



The Halcyon Dislocation

Peter Kazmaier

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After a risky physics experiment transports the island University of Halcyon to a new world, engineer Dave Schuster and his fellow students struggle to survive in this alien, hostile environment. As tyrannical forces within the University use the catastrophe to strengthen their power and control, Dave encounters an even greater menace which threatens the very existence of their fledgling colony.

This edition contains additional maps and a glossary.

The Halcyon Dislocation Details

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Author : Peter Kazmaier

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From Reader Review The Halcyon Dislocation for online ebook

Phil says

Adventure takes centre stage in this novel, thick with plot and set against an other-worldly background. The story races on but not without pausing here and there for some 'character' time and also a clean look at some classic debates: faith and government, science and religion, and of course good and evil.

Robert Zwilling says

Action packed story, with a good mixture of science fiction and life as we live it today. The world description was realistic. There is a bit of moralizing at times, but it was carefully blended into the story and the characters' actions, so it easily slid by. A very enjoyable read with good plot twists and turns.

Janet Sketchley says

Dave Schuster is an engineering student at Halcyon University, located off the coast of North Carolina. His uncle is the University Chancellor but they don't cross paths often—until a physics experiment gone wrong rips the entire island out of our current space-time and plants it on another planet.

The theory is that the experiment shifted them—*dislocated* them—within time to a parallel Earth. The immediate goal: survival until the equipment can be rebuilt for an attempt to reverse the process. Well, survival and exploration. After all, there's a whole new world out there, and Halcyon's resources won't last the months it may take to get home.

The Halcyon Dislocation follows the classic science fiction storyline of humans on a strange, new world. I appreciated Dave's mention of my favourite Jules Verne novel, *The Mysterious Island*, and although there are similarities (they're stranded, the land seems uninhabited but full of potential, they survive by adapting and inventing) this is a far different plot.

Without giving too much away, I can say that the explorers encounter remnants of a past civilization which developed differently from that of our own Earth. This alternate Earth has enough in common with ours to make it easy for readers to imagine, with key differences in plant and animal life that provide the richness of a foreign planet.

The novel also explores how human society might look if controlled solely by an intellectual, rationalist approach. Dave's friend Al is perhaps the only spiritually-healthy Christian influence we meet, and he comes under extra attack from the leaders, who label him mentally ill because he claims to communicate with God.

The Halcyon Dislocation delivers a mix of action, danger, intrigue, philosophical and religious discussion, and even a bit of romance. It's a long book, which is often a plus in the science fiction genre, and Dave and his friends certainly experience enough variety in the course of the story that there's no risk of the reader asking "Are we done yet?"

Building on his background in scientific research and as a university professor, Peter Kazmaier writes "fiction at the intersection of adventure, science, faith and philosophy." *The Halcyon Dislocation* is Book 1 of The Halcyon Cycle, and it sets up nicely for a sequel. Dr. Kazmaier's most recent book is *Questioning Your Way to Faith*, which takes place on the Halcyon campus before the Dislocation. You can learn more about the author and his books at PeterKazmaier.com.

[Review copy provided by the author.]

Joanne Rolston says

Halcyon University, a liberal, atheist campus on an island off the North Carolina coast ended up in another dimension after a physics experiment, in an event called "the Dislocation." The whole island got moved. Cut adrift in a parallel world, the constellations are the same, but the earth is not.

Hoffstetter, the physicist in charge passed it off as an accident involving a force field generator, but was it an accident? What was the strange obelisk he had? Why was he not contrite about what he'd done?

The story follows students Dave Schuster, Al Gleeson, and Pam Lowental in their struggle to adapt to the new world they've found themselves in, as they grow into the new roles that are thrust upon them, at first by the university and then by necessity.

Strange creatures are encountered on the heavily wooded, mountainous mainland as Dave, Al and Pam map out the new land.

They find the Dead City, built by a race of long departed men – but they are overpowered by unnatural looking apemen. Only Al and Pam return, while Dave is rescued by noble creatures called the Hansa.

The story goes from interesting to intense when Hoffstetter launches an expeditionary source to seize the mountain city.

What does he want, and what is the connection to the obelisk?

I enjoyed this book. I recommend it to those who like to read science fiction and fantasy. There is even some philosophy as the author explores the beliefs of the characters and what makes them tick.

The characters are likeable although it takes time to get to know them. All in all it's a worthwhile read.

Rod says

An incredible adventure - Glad I wasn't there for the dislocation.

I try not to give books 5 stars very often (cheapens the value). But I read this and enjoyed every minute. Well-deserving.

Basically a University/Naval station Island... is relocated to a different reality. What appears to be a science experiment gone wrong becomes much darker and deeper than first realized by our valiant band of heroes. And somehow Jesus and truth fits into all this. Go buy your own copy - you can't have my signed 1st edition. (Is it Peter? Don't care. I'll boast anyway.)

I read book 2 first, I thought that would be a creative challenge and insight into Peter's writing abilities. Indeed this made me totally enjoy the character development and early obstacles (AND Evil escapades) that are being set-up in the beginning of the Halcyon series. In Book 1 We get to know the characters in a less stressful setting. By book 2: Everything is Off the Rails and non-stop action. Similar to Star Wars 2: The

Empire Strikes Back, no time for intros - start shooting at stuff.

Now I may have to go and read book 2 again, just for the flow of the story. Maybe i'll do that when book 3 comes out. Quit stalling Peter - get to work, your fans are close to rioting.

Peter gave us a brilliant setting for Christian Apologetics and liberal moral mayhem (those two always go together). Like Eve in the garden we get to see a New society apply a godless lack of morality and spiritual blindness, all in the name of young lusty freedom and Corporate/Political Power. Even though this is Sci-fi, we have a very modern University doing its debaucherous best to erase any Christian virtues and family structures ALL in the name of liberal progress - and thankfully Peter shows us the undeniable results of this secular materialism and free thought: throw out the rules, you throw out the meaning and purpose of Love, Hope, Peace and family values.

And I especially enjoyed the Dalyites. Even in a setting like this we see the uprising of a religious cult. This is endlessly entertaining. Hope this plays out nastily in the 3rd book. I loved seeing our Christian hero "AL" dealing with Atheists on one side, and Fundamental extremist Cults on the other...and monsters of course.

But all is saved by the cute - Badger like: Hansas. Short insightful Warriors of truth. And they make great friends. Can't get enough of these guys.

Peter has a huge challenge theologically with this sci-fi scenario. How does Jesus, Sin, and God's Glory play out in this alternative realm? We'll see. I have a feeling Peter has a plan to tie it all together. This book appears to be succeeding where Stephen R. Lawheads "The Song Of Albion" failed - Christianity is truthfully laid out and brought to the front of the story. I look forward to even more of this in book 3.

The only thing this book was missing was a long nasty car chase. (but the stories not over yet). Maybe I can get Peter to make a Hansa character in my honor??? A brutally snarky theologian comedian.

Warning: You may learn more about boating than you ever wanted to. I'm a landlover myself.

Kevin King says

Better than a pair of socks.

I came across Peter Kazmaier in an online group discussion on some fairly contentious issues relating to faith and morality. I was struck by his reasoned approach and intrigued to discover that he was also the author of this book. Having read many sci-fi and fantasy books in the past, but nothing of that ilk recently; I decided to put it on my Christmas list. After all, it should be better than a pair of socks. And I'm glad to say, it was.

Initially, the book reads like a fairly standard science fiction novel. A force-field experiment at a University on the little island of Halcyon goes catastrophically wrong, ripping the entire island into what appears to be an alternate reality with no human inhabitants. But as they begin to explore this part-familiar, part-alien world a different picture slowly emerges. Was their coming here an accident, and what is the real agenda of the men who have set themselves up as Halcyon's leaders? More worryingly still, it gradually becomes apparent that this world was not always uninhabited. So why does it seem that way now – and is it really?

As the plot thickens the book becomes more of a science fantasy battle between both moral and spiritual forces of good and evil than a simple science fiction. But this is one of the most interesting aspects of the book. On one hand, are hard-nosed scientists and philosophers, determined to create a new human utopia without any taint of religion or old-fashioned morality. In the middle are a lot of hurting and confused young people of various persuasions who desperately want to go home; and at the other extreme a group of religious fundamentalists who simply want an escape from the perceived evils of this brave new world.

But who are the real moralists and the real oppressors? As we follow the stories of some of those caught in the middle of all this, there are many fascinating discussions as they try to work through the issues of who, and what, they should believe, and how they should respond in this strange new reality.

Joshua Grant says

The universe is infinite, an infinite number of possibilities, times, and dimensions that are coiled together in what we might call reality. But when we are displaced from our own reality and shot into another, how might we react? What might we discover? This is exactly what Peter Kazmaier attempts to answer in *The Halcyon Dislocation*.

After a mysterious explosion and an experiment gone wrong, the university island of Halcyon is transported to a strange other world. Kazmaier blends a mixture of fast paced action with philosophical and scientific descriptions and discussions as main character David and fellow survivors explore their new surroundings. I'm instantly pleasantly reminded of sci fi classics like *Planet of the Apes* or *Lost in Space*. It was fun to see what strange creatures or landscapes the explorers would discover next, all while getting some interesting views on society. I look forward to seeing what new adventures await in the Halcyon series!

I'd definitely recommend this to any fans of Heinlein or Asimov.

David says

An island university disappears after a science experiment goes wrong. It reappears in an alternate universe and the residents of the island must learn to live in their new world as hopes of return diminish.

This is the premise in Peter Kazmier's story, *The Halcyon Dislocation*. If you enjoy Tolkien, Lewis and other good fantasy, this is a book you ought to check out. For that matter, if your interests are more along the lines of science fiction, this book may be for you too. I think it lays more on the fantasy side, but there is sci-fi in there. Either way, it is a great story with fast-paced action, interesting characters and thoughtful dialogue.

The dialogue is one thing that most struck me. Throughout the book the characters engage in discussions about science and religion, the existence of God, the validity or reasonableness of religion and so on. Where Tolkien gives us religious themes and Lewis gives us allegory, Kazmier gives us Christian and atheist characters debating religion in the midst of adventuring around their new surroundings. Yet this is not cheesy Christian fiction book. The characters come off as real, the sort of people you might actually meet on a college campus. While some of the characters change over the story, as they should in any good story, there

is no climax with mass conversions or anything. In the real world we all move through life, working and studying and living together. During this time we may discuss, and argue, what we believe. Kazmier's world reflects that.

In other words, this is not a religious tract disguised as a novel. Kazmier gives us a good story that contains believable characters talking about the deeper things of life. Not only is it a good story, it leaves you wanting more. When is the sequel coming out!

One thing that did strike me as odd is how quickly it seemed nearly everyone adjusted to being in a new world. It seemed that most people just kind of rolled with it. There are hints early on of some people not adjusting well and of strong leadership helping the community through. It just seemed that the gravity of the situation was lightened. Most characters seemed to adjust incredibly quickly – “we’re in a new world...we may never see our families again...what’s for dinner?”

That aside, it is still a great book. Thanks Peter.

Full disclosure – I received a free copy from the author for purposes of review.
