



## Route 66 to the Milky Way

*Janet Rendall*

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Can you eat your way out of this galaxy? Take the alimentary canal from one dimension to the next? Apparently not. She was still here, despite consuming huge quantities of Milky Ways. A fusion of sci fi lite with humor laced thriller. Circa 1949, FBI agent Frank Ryder, his reputation damaged by the Roswell incident, is desperate to regain credibility with the bureau's Extraterrestrial Task Force. His chance comes when a reportedly dead nurse turns a chunk of petrified wood into a living but extinct sapling. Ryder's on the trail of Homer and May, extraterrestrial plant forms, who crashed in the midst of the Pearl Harbor bombings. To survive in Earth's atmosphere, May, the female, vines into the nearest hospitable body—Polly Johnson—a beautiful Navy nurse. Homer, her male counterpart, has two choices, a man with an ultimately fatal brain injury or a grouper. He makes the wrong choice. May receives a single coordinate "66" and searches post WWII Route 66 for the dimensional conduit, a time portal, their only way home. She reads about a girl's fall down a rabbit hole—surely a type of Earthly dimensional conduit—and tries to eat her way out of this galaxy, like "Alice" in the book. Homer, convinced of the literal truth of human words, buys a new, 1949 Oldsmobile Rocket 88 to shuttle them home. He falls in love with the shiny, powerful car and wants to stay here. The newly created CIA swallows the FBI's rumor that May is a Russian spy and assigns its own agent, Noble, to find her. Now there are two agents from rival agencies searching for the same woman, each with a different agenda. Ryder finds May first, but before he can take her into custody he is critically injured. An Indian medicine man, sympathetic to May, tries to implant the dying Homer into Ryder's body. During the process, the chain-smoking Ryder gains insight and empathy for these quirky aliens, becomes afraid of fire and develops an aversion to tobacco. Both the FBI and Noble are in hot pursuit and May, frantic to find the conduit, convinces Ryder to help. Unsure if he is falling in love with a beautiful human body or if he is attracted to this innocent, peculiar alien, he devises a plan for her to disappear into the forest of humanity.

## Route 66 to the Milky Way Details

Date : Published June 30th 2015 by Infinity Publishing (first published April 22nd 2015)

ISBN : 9781495806322

Author : Janet Rendall

Format : Paperback 340 pages

Genre : Science Fiction

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## From Reader Review Route 66 to the Milky Way for online ebook

### **Benjamin Elliott says**

Received through a Goodreads Giveaway.

I was surprisingly entertained by this book. When I originally read the description and information on the back cover, it seemed like it could be good but didn't get me particularly excited. Once I got into it though, both of the protagonists were interesting, and the historical details blended well with the sci-fi elements to create a compelling and internally consistent world. The details about the aliens are presented as plausible within this universe, and the alien characters themselves were definitely compelling. I had a lot of fun reading this.

I will note that there were some typo or odd phrases (not where the alien was supposed to be a bit off, but in Frank's sections or in general narration) that could have been smoothed out potentially with another editing pass, but for the most part they didn't detract from the overall story, which, as I mentioned, was good.

I was torn when I first finished the book about the note that there was a sequel already being written. I think this book leaves off at a point that is satisfying, and I wasn't sure where a sequel was going to go. I'm still not sure there needs to be anymore to this particular story, but after thinking about it, I can see a couple places this could go, either following the same characters or introducing new aliens and human characters into this world. Hopefully it will be equally compelling.

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### **Heather says**

I actually really enjoyed this book! It was a good story with fresh ideas - not the typical alien comes to earth to destroy it kind of thing. I would have loved to see more character development. I think there would be a benefit to seeing Homer and May's adventure from when they first landed on Earth. That would be a book in itself I'm sure! All in all I really liked it and would recommend it to anyone that enjoys alien stories.

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### **Tianne Shaw says**

Thank you to giveaways for this book . If you like Douglas Addams this will go down well. To me it was a cross of HHGTTG and Dirk Gently. Very much worth the read.

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### **Kathy says**

I really enjoyed Route 66 to the Milky Way. I thought it was a new and fresh slant on aliens landing on earth. The story was told with humor in such a way that it didn't make the 2 aliens seem ridiculous, but made you sympathetic to them. It was a fun read!

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**MichelleG says**

Review to follow

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**Gayle Slagle says**

Route 66 to the Milky Way by Janet Rendall is one of the most enjoyable books I have read in a long time. I must admit to being a lover of science fiction and stories about the possibility of aliens on earth, but I think that even readers who do not normally enjoy this genre will be spellbound by this one. It takes place from April 19, 1949, to May 21, 1949....slightly over one month.....but a great deal occurs to the main characters during this time. The setting is along Route 66 and incorporates actual towns and places in existence during this time period. The characters are well developed and are interesting and intriguing, and even though it is science fiction, they are both believable and realistic. Frank Ryder is an FBI agent seeking a suspected alien who has been residing in the body of a beautiful young nurse killed at Pearl Harbor. She has been sighted on several occasions since that event accompanied by a man named Homer. We learn that this alien, named May, is seeking a conduit which will allow her to return to her native world; she suspects that this conduit is on Route 66. Ryder's job is to find her so that she can be studied before she escapes. The thoughts and feelings of both Frank and May are portrayed in a manner that draws the reader into their worlds. Rendall is an excellent writer and certainly one to watch in the future. This was one of those books I did not want to put down and I can honestly say that I enjoyed every second of it. I don't want to give away too much of the plot, because it would take away the individual joy of discovering the beauty of this book for oneself. I highly recommend this book and hope that you enjoy it as much as I did.

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**Kenneth Wilson says**

I received this book as a giveaway.

From start to finish, well written, great characters, cool idea. I was expecting more alien insight into route 66, but I was thoroughly entertained and it's more of a comment on the description than the book itself. The humour is subtle, making for a lighter read than would otherwise be expected by some of the subject matter and the chapters fly by as a result.

I would thoroughly recommend this book to anyone, but I know of many who simply can't get past the inclusion of 'aliens from outer space' - their loss.

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**Belinda Van houten says**

When I started this book, I could not put it down. As the story progressed I was completely drawn into it. I would recommend this book.

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### **Gail Baugniet says**

Everyone is familiar with Route 66, the "Main Street" of America that originally ran from Chicago and Flagstaff to Santa Monica. If you haven't traveled the route, you probably remember the song, (Get Your Kicks on) Route 66. Either way, you will be learning a lot more about Route 66 in Janet Rendall's novel *Route 66 to the Milky Way*.

Rendall's novel, part mystery, part Sci-Fi, part love story, tells of two space aliens stuck in our dimension. This is due to a fluke in their technology, far advanced from that of Earth. For the foreseeable future, they are unable to use the space craft to return to their world. How they cope with our society, "pass" as human, and arrive at survival-making decisions are all imaginatively described as the story unfolds.

It was not difficult to suspend disbelief while reading *Route 66 to the Milky Way*. Rendall's words easily drew me into this new world, giving me convincing reasons to accept the plot's plausibility and the aliens' struggles to survive.

I was fascinated by the world Rendall created as seen through the eyes of those who do not take what they observe for granted. Roswell, and Area 51 play their roles; it would have been dereliction of duty had Rendall not included these in her tale.

The two aliens travel Route 66 in search of the dimensional conduit that would return them to their world. Why they choose Route 66 as their salvation, and how that decision pans out as they drive through towns like Winona and Two Guns, and view billboard ads for Phillips 66 and Burma Shave, is the often-humorous crux of this entertaining novel.

So pack a lunch, hop on board, and enjoy the ride back to 1949.

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### **Laurie Hanan says**

What a fun read! I am not a fan of science fiction, but this is a book anyone would love. The reader is taken back to the good old days of America just after The War, as seen through the eyes of two aliens who have been forced to take on human bodies in order to survive. As they travel down Route 66, trying to find the conduit that will take them back to their planet, there are moments of humor, alien sex, danger, and poignant love. A superb story. Somebody MUST make this into a movie!

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