



Sacrifice Moon

Julie Fortune

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Just four days after Major Kawalsky's death, Colonel Jack O'Neill leads the newly commissioned SG-1 on their first mission through the Stargate.

Their destination is Chalcis, a peaceful society at the heart of the Helos Confederacy of planets. But Chalcis harbours a dark secret, one that pitches SG-1 into a world of bloody chaos, betrayal and madness. Battling to escape the living nightmare, Dr Daniel Jackson and Captain Samantha Carter soon begin to realise that more than their lives are at stake. They are fighting for their very souls.

But while O'Neill and Teal'c struggle to keep the team together, Daniel is hatching a desperate plan that will test SG-1's fledgling bonds of trust and friendship to the limit...

Sacrifice Moon Details

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From Reader Review Sacrifice Moon for online ebook

Kasey Minnis says

Disturbing, but good

I found this well written, canon-compliant, and a compelling read. It was darker than most Stargate stories, but not particularly graphic (thankfully).

Kellyanne Higgins says

Characters - ***** Julie Fortune's dialogue was perfect! Curling up with this book was like watching the show. The characters live and breathe on each page - she doesn't falter once!

One of the major problems I had seen in Ashley O'Connell's Stargate books was her portrayal of the characters. Jack, especially, came off sounding lame. Sabine Bauer didn't escape that 100% in Stargate SG1: Trial By Fire. For some reason, Jack doesn't translate into text well. Fortune is the first author who truly nails him! While everyone acted like themselves in this book, finally seeing Jack behave like himself in an SG-1 book was a definite highlight!

Fortune also managed to introduce several original characters without falling into the Mary Sue pitfall. These original characters remain as they should - side characters that help, rather than hinder the plot. While she develops these characters nicely - while you start to predict how Pylades and Iphigenia and Laonides and Eseiios and Artemis will likely react to a turn in the plot - the book continues to be about SG-1 and their adventure in the Helos Confederacy of planets.

Plot - ***** I will admit, aspects of this plot are painfully cliché. Ashley O'Connell's Stargate SG-1: The Price You Pay examines this idea of appeasing a Goa'uld with sacrifices, but in this case to hunt, not to use as hosts. The Price You Pay is, by far, my favourite O'Connell Stargate novel. Perhaps I just like this plot enough to give it four out of five stars when giving it another whirl - and Fortune tells it better than O'Connell.

Fortune builds suspense brilliantly! When Daniel examines that eery mosaic in the "airport" at Chalcis, and realises a missing panel, those hairs bristle on the back of your neck. A message from a meeting with Artemis come back to haunt Jack, while Daniel's words in a desperate plea to go along with his crazy-ass plan later saves both him and Carter. The foreshadowing is perfect!

She gets more props for using aspects of Euripedes' Iphigenia in Tauris and a brief yet amusing reference in the first season episode "Emancipation".

Author - ***** Fortune can write! Chalcis and the whole of the Helos Confederacy are real in this book. Although I must say, the earthliness of Chalcis grated on my nerves a bit. I can understand the ruins that echo ancient Greece and the Acropolis and such; however, Fortune brings modern day Earth into this tale. The bar at the "airport" and the "taxi" especially reminded me of Star Wars Episode I and the irritatingly

earthy sports commentary during the pod racing scene. I'm sorry, but did the "airport" at Chalcis really have to be so much like an airport as we know it?

Her love of the series is clear - from the first chapter of the book to the end-note, which reads: Anything screwed up in the course of this story is entirely the fault of the author, as she had excellent references, assistance, and genuine military types to tell her when she was in danger of going wrong. Not to mention outstanding editorial help.

Thanks for stepping through the Stargate with me.

Overall - ***** This is my favourite of all the Stargate books that I have read to date! Any fan of the series, I recommend you snag this one on ebay or on amazon.com.uk or wherever you can wrap your grubby mits around this puppy! I seriously wanted nothing more than to curl up in a quiet spot and immerse myself in this story every waking minute while I was reading this book. I hate that it's over.

Chiquita L. Beccue says

Loved it

As always, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. Anything about SG-1 is usually a good read. I recommend this book for all Stargate fana.

Cherie says

The team that goes through fire together stays together in *Sacrifice Moon* by Julie Fortune. SG-1 arrives on an idyllic Greek-like planet, but where they are sent next is a horrific place ruled by a malicious Goa'uld. I enjoyed the ancient Greek setting, and my heart ached for O'Neill, Carter, Teal'c, and Jackson. The newly put together team was put through the wringer in this novel. I didn't know how they'd find a way to survive. If you enjoy and miss *Stargate*, then you'll want to read Julie Fortune's *Sacrifice Moon*.

Lizz says

Exactly what I needed right now. I've been rewatching the show and reading this just made me happy. The author had the team's voices down perfect and I love this team so damn much. Highlights include Sam setting reminders on Daniel's watch and not telling Jack so she can win a bet; Daniel being particularly moved to hear Teal'c refer to him as a brother and Sam say "we don't want to lose you" because he's been alone most of his life; and Jack steadfastly refusing, as always, to entertain scenarios where someone might not make it back.

ETA: oh and Daniel dies for a bit, so you know it's canon lol

Ida Leter says

Loved it. Very much in-character, very nice to see the team building happening in this book, especially as it is set so early on in the franchise, and, well, finally a mention of why everyone usually speaks English!

Although I'll be honest. Now I want to read a story where the team are stuck on an alien planet because they don't have an interstellar version of a passport, with no Goa'uld in sight.

Pity the author has written only one story in the series, would have loved to read more from her.

Kati says

This is the first SG-1 tie-in novel that I read and wow, it's amazing. Julie Fortune nailed the team-ness, that always made me love the show, perfectly. This book describes the new team's first mission and their fight against the Goa'uld Artemis. It's perfect, the little insights into their characters and thoughts, their care for each other, their banter... Jack's inner monologue is simply hilarious!

One of the funniest moments? Jack to Daniel while arguing: "If you were a superhero, your special power would be to leap logic with a single bound..."

Shane Amazon says

Stargate Sacrifice Moon continues the Stargate SG-1 story arc directly after the events of the first TV episode. A time when characters are settling in on getting to know each other and find trust in one another.

Writing:

For me, the book was very well written. The author is more than capable at putting word to page and does so in a way that makes it both easy to read and easy to lose yourself in the story. Although the book is long, it doesn't ever seem to get weighed down by unneeded filler or lost in the author's own quest to hear themselves speak. The story itself is very point A to point B and rarely wanders off into unneeded directions. It is more than apparent that Julie Fortune is no rookie.

Characters:

Overall the characters on the page are exact copies of the ones on the screen. O'Neill is the good natured yet tough leader that both demands respect and earns friendship. Carter is still in her not-so-confident mode that she was in the beginning of the show, and has a great back in forth with Daniel on the whole Dr-Captain gag. Daniel himself retains that archeologist fascination that gets his blood pumping but also shows some of that inner warrior strength that makes him a well rounded member of the team. And, of course, Teal'c is Teal'c with the silent warrior but trusted friend complex that we know and love.

Story:

The story itself is a simple one. Gate to an unexplored planet and meet an Earth-like culture that has molded itself to coexist with the threat of the Goa'uld. In this tale, we see a Greek-like culture that has adopted the sacrifice option in order to pacify a Goa'uld God with a thirst for blood. Not to give too much of the story away, but citizens are selected to be sent through the gate to a distant world so that they can either be hunters

or prey in order to satisfy the Goa'ulds curious lust for death. We meet castaways along the way that have found ways to overcome the barbaric hunt, and watch as they team up with SG-1 in order to hopefully strike down the Goddess and escape the planet before they themselves become hunters or prey.

Conclusion:

There are many things to like about this book...and a couple things that need improvements. First the story is well written, the characters are portrayed well and are in line with the TV series, and the story is adventurous and in line with many that we have seen on the screen. Also, there is very little in the way of filler or unneeded plot devices to push the story forward, and the internal dialogue and the interaction of the team are very well done. The only downfalls that I found were a very bad attempt to explain away the problem of communicating with people that don't speak English...NO the gate does not translate for you! Also, the chapters could have been much shorter. I found myself trying very hard to get through the bloated chapters without wanting to take a break before it was over...the book is long and has only a dozen or so chapters. Lastly, a minor complaint was that I didn't feel there was enough description on the environments that the team was within. There is very little time spent on describing the scene other than open fields and piles of rocks. I would like to have gotten a more tactile feel for where the team was....the air flowed this way or the air smelled of this, type of thing.

So, overall a good book with a few minor gripes. I suggest you read it.

Zelda of Unapologetic Reviews says

Before I go into the review of the book, I have to tell you about my "love affair" with *Stargate SG-1*. I can't remember when I started to watch it, but the movie I did see in the theater, and it was absolutely great. It combined my love for sci-fi, and Egyptian mythology. The series got me hooked right away, but for some time there were problems, because in my country they wouldn't screen it past season 2. However, for some years that has changed. There is a channel, where they have an episode on every evening at 7.20pm, and they have for years. If they reach the end, they just start again. That actually happened last week, and I realised that some episodes I've seen almost every showing of, some almost none, so now I want to watch every episode again. Then I happened on a collection of almost all the books, and yesterday decided to try them out. I'm glad I did.

This is an interesting book for fans. It fills a gap between episode 2 and 3. At the end of the second episode we see the newly formed team, but in episode 3, they already had time to gel. They also refer to something happening, that they didn't want to talk about. Well, this is it. I'll attempt not to spoil it, but let me just tell you, it may be a short book, and that's why I could read it in a day, but it was also because I couldn't put it down.

The story opens with some light bits. At first I felt it was somewhat drawn out, but it reminded me that the first episodes were a bit more light-hearted at times than the later ones. During the course of the book those also made good references for the team to look back on. Later events were anything but light.

The characters didn't know each other well yet, and their actions made sense. They sometimes seemed a bit different from the people I got to know, but the differences were logical, since they changed as the series went along, and I can see them from the end product. Still, their actions showed signs of the people they were going to become, and therefore I think they were portrayed really well.

With every book that is a companion to the series, there is the question, can this be read by people who haven't seen the show? Definitely not. At least you have to see the movie and the first two episodes, because it doesn't make sense otherwise. Can this be read by people who just casually like the series? It can. The book in itself is very engaging, full of action. It's not exactly like the series in that it uses everything a book can be, and a TV show can't. If it was filmed it would probably be a two episode story, but there are also insights that can't be told in a show. So if you've seen it, and want to have some fun in the world, you should read this book. That's why I gave it 4 stars.

Cross-posted at Unapologetic Reviews, and my books-only blog Booklikes.

Marissa Paquette says

Excellent season 1 adventure

A return to when the team didn't know each other or what the heck they were doing. But we see the core personalities of Jack, Daniel, Teal'c, and Sam and see the base elements that will eventually fuse into the team we know and love. Based in a truly creepy plot with a memorable Goa'uld, who has corrupted the identity of a Goddess who is still revered to this day.

Kiri says

This is set at the very beginning of the series and has quite a large helping of "fanon" type influence. That is only a problem in spots. I found this to be an ok novel but a bit light on the characterization - which makes some sense as it is placed just after the pilot and before Emancipation. However since most readers would be familiar with the series a little more filling in of the characters instead of such a blank slate would have made more sense. Teal'c is left as a large blank page that only utters affirmatives or is in action - he has no true depth in this novel. Actually other than a slight emphasis on O'Neill's motivations there isn't any character depth to any character. I found this annoying. Like I said fanon focus and possibly series placement restrictions.

Now that I've gone on about the faults I should say something about the plot. The plot is actually quite good. It plays out a little oddly and could have been done with a lot more panache and etc. I got the feeling that the premise started out really great and then the author got caught up in her fandom and lost the plot slightly and then had to wrap it all up without thinking of all the threads that had been laid out. I could go on but I didn't write it and obviously I wasn't the editor.. :D

(truthfully I'd like to have seen something like this done in the series because the premise is just that good)

Things I really liked (a handful of highlights only!)

"Airport"

When they work out how they are being understood via the Stargate.

SG2 to the rescue!

in the end I think fans will enjoy this as long as they get from the outset it has a fandom writing feel and is set extremely early in the series. There is a lot made of Sam's dancing on the table in the prologue and

author's notes which are mentioned in an episode. Thing is is only obliquely referred to in the book - I was expecting more if only for the fun factor.

Joe Pranaitis says

Considering that this book takes place right after the second episode of the first season of SG-1 I have to admit that Fortune did a heck of a job bringing back those memories of when Carter was still a Captain, Jackson had just lost his wife to a "snake" as they called them in the series as a slayer and Teal'c was still new to working with humans instead of fake gods. this book also read like an episode of the series which is good and I was glad to step through the stargate with the earlier version of SG-1.

Melissa E. says

I really wasn't expecting much going into this, books like these are basically just licensed fanfiction, but it was a very pleasant surprise! The author did a fantastic job of keeping everyone in character, the story flowed nicely, and I loved getting inside everyone's head.

The story itself was great - SG1 heads to the planet Chalcis, which is part of a loose federation. Chalcis uses their Stargate as an airport of sorts, which is an awesome idea that I don't think was ever used quite that way in the show. The team ends up getting shipped off to a planet where the "goddess" Artemis runs a twisted, endless Hunt using people that the federation planets have sent as tributes to appease her. Naturally, SG1 objects to this situation.

The plot was interesting, fast-paced, and had that perfect blend of action, drama, and humor that SG1 does so well. Julie Fortune captured the characters perfectly, especially Jack's snarky stubbornness, and I loved how she tied the story into an actual episode (Season One's third episode, "Emancipation"). Hopefully the other authors in this series handle the characters with similar skill!

(Side note - I was amused to learn that Julie Fortune is actually Rachel Caine, author of the excellent YA series Morganville Vampires. Looks like she has great taste in TV shows!)

Jennifer Kronk says

I don't give many books like this (based on TV/movie series) but this one works on every level. Told mostly through Jack's POV, it really nails all of the characters and had a perfect pace. So much fun! Very exciting and I know that I'll read this again.

Emily G says

This book was written exactly how I like the SG-1 team to be portrayed, as caring and trusting each other, watching each other's backs and pulling through together.

Carter and Daniel trying to fight off the mind control that urged them to become hunters was well done, and Jack's determination to get them all out of trouble and off the world they were trapped on was so Jack ^_^!

You know it really reminded me of why Jack and Daniel were always my favourite pairing of choice for SG-1. I think I might read some fic now...
