



One Small Step

Susan Wright

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Scattered throughout the galaxy are Gateways capable of transporting matter and energy across unfathomable distances. Left behind by a long-vanished civilization, these mysterious portals offer a means of exploration -- or conquest -- many times faster than warp travel. The technology responsible for the Gateways has been lost for at least ten millennia, but that doesn't mean it can't be found again.... Having defeated the hostile computer program guarding an abandoned Kalandan outpost, Kirk and his crew are exploring the artificial planetoid in hopes of discovering the secret of an ancient apparatus that has hurled the "Starship Enterprise(TM)" over nearly a thousand light-years. Unfortunately, the reactivated Gateway has attracted the attention -- and avarice -- of various alien explorers, including a mysterious race who claim to be none other than the enigmatic Kalandans themselves

One Small Step Details

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Octavia Cade says

An interesting enough beginning to this mini-series of books, though I wish there weren't so many pages of tedious technobabble (why bother with plot or characterisation when you can fill endless paragraphs with made-up bits of computer guts?). On the bright side, Wright's alien threat, the Petraw, are really fun. To be honest, I enjoyed them more than the Enterprise crew! There's so much conflict and back-biting and scheming going on within the Petraw ship that it livens up the story no end.

Daniel O'donovan says

I hope this is not a sign of the rest of the Gateway series. The plot was rather thin. Given the amount of technical analysis it could have been half as long.

It seems to me rather stupid of Kirk to open a gateway to Earth when the technology was unknown. Also, since he did that, it rather begs the question of why Picard knew nothing of this event in the TNG episode Contagion.

So an average beginning. Maybe the next will be better.

David Palazzolo says

I started this as a way to get back into my New Frontier reading groove (as that series crosses into the Gateways storyline), but this may have been a mistake. I'm beginning to have the sneaking suspicion that each story in Gateways will ultimately have little to do with each other. As for this book, it was a little on the weak side and hard to follow in parts. I'm also not happy about the way the concluding portion of the book is contained in "book 7" of the series. Not happy at all with this marketing ploy, so much so it bleeds over at least on this first part. I will not be reading the Challenger portion of the story until after I have read Star Trek: New Earth. Maybe I'll be happier with the conclusion in "book 7."

K says

How do I rate a book like this? It read like a TV episode, even the characters felt compatible with their TV counterparts. It was a quick, easy read but there was nothing literarily excellent about the read. It was formulaic but exciting. I enjoyed it, it gave me exactly what I wanted but didn't engage me at all. So it ends up at a three but maybe deserves a four if enjoyment is the only criteria.

Daniel says

One of the more aggravating books in the Gateways series, this book takes place immediately following the Star Trek TOS episode "That Which Survives." To summarize the episode, the Enterprise discovers a planet that is the same size as Earth's moon and looks habitable, but is very young, its age is only a few thousand years old. It turns out that the planet is an outpost of a dying civilization called the Kalandans. A young woman, Losira, appears and tries to kill the various Enterprise crew members, even though her disposition indicates she doesn't want to. The landing party discovers that the planet is deserted and Losira is a holographic representation of the defense computer, whose parameters were set by the last survivor of the Kalandans, who also happens to be the flesh and blood version of Losira. This is where the book begins. The outpost sent out a massive energy spike when it sent Enterprise almost 1000 lightyears away from the planet and this attracted the attention of the Klingons and a group of scavenging aliens interested only in technology who are impersonating the Kalandans. What makes this book aggravating is that the story doesn't resolve itself until the final book in the Gateways saga and many of the storylines introduced are somewhat unexciting.

Dan says

A pretty disappointing beginning to the Gateways series. A sparse plot, poor characterizations, and plotlines that go nowhere really turned me off. I really hope the rest of the series is a huge improvement. As far as the series as a whole goes, the separate publication of the ends of each of the stories is a little annoying, and strikes me as a ploy to get more money out of me. I can only hope the stories are worth it, but that really doesn't seem to be the case with One Small Step.

Full review: <http://treklit.blogspot.com/2012/01/o...>

Mrklingon says

TOS to the max..... but more than TOS in the series.

This kicks off a multi-volume series of Trek adventures, covering multiple eras. Came into my library thanks to a the current back-list ebook special (all 8 books for \$.99 each). I missed these when they first came out, so it's an interesting addition to my books.

This one covers the aftermath of "That Which Survives," and features a sneaky race that impersonates Losira's people, solely to swipe whatever technology they can acquire. Ends with a cliffhanger - a good way to keep you coming back to the series to find out what happens.

John Wilson says

The Ultimate "A fool and his money are soon parted" cashgrab from the Pocket Books Star Trek line - a line of poorly connected novels, each one without a last chapter that is to be collected in a later book.

I'm just as culpable having bought two of the damn things.

Shadowdenizen says

3.5 stars.

Frank says

Decent story starting an arc

Starts at the end of an original series episode, I don't recall the name. (Girl's touch kills people) Ends in a cliffhanger of course(book two is also TOS). I look forward to reading book two in series of seven.

William Knowles says

Good Start

I enjoy Star Trek stories that have time travel themes. This story had a good plot that involved different aliens and crazy technology.

Wayland Smith says

This is the kickoff of another series that goes through all the various Star Trek novel series. Fittingly, it starts with Kirk and the original Enterprise, following up on the classic "City on the Edge of Forever" episode, and offering an explanation of what the Guardian actually is.

It's a good story, drawing on some original series lore but telling its own tale. Wright has a good feel for the characters, and has their voices down well. The action is good and enjoyable, and well plotted.

It's a good fun read for Star Trek fans, and sci fi fans in general.

Erica says

I want to start this review off by saying that I love the concept of the Gateways series. I think that the idea and the story about the gateways is amazing, and when I heard about it I felt that it was right up my alley. Because of that it didn't take me all that long to decide that I would read all of the Gateways books and not just the Voyager book.

So as some of you might have guessed this is the first book I've read about the crew from the original Star Trek series. I've recently seen it for the first time and therefore had a fresh memory of the episode, That

Which Survives, that this book spins off from. I liked that episode and I loved the episode The City on the Edge of Forever which the technology with the gateways reminds me of. So I like the story in this book, and I also feel like the writer has captured the characters in a believable way. It's interesting to follow Kirk and his crew as they become acquainted with the people who claim to be the Kalandans, whom the gateways belong to, and try to solve the mysteries that come their way.

I'm looking forward to getting to see how it all ends in the last book and, of course, to read all the other stories about the gateways leading up to that last one where it all will (hopefully) be sorted out.

Michael T Bradley says

So, I mean, there's nothing **WRONG** with this book, but it just ... it felt more like a sequel to an episode of TOS that I don't remember (which it for certain is) than an opening to a massive crossover. Were the Iconian gateways even in here? Not sure, since I stopped reading about a third of the way in. It's not that it's dull, it's just ... OK, yeah, it's pretty dull. I just kept asking myself, do I care what comes next?

Not really.

The writing is fine, but the plot itself just held zero interest for me.

Elena. (theresmiling) says

I have to admit I am only reading the series, because *New Frontier* is part of it. Also, I like series, so I decided to read it all.

It seems the endings of all books are not coming until book 7. I don't really like that.

This book was boring most of the time. Many times I read things that aren't important or even necessary for the story. I don't really understand why the Klingons were there. They deserve better than what they got there.
