



Revelation and Dust

David R. George III

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WELCOME TO THE NEW DEEP SPACE 9

After the destruction of the original space station by a rogue faction of the Typhon Pact, Miles O'Brien and Nog have led the Starfleet Corps of Engineers in designing and constructing a larger, more advanced starbase in the Bajoran system. Now, as familiar faces such as Benjamin Sisko, Kasidy Yates, Ezri Dax, Odo, and Quark arrive at the new station, Captain Ro Laren will host various heads of state at an impressive dedication ceremony. The dignitaries include not only the leaders of allies—such as Klingon Chancellor Martok, Ferengi Grand Nagus Rom, the Cardassian castellan, and the Bajoran first minister—but also those of rival powers, such as the Romulan praetor and the Gorn imperator. But as Ro's crew prepares to open DS9 to the entire Bajor Sector and beyond, disaster looms. A faction has already set in action a shocking plan that, if successful, will shake the Alpha and Beta Quadrants to the core.

And what of Kira Nerys, lost aboard a runabout when the Bajoran wormhole collapsed? In the two years that have passed during construction of the new Deep Space 9, there have been no indications that the Celestial Temple, the Prophets, or Kira have survived. But since Ben Sisko once learned that the wormhole aliens exist nonlinearly in time, what does that mean with respect to their fate, or that of the wormhole . . . or of Kira herself?

Revelation and Dust Details

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From Reader Review Revelation and Dust for online ebook

Michael Blackmore says

Let's just pretend I didn't spend time reading this. Since the Typhon Pact arc started in the new Star Trek novels, the books have just felt off, but still I kept reading.

I think this is the one that convinced me to just give up. The whole series of current books in this pack seem to be ham handed political/spy stuff with little of what make ST actually fun. In doses that is fine, but that is all there in the series nowadays it seems.

The worst part is the extensive flashbacks throughout often to things way more interesting than what is going on.

Oh, well. There's always Doctor Who books for my fun media tie in reads...

Aaron Mcquiston says

The first half of this novel was boring and slow. I really had a difficult time getting through the first 100 pages, with all of the background and whatnot that was to set up this series. The final two thirds told the story of political tensions and strife. The narrative seemed to pick up a bit, and I was able to zip through the second half fairly quickly. As a whole, this seems like a great big set up for whatever is coming in the next four books. I am excited to be through this one and ready to read on.

Jenny says

Oh boy. David R. George is one of my favourite Trek authors, but not even he could rescue this gong show of a placeholder premise. It's not his fault! It's not his fault that the DS9 storyline fell years behind in continuity from the rest of the TrekLit universe. It's not his fault that the economic downturn resulted in the firing of visionary editors like Marco Palmieri who spearheaded amazing arcs and it's not his fault that Pocket publishes so many fewer books than it used to.

So DRG has to spend the first 2/3 of the books expositing "off-screen" plot events, which if they HAD appeared in books, could have been summarized in a matter of paragraphs in the typical expert way that Trek writers do. But the thing is, we didn't actually GET those books, so authors like DRG has to make the best of explaining what the deal is (and be oblique in the case of certain events that either haven't been fully retroactively plotted or are yet to be told in future books).

Nothing happens in this book until page 187. What does happen is shocking and cataclysmic, but it would have been much better if the book could have started with that event rather than, essentially, ending with it. Again, I don't think this is DRG's fault. Or anyone's fault. It's just a reality of the state of TrekLit as a universe and a part of the franchise.

(view spoiler)

Crystal Bensley says

Great start to the Fall series- can't wait to see where it goes!

Christopher says

Trash. I'm done. This hack shouldn't be writing any more. It's embarrassing for the publisher, the writer, and the characters. I will no longer be reading anything by David R. George III.

Summary of as far into this book as I got:

- "HAHA THE ASCENDENTS, THEY SURE MADE AN IMPACT ON ME." - This is a common theme for David R. George III to use in order to cover up his inability to write the DS9 characters in-character.

- Somehow all the devastation from *Destiny* is cleared up because a couple classes of new recruits are out of the Federation Academy.

- Kira, as a woman, can't understand what real happiness and loss are because she's not complete by never being married.

- David R. George III gets paid by the word, so decided to just write out an entire sequence from the DS9 Pilot with tiny little additions by Kira.

Abhinav says

The full review can be found on my blog:

<http://sonsofcorax.wordpress.com/2014...>

If I remember correctly, the last Star Trek novel I read, prior to James Swallow's quite good *Cast No Shadow* last year in June, was some time in 2004 and it was one where the author focused on Spock and his relationship to a niece or some such character who was coming of age quite soon and was intended to be married off soon after in a bit of family politics. So its been a long time, to be generous. *Cast No Shadow* really got me in the mood for getting back to the setting however, and around the same time I rewatched *The Undiscovered Country* for like the umpteenth time. Soon after I heard that there was going to be a new series of Star Trek novels, part of a multi-author series and that the first book would be set in the DS9 continuity.

I could not have been more excited, to be honest. All the Star Trek shows, yes even *Enterprise* which I enjoyed quite highly and have rewatched multiple times, were good and the fact that DS9 was a very action-packed series was all the better. What I didn't expect when I began reading *Revelation* and *Dust* however was all the changes. And there have been many of them. But at the same time, with an almost fresh cast of characters, I found that I did enjoy the novel quite a bit and that I'm really keen to read more. More, more, more.

The Fall 01 Revelation and DustThe setting of this particular is some ten years or so after the end of DS9's run, or so is my understanding. There have been a number of great changes in the Bajor system since I was there last and its all quite fascinating. Benjamin Sisko is no longer Commander of the space station, which was destroyed a couple years back by a terrorist organisation known as the Typhon Pact. The wormhole is apparently closed for business. Kira Nerys is now a religious figure of some importance. Nog is now a Lieutenant Commander within Starfleet Engineering Corps and Chief O'Brien's second for all intents and purposes, and so on and on. So much to get caught up on and so much to follow along. When the novel starts, this is all quite an information overload, but thankfully, for those first few chapters, David R. George III takes things really slowly and he builds his setup with a sedate grace that I could really appreciate.

There are several stories going on here. There is the matter of the newly built space station that has been christened DS9 as well. There is the matter of Kira Nerys being lost, somehow, in the wormhole event and experiencing the first meeting of the Prophets with Benjamin Sisko. And there is the matter of Bajoran refugees elsewhere, where exactly, it is unclear for the most part.

The real time events set aboard the space station are the best part of the entire novel by far. A lot of the familiar characters like Nog, O'Brien, Dr. Bashir, Quark, Odo and many of the others are present in this story thread and they ease the transition of returning to the series after such a damn long time for me. Given the enormous cast of the book however, it is not possible to spend enough time with them to really get to know them again, but the author gives the broad strokes, and that suffices for now. I would have loved to see more about some of them, but the larger story doesn't leave any room for that.

The story thread with Kira Nerys proved to be quite a rough one early on. My confusion with the opening of that story mirrored Kira's own confusion at/of what was happening to her and it took a long time for both her and myself to adjust and understand those particular events. But once I got what the author was going for, this plot thread became very surreal and fascinating. I wish that the start to it hadn't been so rough, because then I would have been able to appreciate it all the more.

The third plot thread seemed tacked on and didn't really connect with the main story in any way that I could see. Plus, it was never clear to me where exactly that entire story was taking place, so that added to the entire confusion I felt. There were some good characters here, but by and large, it just didn't work for me at all.

John Carter McKnight says

I'd been looking forward to this book all summer: the launch of a new DS9-centered multivolume story is about as exciting as it gets. Unfortunately, this book got tossed on the return pile 100 pages in.

Nothing happens. Literally the entire first 100pp amounts to, the Cardassian head of state is called home to deal with an uprising in advance of a summit meeting, and the Federation President wants to speak to Odo for reasons unknown.

The rest is an exercise in needless backstory, appalling repetition. One chapter is basically "Sisko was thinking about the old days during dinner with Kassidy. Sisko: "Hey, Kassidy, I was thinking about the old days. Kassidy: Oh, the old days! You were thinking of them!" Another is the entire Prophets sequence from the DS9 pilot, retold with color commentary from Kira.

It's ghastly. I may try the next volume, from a different author, when it comes out: I imagine a competent

writer could sum up the 400pp or so of this book in a page, maybe two. And I'll have several hours of my life back to watch paint dry or clean the bathroom, both less tedious than this disappointing crap.

David says

As with most David R. George III books, this was really hit and miss. George likes long, evocative description and character introspection, often to the point where the book drags to a halt and then needs some big event to get going again.

You get a huge amount of description of the new Deep Space Nine, a lot of characters thinking about what's happened the last two years, and a glacial pace that suddenly bursts into the big event of the novel about 60-65% of the way into the book.

And it ends with a bit of a cliffhanger that I'm not sure how much of which will be resolved in "The Fall" series, since future books aren't DS9-specific. They'll feature other characters. We may have to wait until the next DS9 book to see what happens.

I ended the book very unfulfilled.

That big event, though? That's a whopper.

Brian says

If I could vote for something worse than 1-star, I would do it.

A horrible waste of time and dead trees. If this was an episode of a Trek television show, it would have been a "clip show". You know, the ones that recycle footage from previous episodes to make up the majority of the content. Often this comes in the form of flashbacks, "remember when". Usually this is to save on a season's production budget. Wonder what the excuse was for this novel.

Well, that's what most of this book was. Remember when. If you cut out all of the clips, you'd be left with a short story about some Bajorans, an assassination, and a description of the new DS9 starbase. So... about 50 pages or so.

In fact, if you were to compare this to a 1-hour television show, the first 50 minutes would have been "Previously on Star Trek: Boring," with the final 10 minutes setting up a cliff-hanger. It wouldn't be good TV, and it's not good reading.

Look, I understand that there's a lot of backstory for the characters and events in this universe. But devoting that much space to it is ridiculous. I don't want to pay for stories I've already seen, or paid for and read in the past!

I don't need a play-by-play of Sisko's first encounter with the Prophets, with commentary by Kira. I don't need to read through Sisko and Yates playing "remember when" about their marriage. I want a new story! That's why I bought a new book! If I wanted this retread, I'd have gone back to read the other books.

As far as the whole "it's meant to setup other books" argument... It is my belief that every book should be its own complete story. Even if there are threads left open for sequels, each and every book should be its own entity, able to stand on its own. This book cannot do so.

What a waste. My advice, wait for this to hit the bargain bin, or buy it secondhand. Or better yet, pick it up from your local library.

Christopher Lutz says

This first book of the five part series *The Fall* definitely feels like an opening act. Instead of a traditional beginning, middle, and end the story serves more as a novel-length prologue to the rest of the event. It works and I enjoyed it, it just may have been better if the first book was its own story first and foremost. Overall there was great world building and political intrigue that I am excited to see play out in the other books.

I've only read the first two books of the DS9 relaunch series, so while I may have missed a lot, I never felt out of the loop. For the most part, I enjoyed what they've done with the characters and with the world they live in. Sisko's current storyline honestly troubles me a bit though. I'm not sure I like the fact that his duty to the Prophets is just over and he can go back to being a regular captain again. That seems to fly in the face of the Prophets and how they work. They exist out of time so his duties to them should never end. It's what makes the character unique among the other captains. I'm willing to wait and see what happens with Sisko's story though. We're clearly not done with it yet.

Love the design of the new DS9 by the way.

Alejandro says

This is the first novel of a 5-part event of Star Trek titled "The Fall". Pocket Books plans to publish each book, one per month in the extent of 5 months. Each novel will cover the accountings of a week (time story). The event will use the characters of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" combining them in one big event. So far, this first novel used the characters of DS9 and already know due news that the second novel will focus on TNG characters. I guess that in the third novel, the characters of both Trek spin-offs will reunite but it isn't sure to tell yet. The story is set on 2385, that implies that it's set 10 years later of the series finale of DS9 and 6 years later of "Nemesis", the last TNG's theater film. I still have to read most of the "Relaunch" novels, however I've been keeping updated about the highlights of what was happening in the expanded universe of Star Trek. Due that, I don't see any reason to wait to read this book that I was really eager to devour. As you can surmise for my 3-star rating, in my personal opinion, the novel wasn't as good as I expected. I won't spoil any key element in the story, so if you decide to read it, can enjoy the story as best as possible. I just going to comment some of my reasons for a barely fair rating to this book. Okay, this is just the first novel in a 5-part event, I got that, however, I expected that some kind of inner arc could be developed here **AND** having a sense of conclusion. But it doesn't happen that here. The book is focused in the inauguration of the brand new *Deep Space Nine* station, Frontier-class. Something big happened in the protocolary ceremony, and it's evidently that this will cause repercussions and it will be the trigger of the whole 5-part book event. However, in this novel, notwithstanding that the author gave a lot of explanation of the mystery around the "big thing", you still miss a fair conclusion. I know, it's a 5-part event, yes, yes, but dang it, you don't feel that you read a novel, but just a part of a book, and not matter you

are reading a "series" of any book saga, it's expectable that you get a sense of conclusion of the particular book that you are reading, even if you still have some doubts that you hope to be resolved in the following volumes. Also, the story, besides the "the big thing", basically you don't have any climax or action here. While it's interesting to see the return of the old bunch of DS9 on their current positions, you don't get anymore than that. The book is highly political, that I think it was a good thing, but a little of action could be appreciated. Also, there is a side-story along the whole novel, that I'm sure it will get relevant in the following books, but here? Here, was confusing, boring and felt like a cheap way to make thicker the first book to validate its status of a novel and not just a novella or short story. Another thing that buggers me is that "the big thing" is certainly something that can ruin the career of Ro Laren, the station commander, but you don't see or feel that she would get any reprimand or getting into messy waters due "the big thing" that it can easily seeing as a failure in the security measures for the inauguration of the new DS9. I love Ro Laren, she's one of my favorite characters since she appeared on TNG and certainly I don't to see her Starfleet career ruined, however it's very odd not seeing some hot shot on Starfleet Command shouting and demanding the head of her in a plate. And when I was thinking that, it was strange that during the inauguration ceremony, the highest ranking officer was Captain Sisko. I mean, you have Captain Ro Laren, Captain Benjamin Sisko, and even Captain Ezri Dax, cool, three captains, but, mmh... what the heck happened with the admirals? Not even a single dang admiral could make the time to go the ceremony of the new DS9? It's really quite strange. The author manages quite well little details about the operations of computer systems in the starbase, I have to give him that. Certainly, not matter that while it was just a barely enjoyable experience reading this first novel, I will buy the other books of the event.

Sud666 says

It has been awhile since I've had a chance to explore the Star Trek DS-9 series. Apparently much has happened. The old Cardassian-built DS-9 has been destroyed. Starfleet has built an all new DS-9.

This book deals with the opening ceremony of the Space Station. Many of our old friends have returned (from Captain Sisko to Odo) and many powerful heads of governments (from the Federation to the Klingons) have sent their heads of state. This part of the story was good. It was nice to be filled in with the details of what had been going on since the destruction of the original DS-9. This is also the most exciting part of the story-and where the main things of import occur.

Then there is a secondary story involving Kira Nerys, who is lost in some other dimensional representation of her Celestial Temple and the freedom fighters of Bajor who are helping to smuggle away oppressed people was not only a bit confusing, but yawn inducingly boring. I did not care what the freedom fighters were doing, nor did I see them really fit into the entire story.

As far as Kiera wandering around another dimension on a LSD trip was also confusing. WTF is going on? Who knows? Who cares? Apparently the Prophet.

But the saving grace of the story was the assassination of the Federation President and the ensuing investigation. While even that was not really wrapped up- leaving the room for another volume to deal with that. But at least that was an interesting story.

Still, I have read much better Star Trek novels than this one. Not much more to say, really.

Stephen says

(camera pans from starfield to new station)

Imagine a Star Wars opening crawl expanded to 400 pages. David R. George must have had to take a bullet from the team here, as *Revelation and Dust* is largely recap and introduction, bringing the Niner gang back together on the new station and set the stage for someone to get shot while at its center. George has done great DS9 work before, so I choose to believe he was editorially constrained in this book to focus on backstory for people who haven't been reading any Relaunch books.

Daniel Kukwa says

A "Star Trek" novel so compelling and adrenaline pumping that I finished it in the span of two hours and refused to put it down? Of course I'm giving it five stars! Alternating between feeling like I've experienced a magnificent new dawn for DS9, and stomach-churning astonishment at an event that turns an entire quadrant upside down, this was utterly magnificent storytelling, on the grandest scale imaginable. If the next four novels in the sequence are even half as good as this opening installment, then I will have entered fanboy nirvana.

Robert says

Yet another book that spends over a hundred pages spinning the wheels before the story begins, then ends on what should be the turning point of a complete novel. It's a current genre publishing convention I've come to despise.

I didn't dislike the story itself. There just isn't much story there, it's slow, and it's incomplete. I'm not sure I'll be reading the four follow-up novels. If they're all paced like this one, I'll read the last few chapters in books 2, 3, and 4 then read book five.
