



There Goes the Galaxy

Jenn Thorson

Download now

Read Online ➞

There Goes the Galaxy

Jenn Thorson

There Goes the Galaxy Jenn Thorson

It's the age-old tale of boy meets alien abductor. Boy meets stun-gun. Boy learns he's the only one in the Universe who can save the Earth from extreme world makeover by inter-stellar landlords.

Yeah: he thinks it's a bit much, too.

Like everyone else on his planet, Bertram Ludlow hasn't paid much attention to fluctuations in the intergalactic real estate market. But as a cognitive psychology grad student, he has given some thought to what a complete mental breakdown looks like. And this is pretty close.

Now he's discovering space is a mad and mind-boggling place where interspecies communication rests on the power of a gumball. Where androids demand better work/life balance. Where crime is Art, technology still has its bugs, and lasers don't go "pyew-pyew."

It's also surprisingly easy to get on the Universe's Most Wanted list.

So with the weight of the world on his shoulders and the cosmic law on his tail, can Bertram outrun, outwit, and out-bid to save the Earthling squatters from one spaced-out redevelopment plan?

There Goes the Galaxy Details

Date : Published September 12th 2011 by Waterhouse Press

ISBN : 9780983804505

Author : Jenn Thorson

Format : Paperback 358 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Humor, Fiction

 [Download There Goes the Galaxy ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online There Goes the Galaxy ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online There Goes the Galaxy Jenn Thorson

From Reader Review There Goes the Galaxy for online ebook

Melissa says

There Goes the Galaxy was a lot of fun. At first, I tried highlighting the funny parts but quickly realized the whole book was going to be yellow so I gave up and just enjoyed the ride. The author does an excellent job of keeping the humor and word play going non-stop. I'll be looking for more from Jenn Thorson.

Hank Quense says

It isn't too often that one gets to read a humorous scifi novel these days and Jenn Thorsen has written such a book.

The book describes the travels of two adventurers. One is Rolliam Tsmordlood, an alien and Bertram Ludlow, an Earth inhabitant. Rolliam snatches Bertram from his apartment and the action begins. Before long, Bert and Rollie have bounced around the galaxy, met up with a number of bizarre folks and found out how determine the Reg Force could be in tracking down fugitives, which Rollie and Bertram had become without even breaking a sweat. Ludlow has to find out who is bidding to buy Earth and turn it into a money-making operation with or without the inhabitants. But first he has to find who owns the planet.

The ending is a bit inconclusive so I expect a second book is in the works

The book has a convoluted and very enjoyable plot. The plot and characters indicate that a warped mind is behind this book. I think the world needs more warped minds.

Chanouel says

Sci-fi is not my favorite genre. But I like good writing, good humor and an engaging plot and this book delivers on all counts.

Bertram Ludlow has been kidnapped by alien Rolliam Tsmorlood, because he is the only one who can save Earth and "life as we know it". There's only one problem; he has no idea what he's doing and neither does Rollie.

The resulting story is a hilarious romp through the GCU (Greater Communicating Universe) as we discover its complexities and incongruities along with Bertram.

The story is well paced and speckled with humor. For the first half of the story, Bertram thinks that he has finally lost it and he keeps analyzing what he thinks is his delusion which leads to very funny inner dialogue. The characters could have used a little bit more development but it does not really take anything away from the story. It could be a personal preference on my part. It certainly didn't stop me from falling in deep like with Rollie, the badass alien outlaw who becomes Bertram's sidekick (or vice versa, depending on the situation they find themselves in) against his will.

A solid 4 stars. I will definitely be reading the rest of this series.

Vlad Vaslyn says

This is a story of David and Goliath, if by David we mean dreadfully average Bertram Ludlow, and if by Goliath we mean hyper-intelligent aliens with a love for interstellar capitalism.

Bertram Ludlow is abducted from his apartment by an alien named Rollie, and taken into deep space to the Seers of Rhobux, who have a devious plan in store for this very average man. The Seers reveal that only Bertram can save the Earth, so they give him a Yellow Thing to wear around his neck, which looks vaguely like a star fruit, and send him on his way.

Armed with this oddity, Bertram sets out to rescue the human race. We don't actually own the Earth you see, and now it's going to be sold to the highest bidder; humanity is either part of the prize, or a nuisance to be fumigated like an infestation of carpenter ants, depending on the buyer. Bertram, of course, can't let that happen.

His puzzling and amusing adventure brings him into conflict with the intergalactic penal system, two amoral agents who shoot first and ask questions later, the leader of the criminal underworld, and intergalactic entrepreneurs vying to use our little neck of the woods for their own mysterious motives. The immensity of space and the complexities of inter-species relations add a colorful backdrop to the story, as Bertram discovers that the universe is every bit as dysfunctional as the Earth. Perhaps even more so.

It seemed like Thorson's witty humor had me chuckling every few pages, and despite instances where the prose could have been executed more efficiently – sometimes a few sentences are used where one would suffice – and some similarities to *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams, the story was engaging and original. Thorson's "stellar" imagination has created a dynamic plot that is likely to surprise many readers with its twists and turns, especially in the deeper pages of the book where her ingenuity is on full display.

My biggest criticism comes in the form of a pet peeve. I found the conclusion disappointing because nowhere in the book is it mentioned that *There Goes the Galaxy* is book #1 in a series. I was expecting a satisfying conclusion and didn't get it because the story isn't actually over. This method of drawing readers in by Publishers/Authors has always struck me as false advertising, and generally leaves me deeply annoyed; if I'd wanted to read a series, I would've chosen to read a series. In all fairness, I do have to note that this is a widely-used tactic in movies, books and television, and that I just happen to disagree with the practice.

All in all, Thorson did well with her first installment, and as long as the sequel says "Book II" or some such on the cover, I'm likely to read it.

Timothy Coplin says

This is an exciting, fast paced space romp in which the lovable Bertram Ludlow is swept into an extra-galactic mission so save life as he knows it. No, literally **SAVE LIFE AS HE KNOWS IT**.

Jenn has a wonderful command for the English Language, and has woven a tapestry of comedic activity throughout the Greater Communication Universe.

I had fun trying to keep pace with Jenn's use of playfully appropriate character and place names; my personal favorite: the Luddites. Read the book and put one and one together to see how she has poked fun at them, and other communities, bringing light to the basic human condition...life as we know it.

I'm so glad I was challenged to read this book. As an Indie Author, Jenn Thorson has quite a career ahead of her if this continues to be the quality of material she is able to put forth to the Science Fiction community.

JT says

I got this as part of a Kickstarter package for Robert Kroese's *Distopia*. I've read and enjoyed several of his books, so I thought I'd give this a shot (it being free was also a plus!).

It starts out with an American graduate student, Bertram Ludlow, who's kidnapped, taken offworld and told that only he can save Earth. He reacts rationally, by assuming that stress from the end of his degree has caused him to have a break with reality. This unusual turn makes for an interesting start, but the book felt overfilled with ideas. Large portions of the book are given to parodies of modern marketing & corporate speak, which is often repetitive beyond the point of diminishing returns. Starbucks-ian coffee shops, reality tv, the endless churn of pop stars, unwanted personal gadgets -- all get their turn in the snarky sun. Most are funny, there's just too much of it. Add to that an EXTREMELY rushed ending (I assumed there was at least another 10% on my ebook when I "turned" the last page), and it was a clever premise that didn't live up to its promise. Funny, but it rarely rises above that.

Cst says

There is a point where every piece of comic or absurdist science fiction is compared to Douglas Adam's *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. For this book this point happened before I finished the first chapter and that comparison was not favourable.

What makes the situation worse is the feeling that the author's intention was to write a similar book, the basic premise would like to follow the one of its great ancestor but unfortunately everything just highlights the flaws in *There goes the Galaxy*. It is not a bad book, but it is a disappointing book, with potential that flares up, only to be snuffed immediately.

The characters never evolve beyond being names and even those names do not stick and are almost impossible to remember. As a result there were several points where I simply had no idea what was happening, who was acting and how this scene fit into the overall structure. Our protagonist was carefully selected to be the perfect average human being who will not be missed... and is a graduate student in cognitive psychology. Which is literally the only information we get about this character for the whole book. He is tossed into the great wide universe and confronted with dangers and wonders and never moves beyond his "cosmic newbie" persona. There are times when he almost develops his own persona only to snap back once he falls back with the other characters. Those get slightly more characterization since they are aliens, but that more is rare and for most of them is more like corporate stereotyping.

The plot structure makes this problem worse. The protagonist chases the story and is always behind the reader, whenever he figures out one part of the greater mystery the author immediately tells the next part which leaves the story only to play catch up. There is no second or third level, there is only the one and it is resolved. There are events that telegraph widely that they serve no purpose, a short detour from the central plotline and those reinforce the whole *Hitchhikers Guide* feeling. But these actually get recalled later in the book which gives it a nice feeling of cohesion until this is taken too far and torpedoed the central plotline. In fact most of the problems can be summarized by saying "too far". The story is told by a florid, overloaded language which clearly tries to be vivid but fails spectacularly. The metaphors are trite and in several cases too many. As a result the timing is off, which leads to the few good jokes falling flat after an exhausting

buildup.

The whole book works this way. The first three quarters are exhausting buildup for a better fourth quarter, that unfortunately falls flat because of its own flaws and problems. The sad thing is, the book is not bad, but the few good jokes and ideas only highlight the wasted potential. The author clearly has a great style, but it only appears sporadically and hides immediately. The book I read and the book that is featured in the description are two different books and I desperately wanted to read the description, not the book I had in front of me.

Becky says

WOW, so I liked this book a lot, it reminded me much of what I like about the Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy, only with very different twists. The main characters were lovable funny, and believable. The universe created was a fun one that I felt immersed in, the premise buyable. I just had moments where I felt bogged down as I read, almost too much information, and then it was done. No real ending per say, just done. I want more, which if that's the point and I'm to expect a sequel I'M HOOKED AND WILL GET IT if not then it's a bit disappointing. This book works very well as a set up book for more to come! I enjoyed the multiple story lines, and things that are so relatable to how earth is. The uninet, the Capclub, books going out of style! It's a great satire on our own existence, without beating you over the head with it! Overall probably more of a 3.5 if it's a standalone, 4.5 if it's the beginning of more to come.

Claire Pitt says

Thoroughly enjoyed this book. I haven't read much in the sci fi genre before, but this definitely opened up a new intergalactic world for me. I love how the author takes some very clever swipes at the world of marketing and how 'celebrities' market themselves, with her own intergalactic twist. It is one of those books that becomes instantly quotable and you find yourself rereading parts because it makes you smile. It is a humorous tale that would not only appeal to sci fi fans, it would also appeal to those of us that dwell in the land of the uninet, erm I mean internet. Basically it is a great read and I am looking forward to the next instalment

There Goes the GalaxyJenn Thorson

Jaffer says

What an a amazing adventure. And what an ending. So, to Jenn Thorson, finish and publish that sequel quickly so that I know what happens next !

Belinda says

Douglas Addams fans rejoice! If you enjoy avant garde scifi satire, like Dr. Who, the original Star Wars movie, and the Restaurant at the End of the Universe, you'll tumble down the rabbit hole into author Jenn Thorson's world of misadventures and misfits. Life As We Know It is in danger. Only everyman Bertram, a grad student kidnapped en route to his PhD by an alien Indiana Jones and now bouncing like a human pinball

through the Greater Communicating Universe, can save us. Help!

There Goes the Galaxy grabbed me from the get-go, much in the same way Bertram was grabbed in his sock feet by Rollie. And unlike Bertram, who at one point is abandoned at an alien spaceport, author Jenn Thorson never released me, not even at the end of the book, when I was ready for the second course, the sequel *The Purloined Number*. The pacing is outstanding, with the two leads on the run and time running out, it's mostly fast, but things like characters preparing in intriguing ways for the next scene still happen in the lulls, so there's never a dull moment. Infopills between a few chapters give necessary background info in the style of Ben Bova, but more humorous..Plenty of celebrity references provide belly laughst in the course of this satire, much in the manner of *Futurama* and the *Simpsons*, only better! This book lasted me about a week, reading on breaks, at mealtimes and bedtime. I've now read it three times and probably will again. It's action-packed fun, like a graphic novel, only it's a word comic you can't put down. For scifi lovers, it's a gift that will never be forgotten!

See my blog for full review and excerpt: <https://belindayhughes.wordpress.com/...>

Kate says

A very fast, very fun read in the tradition of Douglas Adams.

In fact, it's a pretty darn direct descendant of *Hitchhiker's Guide*, right down to the very human-looking alien who comes and snatches away a hapless earthling, who must now save his planet. It's loaded with terrible, TERRIBLE puns and a fairly standard "run around trying to save things while being Intergalactic Fugitives" plot, and yet it's lighthearted and funny enough to really work. Hell, the awful puns just keep things ticking along, and keep you reading a few passages out loud to get the aural humour that's going on.

There's a LOT of extraneous hyphens, and some fairly unfortunate homophone mixups in this self-published novel, but all in all, they don't really detract. The characterizations are strong, the aliens are suitably alien, the alien SOCIETY is plausible, and Translachew Gum and various infopills are a very clever bit of technology suggestion (and fixes for looming plot holes). Even the slightly self-indulgent side plot about the literal death of print is amusing.

Fast, fun, and more enjoyable than scarfing down a case of *DiversiDine's* finest snacks while being made Sun Slushes at a LibLounge.

Kevin says

This is a sort of slap-stick science fiction adventure. Earthling kidnapped by aliens only to find he is slated to save his home planet but must fight his way through the rather bizarre universe to do so.

And it is pretty funny; full of sarcastic retorts, one liners, absurd situations and lots of word play. A send up of the absurdities of earth culture through the lens of aliens. If you like smart aleck and playful sci-fi you will enjoy this one.

I did feel like it was drawn out a bit too much and the plot suffered. The chapters that were marketing book

parodies were funny at times but really slowed the book down (they did add some important background information but I am not sure they were the best vehicle or tool for this).

And the marketing and reality show aspect as a hook was a little thin at times. But, to be fair, you don't read these kind of books to think too deeply about the plot and plausibility.

My verdict: comic intergalactic adventure that could use a little more polish and plot tightening.

Scot says

I gave up about 2/3 of the way through. It just felt too much like a Hitchhiker's Guide wanna' be and didn't add anything particularly new or funny or interesting. It's not a terrible book... it just never grabbed me and didn't feel like it had enough going for it to keep me reading.

PopcornReads says

Book Giveaway & Review: When Jenn Thorson emailed me about her new novel, *There Goes the Galaxy*, I couldn't help but laugh. I loved the off-the-wall concept and knew it was a book I wanted to read. If you like your science fiction mixed with a healthy dose of irreverence, humor, and Keystone Cops style bumbling then you're going to feel right at home reading this fun novel. And, thanks to Jenn's generosity, one lucky reader is going to win a copy of their very own.

Bertram Ludlow is a mild-mannered cognitive psychology grad student. He's on track to get his PhD, if he can only get his thesis finished. He's been under a lot of stress, so I guess he can be excused for thinking the alien who just appeared in his basement apartment is a mental aberration. Yep, Bertram thinks he's hallucinating and rapidly on his way to a nervous breakdown. He's worked so hard to get through grad school that he deserves a break, and a nervous breakdown may be an ideal way to get one. Read the rest of my review and enter our giveaway at <http://popcornreads.com/?p=2852>.
