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A renegade young Egyptologist and a military officer discover the secret of an Egyptian ring - the Stargate. Through it they enter into a strange country that is neither the past nor the future - a country peopled by alien gods and an oppressed tribe. The book that inspired the film "Stargate".

Stargate Details

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Author : Dean Devlin , Roland Emmerich , Stephen Molstad (Ghostwriter)

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From Reader Review Stargate for online ebook

Kaitlyn Wooley says

The awesome original novel that became the movie! It's a little different, because things were changed in the movie, as with any book-to-movie instance, but it is a wonderfully-written, action-packed novel and a great read for anyone--not just Stargate fans. ;)

Matthew Dobson says

I had watched the movie prior to reading the book, but man what a picture that was painted! Both are great stories and I highly recommend this book to any Stargate fan.

Barry says

Good plot, not great writing. More like young teen then adult fiction. A bit fantastic in places, in one part, most of the characters miraculously keep from getting shot. Overall, a good read, not great

Wesley says

As a kid, my dad used to watch the show Stargate SG-1 all the time. I was totally infatuated, to the point where the theme song actually brings me to near tears from nostalgia and other such poignant emotions.

That being said, it was only recently that I learned that there was a film that inspired the show. And that an actor I really enjoy - James Spader - played my favorite character, Daniel.

I enjoyed the movie but not nearly as much as the television show. That being said, I still decided to read the novelization because I thought that perhaps there was insight into the characters that the movie had left out (like when people talk about "t'hy'la" from the Star Trek: The Motion Picture novelization that didn't make its way into the film).

Aesthetically, the novel could do with an edit job. There are constant misspellings and grammatical errors. Pronouns get switched around and apostrophes stuck in places they shouldn't be, and forgotten in places they should.

In terms of characterization, I found O'Neil and Daniel to not be nearly as likeable or sympathetic as they are in the film, at least in the beginning chapters before they gate to the planet (that will later be christened Abydos). However, I was glad I read the book for the added insight into Sha'uri's character. I absolutely adored her in the film, and the book paints her in an even lovelier light; the quiet but tough woman who, as she gets to know Daniel, is more willing to break out of the servile shell society has placed her in to become her own person. She's also described as "a natural leader" and, at one point, with a pistol in her hand, ready to fight.

The idea behind the novel, which is the same as the film, was still an interesting one. I liked it well enough, but I'm not sure if I would recommend it to anyone. Possibly only dedicated Stargate fans who want to watch and read all the material available, but as for those less interested, the movie might be a better choice.

Daniella says

The thing about books based on screenplays is that, just like screenplays based on books, they're just never quite as good. Sad but true. I'd like to be able to say that the book is always better than the movie, because I'm a book snob and believe in the inherent supremacy of literature, but because I *am* a book snob, I'm forced to admit that this isn't always the case. In fact, with book adaptations of screenplays, the case seems to be that these are works of middling to no effort intended solely to cash in on the popularity surrounding a movie or television series.

That being said, *StarGate* is actually decent for what it is. No one could ever accuse it of being a work of great literature, but it is entertaining, sometimes humorous, and on the whole not half as craptastic as other adaptations I've encountered. I mean, any book that refers to the "brick-shitting terror" of the Abydonians and has Daniel Jackson being sexually molested can't be all bad, right? Right. And though it's been far too long since I've seen the movie for me to be sure how closely the book follows the script, it seems like the writers at least made an effort to delve a little deeper than just what was shown on-screen.

I only had two major problems with this book. One, it was obviously done in a hurry and was full of pretty basic typos that could've easily been caught and corrected if someone (or someone actually competent) had been hired to proofread the damn thing. And two, the constantly switching perspectives is really annoying. I know it's not technically incorrect, it's just a pet peeve of mine; I *hate* third person omniscient with a passion. No, really. Hate. Passion. Like, *burning*. But anyway, if you can overlook those things, and you're a sci-fi fan, it might not be a waste of a rainy Sunday afternoon to give this book a quick read.

Stephanie Macdonald says

You have got to love anything that takes you outside of the box and really let's you use your imagination on the what if and could be's - there is a lot we as humans don't know - we don't know our own past, our own origination - so many mysteries and secrets - and this is the kind of story that will leave you with that great sense of wonder. recommended to all!

Simon Ford says

"AWESOME".

Loved the film, just a great idea, the Pyramids as alien landing pads, real Chariot of the Gods stuff but better!

When I heard about the TV series I thought "Here we go again" and that it would be crap, boy was I so wrong?

As you can tell I'm a big fan but have never read the book until now, my loss. This goes into so much more

detail and backstory, it's not exactly as shown on screen, it's better.

"BRILL"

Amanda says

This sat in a stack of books for about a decade before I decided to finally read it. Stargate Sg-1 is my favorite show so I was hoping to save this one for last. I wish I would've just read it a long time ago.

I don't remember the movie so I have no idea what has been added. I did like getting more backstory on the characters I've grown to love. But the pacing was all over the place. For example, the penultimate chapter begins by telling us how good Ra is at playing this ancient Egyptian game. I don't know what bearing this had on the story because I skimmed it. That wasn't the last time that the story dragged when it should have been at the height of the action. A short paragraph about how someone learned this one fight move would be acceptable, but a page and a half dedicated to the bad guy's gaming skills slows the ending down. There's no point in it anyway because the reader skips it. The rest of the characters had good development but I still felt that there wasn't enough emotional resonance.

This type of writing usually includes graphic detail of the deaths, and this is something I've always disliked. That's typically what I remember about books I didn't enjoy.

I will hang onto it, though, if nothing more than a reference book for how to do communication between characters that don't speak the same language for my own book. The language was masterful and flowed very well, and that's another thing I can learn from. Otherwise it was just okay but seemed to take an enormous amount of time to wade through.

Max says

This is a pretty good adaptation of the film. As often happens with novelizations, there's some expansion on characters and background, which is what I enjoyed the most. There are brief glimpses of what Ra was like before he was possessed by a space alien, as well as a whole chapter from alien Ra's point of view about how he built his empire and how the rebellion on Earth happened. Colonel O'Neil and Daniel Jackson both get a bit more background, and more importantly, the other marines also get to have a bit more character so they become more than generic interchangeable guys with guns. I think the addition I most appreciated, however, was a full explanation of why they can't just wait for Earth to dial up Abydos and go home that way: the whole bunker complex is sealed off when they leave to prevent anything dangerous coming to Earth from the other side of the gate. The novel otherwise retains the same strengths and flaws as the film, and thus as with the film, I found the first half to be a bit slow, but felt that things really pick up once the language issue is worked out. All in all, this is a fun story whether you've seen the film or not, although I can't say I'm likely to reread it any time soon - watching the movie again is much easier.

Denise Link says

Looking for the storyline of Stargate the movie? This book , based on the movie, gives you that. Unlike a

book on which a movie is based, however, you don't get *more* than that. The writing style is descriptive and bland.

P.S. Winn says

although written off by many as a conspiracy theory, this story is compelling and believable. I have met some people in the service in 1943 who say this strange phenomenon was a true cover-up and just think what we could have accomplished if we could have expanded on the project. The author takes readers into the thrilling happening.

Jana Babá?ková says

Stargate, there is nothing more to write :o) Great story, great series and SG Atlantis is my favourite team. So, this book is soo thin, the story could be wider, sophisticated, lasts only for an hour of reading :o)

Leelan says

Don't know why it took me so long to get around to this book. I enjoyed the movie and love all the spin offs! This book is very well written --- above average for a movie novelization. If there were no movie at all I would probably have enjoyed the book just as much. It stands well on its own.

There are differences from the final filmed version of course. Books don't translated exactly to film or vice versa. But what sets the novel a bit above the movie is the chance to hear the character's inner voices. To understand their motives and thoughts so much more clearly than on screen. Not much more to say to to say "READ THIS BOOK!" You won't regret it.

Mallory Kellogg says

Review: StarGate While I enjoyed this immensely, I cannot give a high rating to a book that was edited by a middle schooler. Wow, people. They got genders mixed up, there were dozens upon dozens of wrong words, and the grammar. So many sentences made zero sense. I cannot believe such a terrible manuscript made it thru the process to shelves.

Brian says

I have read a lot of books that have been turned into movies. And a few books that have been adapted from movies. Some good, some bad. This one goes into the bad column. Being a fan of the Stargate movie and the subsequent TV series, I was looking forward to reading the book based on the film. Unfortunately, the book is so loosely based on the film that I was mad at the changes. The marines ran the stargate?? It was the Air

Force! Some scenes were so shortened as to be barely a mention in the book while the creature known as Little Bit became a star! I can understand how difficult it must be to watch a movie and then write a book about it, but how can you just ignore things from the movie and invent other ideas? I love the Star Wars series that take place around the movies, and I actually liked the books about the movies themselves. Maybe having writers with the pedigree of R A Salvatore or Terry Brooks is needed to make these adaptations work.
