



Planets of Adventure

Murray Leinster

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In the first novel, The Planet Explorer, the fate of the colonies scattered across the galaxy rests with one man, who races against the looming interstellar disaster. And in The Forgotten Planet a ship is marooned on a planet whose ecology has gone wild.

Planets of Adventure Details

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From Reader Review Planets of Adventure for online ebook

Gary Holt says

To me, the more interesting stories in here were the ones about the planetary survey engineer who troubleshoots all kinds of problems that threaten to wipe out civilization on various planets. Sort of like his Med Ship stories (which are also very good), but about geophysics instead. Pretty good hard science fiction, actually, though it certainly feels a bit dated now.

The other reviewers seem to have their attention focussed on the story with the giant mushrooms and insects, which was actually a pretty good story (and it's longer than the others), but I didn't find it nearly as absorbing as the engineering ones. Maybe that's because I'm an engineer.

Howard says

10

Doug S. says

I really enjoyed this books. It's a collection of short stories with twists to a lot of them. I will say the first story repeats details over and over and over. This may be due to it being serialized before being published but I'm not sure. Overall I recommend it if you like popcorn sf (something you don't read to deep and just enjoy the ride with.)

YouKneeK says

Planets of Adventure is an anthology of short stories. It contains one almost full-length story and several shorter stories, all of which are based on the theme implied by the title. The quality of the stories was pretty consistent – they weren't terribly engaging, but they did hold my interest well enough for short bursts of time.

The first story in the book, *The Forgotten Planet*, was the larger story, taking up about a third of the book. It was about a planet that had been forgotten in the middle of the terraforming process, and it ended up populated with gigantic insects and dangerous plants. A small group of people crashed on the planet and survived the harsh environment, barely. Apparently the survivors though it would be a great idea to have children so that they too could suffer through a life of terror on this harsh world. The story followed a small group of their distant descendants who, by this point, were quite primitive and knew nothing of their origins.

The story was basically a survival story with a great deal of detail about insect behavior. Although insect behavior isn't high on the list of things I find fascinating, I found the story surprisingly interesting and I liked it the best of the bunch. However, the main character, Burl, was obnoxious. He made a discovery, which led to more discoveries, and this resulted in improvements to the lives of the small tribe of humans he lived with.

Burl then became quite full of himself, wanting glory and admiration for everything he did, and he made dumb decisions as a result. Most of his accomplishments were a combination of dumb luck and of seizing his opportunities. When the people from his tribe learned from his accomplishments and accomplished significant things on their own, he showed jealousy rather than pride. I guess this behavior may have been expected given the culture of his people, but it still annoyed me.

The next four short stories in the book were related to each other but not to the first story – they followed the same main character, a man responsible for surveying planets that were nearly ready for colonization. His job was to make sure everything was up to specs and that the planet was safe enough for a larger population to move to. In each story he went to evaluate a different planet, and in each story there was some sort of catastrophe on the planet that he had to solve so that everybody didn't die and so the colony could be salvaged. Unlike the first story in this collection, I found the main character in these stories to be pretty likeable. The stories themselves were also pretty interesting. However, they contained quite a lot of technical details, some of which I didn't find very interesting, so I had more trouble getting through parts of these stories.

The remainder of the book consisted of standalone short stories, none of which were particularly memorable to me, but all of which held my interest while I was reading them.

Allan says

A selection of short, classic sci-fi stories and well worth reading. Full review here - [\[http://thejumbledbox.blogspot.com/200...\]](http://thejumbledbox.blogspot.com/200...)

Jason says

How can you go wrong with giant insects? Although a tired theme in sci-fi. It was written in 1920 and a facinating read even today.

Jim says

Product Description

In the first novel, "The Planet Explorer", the fate of the colonies scattered across the galaxy rests with one man, who races against the looming interstellar disaster. And in "The Forgotton Planet" a ship is marooned on a planet whose ecology has gone wild.

Manuel Alfonseca says

This omnibus book contains one full novel (The forgotten planet, very good), one short novel (The planet explorer, quite nice too), plus five short stories. The best of these for me was "Assignment on Pasik," where a space cop must make a crash landing on a planet with his possibly sabotaged ship, and finds there precisely what he was looking for, plus an unexpected romantic interest.

Caer Glas says

An ok read of a collection of stories from thew "Golden Age" horribly dated in its treatment of women, and the propensity for the author to come up with a deus ex machina in some situations is annoying...good read on the bus or train...

Ari says

The first third of this is the novel "The Forgotten Planet", more gross-out horror than hard science fiction. Found myself slogging through the first chunk, and then it picked up rapidly. The biology of an all-fungus planet doesn't really make sense. Wikipedia tells me that it was originally published as short stories starting in the early 1920s -- so perhaps we should cut Leinster some slack for biological missteps.

The rest of the anthology is mostly stories from the 1950s that show off the cleverness of the protagonists and the author. Interesting particularly for how sex and race looked to forward-thinking people in the early 1950s.

Freely available as an e-book from Baen's free library.

Bigal-sa says

I really enjoyed the stories in this rather humourous book written along the same lines as Chris Anvil's Interstellar Patrol.

Gerold Whittaker says

A series of short stories all of which seemed to end before they began as a result of which I did not enjoy the book very much.

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