



Star Force: Lost Destiny

Aer-ki Jyr

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What's it like to be the last Human?

And not even know you're Human?

Esna Donovan was stranded on a planet full of people that didn't look like her as a child along with her brother. Their father was murdered, leaving them sitting in their spaceship waiting for his return.

They remember almost nothing from before that time, when two Calavari who were business associates of their father took them in and told them they could never be seen outside their full body armor. They've honored their father's dying wish, living and working on the Calavari's farm while exploring the barren wastelands looking for bits of technological salvage from the time before the great cataclysm.

They don't know they're Human, just that they're different and they can't show their skin in public. The two siblings have lived almost their entire lives in their self-styled body armor and dream of leaving the farm and doing something that mattered...but there's nowhere to go. Nothing to do.

Then one day that all changes and Esna is set forth on a rollercoaster ride of a life she could never have expected once the word 'Human' is once again spoken on the planet...only its a word of rage and fear, with the local aliens trying to kill whoever it is applied to, though they've never seen one before.

Regardless, the word is tagged to her and she must run...with a little help.

Excerpt from 'Lost Destiny':

“Donovan!” he called out, running towards him with plodding footsteps as his nose picked up the scent of burnt flesh even before he saw the hole in the chest plate of the full body armor the man wore. Whatever race he was his blood flowed a sickly red, a fact that he’d prefer to not have known as he leaned over and gripped the man’s shoulders, prying him up into a sitting position.

“What happened?”

A shaking hand rose up to the neck of his armor, fumbling for the latch that Yammar finally helped him with. The helmet cracked open with a hiss and the Calavari helped him pull it off, revealing the pale skin beneath that had alarmingly become even more so, now nearly white.

“Gladers,” he said, wincing horribly as he half bent over. “Jumped me from behind. I got two of them, but the third...”

“Where’s the latch for the chest piece?” Yammar asked, pulling back the cloak that covered most of the hard plates as he looked, but the man took a death grip on his lower arm and locked eyes with him.

“My children. In the ship. You have to...please. I’m all they’ve got. They’re dead without you.”

“Where’s the latch?” he repeated, searching around with his other three hands and finally finding something that looked promising. He pressed and turned the small button, being rewarded with another hiss as a crack formed along the side beneath the man’s left arm, but suddenly that arm went straight to Yammar’s giant head and gripped it tightly, forcing him to look into the dying man’s eyes.

“Promise me. Promise me...” he said, wincing again.

“I don’t know anything about your race,” Yammar said, feeling helpless.

“Good...” the man spat in a cough but no blood came out of his mouth, though it was continuing to pour out of his chest and seep down over his waistband plates in spurts every time he jerked in pain. “Good. Don’t ask questions...just...make sure they wear armor...in public. Promise me.”

“I promise.

Star Force: Lost Destiny Details

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From Reader Review Star Force: Lost Destiny for online ebook

Jesse Deleon says

Wow, what an adventure!

Thank you Aer-ki Jyr for this exciting adventure in the Star Force series. Not sure on the reading order. A fan!

Lelouch says

I really like the narrator's performance. There are two main characters, the teen girl Esna and the 1204 year old Calavari Ramok. She does a great job personifying Esna, including her screams of fear, gasps of surprise, panting from out of breath, and excitement. I have no problem with her portrayal of Ramok, though he is more stoic and there's less of an emotional span. There was one segment where her portrayal wasn't as good as I was hoping, and that's the mortal kombat references. The phrases of "Choose Your Destiny", "Flawless Victory", and "Mortal Kombat" are just too iconic to replicate. Speaking of mortal kombat, there are a few references which felt out of place to me. I'm assuming it's a dragon ball (not z) reference when the strongest arcons are Piccolo level, but I could be wrong. And out of nowhere, there's a vicious armored T-Rex which jumps on top of a spaceship and holds on for dear life. (Can you imagine the tiny arms holding onto a spaceship?)

Unfortunately, I was less enthusiastic about the story. It starts off well; you have the typical hook as a prologue, a little world building, and you face the conflict. But that's when it starts to have pacing problems. I'll try to be vague to keep spoilers to a minimum. The operative word in the book's summary is "running". For reference, there are 29 audible chapters. From chapters 6 through 16, she's running from hideout to hideout to avoid capture. Literally, running. She occasionally uses a hover bike, rests, and learns about Star Force from Ramok. Then in chapter 17, she's joined by a third person, and they *continue* to run until chapter 22 when they're joined by a fourth person and *again* continue to run for a few more chapters when they finally reach their destination. Seriously, that's a lot of running. While you don't need to read anything else, I wouldn't describe it as a stand-alone book. The author spends a lot of time with world-building, describing how great Star Force is, specifically setting it up for future books. This gives the book a very slow pace where not much is happening for a really long time. A lot of the material between chapters 6 and 23 could be condensed if you were only interested in this book and not the sequels.

The author does dedicate time to voice his opinions. He describes Star Force more on the socialist side of Utopia. People don't have to work or contribute to the war and they'll still be provided for and live enjoyable lives. Ramok berates Esna for eating meat, making her feel guilty. Later on, one of the good guys says he really wants to kill a meat merchant if it didn't ruin their cover, devoting most of a chapter to her guilt from eating meat. I thought it was a little excessive, but YMMV.

I looked at the author's web page and he describes his universe as "Jurassic Park meets Star Wars". Well, that explained the T-Rex. I think it's an interesting premise for his universe, but this book is a bit too slow for my taste.

I received a free copy of the book. I left an honest voluntary review.

Leonard H. Fowler III says

Great

I have love the Star Force series and will continue to follow this series. This series gives me hope, and I wish we were there now.

Vaiva says

"I was voluntarily provided this free review copy audiobook by the author." Through AudiobookBoom

The story was interesting and I had fun listening to it, as I mentioned before the only major problem I found was with the narrators handling of all those questions Esna had one after another after another, they sounded very similarly and it got on my nerves. But that just might be me.

Bonnie Ames says

The book was as good if not better than the other hundred i read plus better then a

Lot of other authors I read lately and I won't hesitant to read the next hundred books he writes in this series

Brock Deskins says

A decent read but not great. Technical errors abound and need a good line editor to sort them out. Not just proof reading errors, but narrative that is often jarring with extraneous words and lines that just need to read smoother. I liked the characters and the story and the writing for the most part is good. My biggest problem was narrative that often went in circles and was largely superfluous. The entire book would have been better served as the first half of the second book. There's a few things I assume about the author by reading this book. He's a vegan, likes to run (because he talks about running a lot. Like it was written by Forrest Gump) and he likes Dragonball Z. At the end of the book, these Archons come flying in, literally. They are the second highest in power called Piccolo level. Really? He also talks about "leveling up" in dialogue, which made for some eye-rolling moments.

Michelle (In Libris Veritas) says

Full review to come

William Howe says

Interesting, but flawed

It read pretty well. Some proofreading errors (insure/ensure is the most memorable at the moment). A very complex universe.

It got a bit preachy when talking about food. Then it used flawed logic and got tiresome. There was also a vague sense of holier-than-thou about the civilization.

More should have been done to make the commando a bit off. 800 years alone on the corpse of a planet should have left him a little edgier. And she should have been more troublesome.

I may try the next book. This wasn't bad, it just wasn't excellent.

Bryan457 says

800 years after the attack on earth, the area of alien control centered around Earth is a devastation zone. We are introduced to the war and Star Force through the eyes of a teenage human, on a scavenger planet in this devastation zone.

This is a very good fugitive story.

Norman James Bennett says

Good fantasy

Lots of action with a nice fantasy mixed in. If the fantasy ends here it was good, if it continues it could be great.
