



Doctor Who: Father Time

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The Doctor is living alone in a farmhouse, with his books, experiments and cats for company. He still doesn't know who he is, but the blue Police Box outside looks vaguely familiar. Giving private tuition to a dazzlingly gifted ten-year-old named Miranda, the Doctor learns that she and her family have fled the planet Klade. There was a bloody revolution there, in which all the imperial family was slaughtered, with the exception of the infant Miranda. Her nanny brought her to Earth, to save her from the atrocities of the Republicans, but the Imperialists are after her too.

Doctor Who: Father Time Details

Date : Published January 15th 2001 by BBC Books
ISBN : 9780563538103
Author : Lance Parkin
Format : Mass Market Paperback 288 pages
Genre : Media Tie In, Doctor Who, Science Fiction, Fiction

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From Reader Review Doctor Who: Father Time for online ebook

Nicholas Whyte says

<http://nwhyte.livejournal.com/2092950.html> Years before Georgia Moffett sprang from David Tennant's thigh (or wherever), the Eighth Doctor had an adopted daughter: Miranda Dawkins, lost scion of a imperial family from the far future, growing up in the vividly recalled 1980s (reminiscences of Thatcherism rather appropriate for the moment), the target of youthful desire from her classmates and assassination attempts from her political enemies, and trying to get to grips with both. It's not completely clear to me that Miranda is actually a Gallifreyan; though she has two hearts and a lower body temperature, she ages at the normal rate for a human child / teenager, and her future Empire doesn't sound very Timelordish to me. Parkin's portrayal of the Doctor (still amnesiac as he has been for the last few books) as a loving but very absent-minded single parent is very compelling, and the final section in which the Doctor and his human companion Debbie steal a space shuttle to rescue Miranda is suitably bonkers. I am not yet a convert to the Faction Paradox concept, but if this book is part of it then I am a few steps closer now.

Daniel Kukwa says

Exciting, emotional, violent, poignant...there's a very 21st century series vibe to this classic series tale, and it's definitely one of the high watermarks of the BBC Books 8th Doctor amnesia arc. I found the ending to be a bit of a quick tie-up, compared to the build-up...but what a magnificent build-up it was. If only the first section of this arc ended here, and not with the less-than-thrilling "Escape Velocity"...but we can't have everything.

Adam Highway says

This is absolutely stunning, the pinnacle of what Doctor Who writing can be. Read it.

Stephen Osborne says

Lance Parkin generally does a good job with his Doctor Who stories, and Father Time doesn't disappoint. It's a good tale, taking place over a decade, with lots of action and character development. And the Doctor gets (another!) a daughter to raise!

Manosthehandsoffate says

This was the first Doctor Who book I've read. I have a few more sitting on the bookshelf and after finishing this one, I'll be reading more.

Doctor who has a daughter? He doesn't use the TARDIS (or even know what it is)? He doesn't own a sonic

screwdriver and he still saves the day?! Awesome!

Julie-Anne says

Out of all the Doctor Who novels the 8th Doctor ones are my favourites. This is one of the best.

Simon Curtis says

Excellent twist in the Doctor Who universe. His daughter - Jenny, we're so far ahead of you!

Em says

WHAT A FANTASTIC STORY! I want so badly for Miranda to reappear in the story now!!! (edit: There is a picture of her in his wallet in Doctor Who: The Year of Intelligent Tigers apparently. But she needs to be in the show.)

Even though the pacing is a bit choppy and there's some teenage angst, it's a wonderful story overall with a few really cool new characters.

The Doctor still hasn't found his memories and you can really see the effect it's having on him. Good job, author people.

If you love the Doctor, read it!

Courtney says

I found this book to be a bit different from most of the other Doctor Who books I've read. In this story the Doctor has lost his memory of all of his previous lives, so he's living as a 'mostly' normal human being. This slows down the story a bit. However, just because the Doctor's forgotten who he is, doesn't mean that his enemies have forgotten him.

So join the Doctor as he: Doesn't have his sonic screwdriver, keeps his TARDIS in his backyard as a lawn ornament(since he has forgotten what it is, and what it does), saves a small town from an alien invasion, becomes a father, saves the Earth from an alien invasion, and builds his own sonic suitcase :)

The story takes place through a 10 year period of time, but it is interesting, well paced and well written. I really enjoyed seeing the Doctor stay put for awhile, and it was nice to have a look at what the Doctor's life could be like day to day. Also, you get to catch a look at the father figure/family side of the Doctor, which is cute, endearing, and sometimes hilarious.

Richard Wright says

Featuring Paul McGann's 8th Doctor, Father Time is one of a number of novels published by BBC Books when the series was on hiatus. It's also from halfway through an arc-plot, in which the Doctor can't remember who he is or what's happened to him. Accept that, and jump in. I'm sure there are additional references to that arc through the book, but I didn't spot them, and had no trouble enjoying the book in its own right. The story takes place over a decade, and finds the Doctor accidentally adopting a child with several striking abilities of her own, whose life has been marked by deadly enemies. It's a fun romp, extremely well written, but some of the more adult themes (the book range was at that time aimed at the previous television audience, who had grown up a bit since watching on the tellybox) might make it unsuitable for younger kids. Doctor Who, but not quite for all the family.

Melanie says

Reading this book makes me a total nerd! But I like the sonic suitcase.

Angela says

The Doctor is now in the 1980s, he has some memories but is still not himself. He gets embroiled in an alien blood feud, and finds a child with similar biology to his own. This is a character driven piece, with the Doctor still trying to find himself, while becoming a father. There's still lots of questions about this novel, who is Miranda, and what happened to the Time Lords. A very good read.

Jay says

This was one of the better Eighth Doctor Adventures, I felt, and definitely one of the more accessible and less convoluted ones. The loss of the Doctor's memories meant the EDA could have almost a partial soft reboot of the Doctor and his adventures, which I imagine gave authors like Parkin a bit more freedom in terms of allowing the Doctor to be less of a know-it-all. Having come to this after a lot of audio and television, *it's all rather refreshing*.

It's lovely seeing the Doctor as a father and watching him react and improvise in response to the increasingly out-of-hand events surrounding his adopted daughter, Miranda. This one's probably one of the few EDAs I'd recommend to those unfamiliar with the range.

Brian Moreau says

Not bad, enjoyable but nothing special. The main villain kept changing his motivations for no discernible reason.

Basicallyrun says

Sort of... bizarre but good. The Doctor as a sort of super business consultant kind of meshes with his traditional 'scientific advisor' role, and if it had been made clear that he viewed it all as an interesting exercise in problem solving that just happened to result in a lot of money, I'd have been happier than with Millionaire!Doctor (OK, I am biased - I remember reading this brilliant story where he, Fitz and Anji were playing Monopoly and Anji was getting incredibly frustrated with the Doctor's insistence on nationalising everything and letting people go rent-free, so I have a hard time buying the Doctor as a capitalist).

The assassin falling in love with his victim trope is fairly predictable, but I liked the way it played out in the end, especially the revolution on the spaceship and the Doctor hijacking the space shuttle, because damn, I love his crazy, never-should-work-but-does plans. Vaguely annoyed that Miranda ended up having ~feelings for Ferran, mainly because I was all excited to have a character specifically described as asexual, and then, well, she wasn't.
