



Harm's Way

Colin Greenland

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Sophie Farthing, an orphan who grew up on a space station, emerges from her repressed upbringing to embark on a perilous journey from Earth to the Moon and across Mars searching for the origin of her birth.

Harm's Way Details

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Author : Colin Greenland

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From Reader Review Harm's Way for online ebook

Philip Chaston says

A journey of the naif abroad that does not quite convey the travel undertaken. Despite the exotic vistas and tableaux described, it is the descriptions and backdrops that carry the novel, not the heroine whose arc of discovery appears to convey no moral or educational improvement. Perhaps that is Colin Greenland's intent: the irony of his approach: that knowing your parents really isn't such a big deal.

Jonathan says

Sailing ships. In space!

Alan Rylans says

The premise of the book was interesting: Britannia rules the stars with wooden spaceships styled like sailing ships. It's the Victorian adventure of Sophie Farthing, a waif who runs away from her drunken father and the strange people that she meets, including angels on Mars. The style is wordy and towards the middle of the 364-page novel, I was struggling. It became a slog to get to the end. I was also disappointed that it was not 'steampunk' as I had assumed. It is not a bad book but I just didn't find it stimulating.

Karine Mon coin lecture says

This one was a deception. I was waiting for something crazy, steampunk and dickensian but that's not what I found. Sure, there are fun parts, but at some moments, I felt that I couldn't care less about what would happen to Sophie and the others.

I had a "too much of too many things" feelings. Too many aliens, too many planets. Everything just mentioned, nothing explored in depth. So I stayed out. There was so many great ideas in that novel. I loved the big vessels traveling with all sails on from planet to planet. Quite a sight in my head. But that will be the only thing I will remember about the book.

I love strange worlds, I really do. It was just a bit too much for me and it made me feel like an outsider.

Nenia ? Queen of Literary Trash, Protector of Out-of-Print Gems, Khaleesi of Bodice Rippers, Mother of Smut, the Unrepentant, Breaker of Convention ? Campbell says

Don't even care what it's about. I have to have it because of the dramatic Fabio angel on the cover treating his wings like they're a cape & he thinks he's the Batman.

Konrad says

This rates as one of my Favourite books. Mostly it was the setting that blew me away, the whole idea of wooden ships and iron men in space, just struck the right cord at the right time. And watching Sophie blossom from a timid waif into a confident young woman was a pleasure. That said there are a few things about this book that may put some readers off. Firstly this isn't steampunk, yes there are a lot of strange gadgets but they are background, largely because our protagonist does not see them as particularly interesting or noteworthy. And second the story is written in the Victorian style meaning that at times descriptions are over long, and there is a fair bit of telling and contextualising of the action. On occasion our protagonist also explicitly talks to the reader, and we are reminded that what we are reading are ostensibly her memoirs.

David Tendo says

I actually started reading this when I was a teenager, I couldn't get into it and I couldn't understand it, so I gave up, which is one of my regrets. Recently I decided to give it another shot, and I wasn't disappointed. It read like Dickens in space opera mode - full of creativity (schooners sailing through space on solar winds!), imagination (angel tribes and religious nuts on Mars!) and attention to detail, which is also my only gripe, there was too much detail, too much time spent on description that the pace became jumpy and uneven, so sometimes it made for a hard read. Overall, it was a lot of fun.

Amber says

This started out strong and had an interesting premise, but it's weighed down by too much description and not enough action. I put it down for a few days and when I had time to come back to it I just found I had a lot of other books I was far more interested in reading.

Annikin says

The cover image for the English paperback edition confuses me greatly.

David says

Interesting ideas. An entertaining read.

Eija says

Alku oli erinomainen ja kokonaisuutenakin kelpo kirja. Fantasiaävytteinen scifi tai toistepäin,

helppolukuinen. 3+

Thomas says

One would think that a mash up of Neil Gaimon and Edgar Rice Burroughs might be fun. And for a while it is. But after a while, it begins to cloy.

Heather Pearson says

difficult writing style but fun story

Peter Greenwell says

Unreadable.
