



Galactic Startup

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Alex and his three friends drop out of college after discovering a revolutionary way to travel into space using a small amount of energy. Their world-changing technology is sought by the government, and they are forced to go into hiding while they perfect it. Their adventures into orbit and beyond become a global sensation. As they navigate fame, family and those who are determined to stop them, little do they know that their little startup could have galactic consequences once they discover a derelict spaceship.

Galactic Startup Details

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From Reader Review Galactic Startup for online ebook

Patrick Barnes says

This is some of the silliest tripe that I had the misfortune to waste part of an afternoon trying to read. I was unable to finish this book even though it was free.

The characters read like junior high nerds in space not brilliant college dropouts. They don't realize that in space, you might need either a good air supply or heat in your converted shipping container. They don't question the wisdom of doing a drive by of the ISS or give a thought to the possibility of wrecking it as a result of collision. One of these "kids" (the writer's word), gets a hundred million dollar loan from dad to build a better looking spaceship. Aren't they just the cutest bunch, since "Our Gang".

The plot is worse. The U.S. Government is helpless to locate several idiots setting up a spaceship production facility in the Western U.S. Daddy sets up shell companies to hide their activities and Pentagon and NSA are baffled. Identified by the military, FBI and every other agency these four dorks are just invisible. Yet they give themselves away shopping (not building a spaceship?) but still give the Feds (black ops troops) the slip. At that point, I was stunned.

With the above, I predict that the plucky foursome are off to a libertarian fantasy where wealth, fame and adoring female fans await. To the writers, my sympathies if this seems realistic to you. If in your experience, any of it makes sense then you might want to consider labeling this book and the series (which is sure to follow) YA. YA covers so many other bad books, why not yours.

Phillip says

Good read

I liked the story, I don't like needing to type 20 words just to post a review, should be optional, that said I will be waiting for the next one

Jason Rose says

Compelling Original Story

Interesting plot, a group of friends build a garage spaceship to explore, but they quickly discover we are not alone in the universe, and find themselves defending the earth from an alien invasion. The story moves quickly and covers a lot of ground. I am looking forward to the next one.

Jason Rose (Author of The Knight Advocate/ Arcane Justice series)

Justin Cherry says

I loved it.

Great read. Very few spelling & grammar mistakes and a great story. I look forward to book 2. I recommend it.

DWR says

Fun, sweet, naive and shallow

There is nothing new here. This is a typical late YA SciFi novel. Young geniuses are good. Governments are bad. Insectile aliens are bad. Surprisingly helpful alien AI's are good. Clandestine agencies are bad. Outlandish and improbable tech is good. Character development is unnecessary. Plot is like a stream of consciousness, and then a year went by... Editing could really use some help. Still, it fueled a few hours of my SciFi reading addiction, I didn't groan or roll my eyes too often and I finished it.

Phillip Murrell says

A great start crumbles under the weight of too many layers

I heard of this book on Goodreads and read it using Kindle Unlimited. Galactic Startup starts strong. Really strong. The opening scene was so much fun. If the book kept the Explorers kids grow up to be the Good Will Hunting guys (albeit all smart) premise, I would be singing the praises of a unique book. Unfortunately, the author throws in aliens (to be fair, the blurb said he would). What started as an interesting sci-fi story like The Martian quickly devolves into Plan 9 From Outer Space. Logic is thrown out the door faster than you can say "Cheesy eighties B movie.". I do recommend reading the first half of this book. When you get to the derelict ship, just say to yourself "And they lived happily ever after with their billions of dollars." The rest of my review will contain spoilers.

The Good.

The first half.

It opens in one of the best ways possible. The stunt with the International Space Station leads to them hiding from the government. This was logical.

The timeline to becoming known is appropriate. It would take some years.

The skyhook escape from G-Men using the spaceship and an SUV was great.

The Disney leaf droplet was the perfect way to announce themselves to the public.

Likewise was their means of profit as cosmic garbage men.

Alex is a horrible person. He is arrogant beyond comprehension. Just as I suspect the owner of a spaceship

would be.

The Bad.

The second half of the book.

I hated how people used rank and first names. The college buddies may act like this, but the NASA and military personnel wouldn't.

I didn't like any characters, but I especially hated Amanda. She was the poster child for everything bad happens to me. Raped? Check. Father hated her? Check? Mother left? Check. Weird disease that should impact quality of life in her forties (but likely cured in a sequel)? Check. Her romance with Alex felt unnecessary and added simply because the author felt he should add a romance to appease more readers.

The crew is far too easy going with Alex's decisions. Actually, the whole world is. Leave me on a moon for a few days? Sure. I have to stay in my EVA suit the whole time? Even better. Aliens killed one of our guys, but who cares, you're the man, Alex. All characters in this book act like they are full members in the Cult of Alex. Nobody truly questions his actions. Why should they? He was kicked out of the Army after a year. Albert Einstein helped to get The Manhattan Project started, but I would never follow him into battle. No rational person would listen to Alex once global annihilation was on the table. I don't care what the AI said.

Kalibri is immediately trusted. He could be the bad guy, but not a single character ever doubts the aged digiform. The entire planet is onboard with him because Supreme Leader Alex deems him a friend.

Yet, somehow despite his intense hubris, Alex still refers to the president with respect. The guy would be on a first name basis with whomever he was speaking with. I mean, the entire planet is fully trusting him to lead the defense of the planet.

Alex's military background is crap. If he was in less than a year, then his combat "experience" would be minimal. After basic training, IET, PCS to a unit, some integration, leave, redeployment, and out processing from the Army, Alex would be lucky to have five months of combat experience. You can see a lot in five months, but that doesn't make you an expert. No military people (including Mason, Cindy, and Jack) would allow him to take on the responsibility of Emperor of Earth.

The humans kill the Zorn scouts, yet get a year to prepare for the next attack? BS. The fight would have happened sooner. They're called "scouts" for a reason. If they don't report in, you send more, and you don't wait a year. The fight at the end could have been exciting, if actual military hierarchy had been applied. Or, at least some rational thinking.

The Technical.

This book is written in third person omniscient. There is a lot of head hopping.

Joshua Grant says

I'm a huge space geek so Brian Whiting's Galactic Startup tickled the nerd in me! Four young college guys discover a way to make antigravity propulsion and fly in a cargo container to the International Space Station. Afterwards, the government begins to hunt them for their device. This book was light hearted, fun, and adventurous. In some ways it reminded me of everything I love in films like ET and I can't wait to see where

the story goes!

Joe McGowan says

Started fun, quickly loses steam. No real character development, and has several of the supporting characters have pointed out, the main character has taken over with his own agenda, due to his financial backing. One and done.

Brian says

Disclaimer*** I am the Author so anything I put here will not be taken seriously. However, I can say that the book takes place in a current day type of setting. It was professionally edited and designed. Beta readers tore though it like wild fire. The end result is something I am proud of. My hope is that you read the book and its enjoyable for you. It is the first book in a series.

My favorite line. "Whats a shiddit?" asked the General. Lucy, the new chief of staff sighed as she busied herself putting papers away. "The president believes there's a society of stupid people that exist solely to hinder his agenda. He calls them a shiddit or shiddits."

David says

Galactic Startup Soars!

I loved this story. Interesting concept, characters and progression from first faltering steps to the space station to adventure on Titan! I'm totally hooked!

Steve Dunn says

What a great gem! This is a Hollywood movie just waiting to get made. I find the AI character interaction a bit questionable. This book might be one of my top five favorites. Looking forward to the next one. Write faster !

Sharon Graham says

Excellent story

I really enjoyed this book. A perfect balance of character development and plot development. I think this a great start to what I think will be a great series.

Jason Sudberry says

I enjoyed the book. The pace of the book was good and even though I didn't feel connected to the characters as there was little substance in their backstory/history I did enjoy the characters immensely. Overall I like reading books that are very imaginative and creative and this story took my imagination to many wonderful places, which is the main objective of any good book. I have already read the 2nd book as well and enjoyed it almost as much as the first.

Shane says

Three and a half stars. I believe this is Whitting's first book. It is a fun read built in an interesting world but it definitely had that 'first book' feel to it (except the editing which was spot on). The characters are thin but at least there is some personality. The story line has holes that stretch the suspense of disbelief that is so necessary to a work like this. The biggest problem I had was with the characters relationship to their government. I just never got a clear enough sense that their desire was to circumvent the government instead of rebel or bow down. The actions and the characters just didn't seem to mesh.

This could have been so much more. Moderately fun but a little confused and missed it's mark.

Louise Pass says

Whirlwind

A fresh take on mad scientists saving the world. Interesting tech, believable government conspiracy stupidity, complex development of infrastructure, radical aliens. Worth your time to read.
