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The Spaceship Next Door



Synopsis

The world changed on a Tuesday. When a spaceship landed in an open field in the quiet mill town of Sorrow Falls, Massachusetts, everyone realized humankind was not alone in the universe. With that realization everyone freaked out for a little while. Or almost everyone. The residents of Sorrow Falls took the news pretty well. This could have been due to a certain local quality of unflappability, or it could have been that in three years the ship did exactly nothing other than sit quietly in that field, and nobody understood the full extent of this nothing the ship was doing better than the people who lived right next door. Sixteen-year-old Annie Collins is one of the ship's closest neighbors. Once upon a time she took every last theory about the ship seriously, whether it was advanced by an adult or by a peer. Surely one of the theories would be proven true - if not several of them - the very minute the ship decided to do something. Annie is starting to think this will never happen. One late August morning, a little over three years since the ship landed, Edgar Somerville arrived in town. Ed's a government operative posing as a journalist, which is obvious to Annie - and pretty much everyone else he meets - almost immediately. He has a lot of questions that need answers, because he thinks everyone is wrong: The ship is doing something, and he needs Annie's help to figure out what that is. Annie is a good choice for tour guide. She already knows everyone in town, and when Ed's theory is proven correct - something is apocalyptically wrong in Sorrow Falls - she's a pretty good person to have around. As a matter of fact, Annie Collins might be the most important person on the planet. She just doesn't know it. *The Spaceship Next Door* is the latest novel from Gene Doucette, best-selling author of *The Immortal Trilogy*, *Fixer*, *The Immortal Chronicles*, and *Immortal Stories: Eve*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was unexpected in many ways. A spaceship lands in a little town... And nothing happens for three years. That, in itself, was such a novelty that I found myself wanting to know what else this author had in mind for the little town of Sorrow Falls. The heroine is a sixteen year old girl, but I wouldn't call this a young adult novel. There is an attractive man who needs her help & in no way is he set up to be her love interest. How refreshing! Then there is a group of weirdo misfits who become the only sane people in the valley. And then the spaceship wakes up and things really go to h- - -I can't say too much about the plot without giving away some really surprising and delightful spoilers but believe me, it's quite a roller coaster ride. It doesn't happen too often that I find a book that I can't put down but this one kept me up reading to the wee hours two nights in a row. Thanks! Now I've just got to figure out my budget for this month's book purchases to see how many other books I can buy from this author. Good work!

Have you ever had a moment of amazing cleverness that gave you a feeling of intellectual invincibility? If yes, then this book is for you. If not, first I'm sorry, but this book is also for you since it will help you understand what the rest of us have enjoyed. But on a side note, this book is very good and will make you laugh out loud which is always awkward when you're at work and supposed to be working... Basically read the book. Gene Doucette took the idea of First Contact and put a clever spin on it that honestly made me laugh more often than not. Following 16 year old Annie and the other wonderfully crafted characters on the hunt for why the spaceship landed where it did and for what reason reminded me why I keep coming back to everything Gene Doucette writes. !Minor Spoilers ahead! Whilst reading this novel, I kept finding myself in disbelief as the main duo uncovered clues as to the ship's purpose (which Annie and Ed were also in a mild bit of denial as they uncovered things), like why the Wizard of Oz matters, and what is the significance of a drum. Also, why we should all have a great friend who is very introverted, or one who makes Mad Max battle armor. And if you have not read the book yet and you are reading this to see if you should, the above spoilers won't ruin the book for you but should make you curious on how that all matters to a spaceship. If I had to make a comparison to another book, it would be Douglas Adams Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency. The Spaceship Next Door delivers in the same way in that it takes many science fiction topics and adds a wonderfully humorous element that makes you not get terribly

upset when the book asks a question about quantum physics involving the 8th dimension and responds with zombies and a 16 year old girl's fascination with shirtless army boys playing basketball...To quickly sum up before I laugh myself into deleting this whole review and starting over from scratch, read the book. It's great. And yes I did laugh out loud at work whilst reading this, and pridefully ignored the stares.

I have experienced both ebook and audiobook editions of this novel. I liked this novel a lot. The characters were all interesting and the plot was a little unusual. Finding a way to meld a couple different genres seems to be one of the few ways to create a story that doesn't fall into the same rut as every other genre novel, and I think this author pulled it off spectacularly. This novel, published independently, does not feel like a stereo-typical "indy novel." It was very professional feeling, with very few technical errors. The chapters were well-structured and the flow of the novel was paced "just right." There was almost no "indy English" issues at all I don't remember if there was an appropriate reading age listed, but I'm fairly sure we could call this a PG book. As a middle-aged adult, I enjoyed it, but I think it would be decent for teenagers. A good read, from front to back.

I bought this for my middle school aged son after talking with the author and determining that it was age appropriate. Then I decided to read it. Sometimes young adult fiction is great (Hunger Games) sometimes it insults your intelligence (Twilight). I don't know if Mr. Doucette set out to write a story for young adults, but it's very appealing to them because the main characters are teenagers. The plot is very original, the writing is clever and the rapid fire dialogue reminds me of a 1930's screwball comedy.

This book is basically a Zombies meet Aliens story...the sleepwalking dead are a big part of this book. Now that's not going to make much sense to you right off the bat - but it gradually will. True, it's about a spaceship that lands in the US, in a small town. Then nothing happens with it. However, we do have the Govt. of course, that comes in to be in charge (as it would be in real life I'm sure). Just like we saw in the movie Independence Day, we have groupies that come to park next to the ship. They love aliens and want to be right there when, or if, the door to the space ship opens up. So campers are lining the street with an odd assortment of alien enthusiasts and their special equipment. And... we got soldiers & towns folk and gawkers there all waiting to see what happens. Will aliens come out eventually? If they do emerge, then what will happen? This makes for a small town that is forever changed. And they have lived this way for 3 years because ever since the

spaceship landed - that's it - nothing further has happened with the ship. Yet, at some point all that WILL change. Just wait & see. Anyway, this is a fun read & it's written in a tone of voice that's serious and believable. The characters are unique and original. If you like to read anything about UFO's or alien visitations then you might enjoy this book.

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