and Tyhlaur as well as Yatol and Shan (<- which was a wonderful surprise, actually my favorite extra part I gained from this extended edition) The edits made to the last part of the book help the ending move along a bit smoother and make the final impact all the more.. well.. impactful.

If you haven't read the series, you need to!

If you have and are wondering if it's worth the new book, I'd say 100% yes.

J. Bralick says

Y'all know I don't review my own books, but if you want to know a little bit about why I came out with the Extended Edition of DaLR, pull up a chair, grab some coffee, and let's chat.

First of all - if you're wondering, "Gosh, is this just the original DALR with each chapter followed by a retelling of the same events from Yatol's perspective?" No. No, no, no, not a bit. UGH no. LOL If you've read the original, then rest assured, the Yatol chapters are all fresh material. If you haven't read the original, then don't worry. It's a true dual POV book.

Second of all - if you're wondering, "Ok, that's cool, but...why?" Well, because Merelin's POV is necessarily restricted. She can only narrate to the reader what she herself knows. And since she knows next to nothing about Arah Byen, its history and conflicts, etc. in the beginning, but finds out these things gradually during her time there, I wanted to give readers something more. So, having a POV character who is *from* Arah Byen opens up all kinds of opportunities and really brings the world and its characters to life in a richer way.

And finally - if you're now wondering, "Ok, that's legit, and kinda freaking cool, but why didn't you just write it that way in the beginning?" Ahhhh...*that* question. Basically because it hadn't even occurred to me that I *could* until I started writing the Madness Method series. DaLR was my first book, and honestly, I've learned a TON since I first wrote it. I didn't want to replace the original — there are people who really love it. But Yatol is a fascinating character, and I wanted to give readers the option to experience the story through his POV too.

So there ya have it! :) The official explanation for why the "Director's Cut" or Extended Edition exists. ;-)

Christina McMullen says

Full disclosure: I read and loved this series way back when it first came out. Serendipitously, I got to meet this author and so when she said she was going to be doing a special edition, you better believe I said yes, I want a sneak preview!

So what makes this special? Instead of just following along with Merelin's adventure, we now get Yatol's POV as well. Immediately I was intrigued, but then I worried that the mystery surrounding his character would somehow be diminished if we could crawl into his headspace. I really should have known better. Yatol is just as elusive with us as he is with Merelin and it works. Oh boy does it work.

The story itself is one of those adventures that packs so much into each word, even when the characters are doing something so innocuous as sitting around a campfire having a conversation. I found myself saying "just one more chapter" way more than I should have, and I have to admit that despite having read this whole series and knowing how it ends, I had tears as I read much of the last 10%.

I can't recommend this book enough and I cannot wait until the next two extended editions come out.
