



## Mudd in Your Eye

*Jerry Olton*

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## **Mudd in Your Eye** Jerry Olton

After millennia of warfare, the planets Prastor and Distrel may have finally achieved a lasting peace. Investigating on behalf of the Federation, Captain Kirk is shocked to find out that the architect of the peace is none other than that notorious con artist, Harcourt Fenton Mudd! Mudd claims to be a changed man, but Kirk has his doubts. He knows that Mudd has to be running some sort of scam, but what is he up to? Kirk must find out soon--before the peace gives way to unending war.

## **Mudd in Your Eye Details**

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Author : Jerry Olton

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## From Reader Review Mudd in Your Eye for online ebook

### Wendy says

Well, that was fun. Really. I'm not being sarcastic! I was actually kind of dreading this book, because in the *Star Trek* episodes in which he appears, I strongly disliked Harry Mudd. I didn't need to worry, though, because this book made me kind of, sort of like him! It was a fun little ride, and I enjoyed it even more since I just got done reading two not-at-all fun books.

Of course, I have to give the author, Jerry Oltion, props anyway, because even if the book had sucked, he thanked someone for giving him cookies in the acknowledgements section. That alone was awesome.

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### reherrma says

Eine Harry Mudd Geschichte...

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### Paul Lunger says

When the worlds Prastor & Distrel give up fighting after 12 millennia of warfare, the Enterprise is sent to investigate why & encounter old nemesis Harry Mudd. Thus is the plot of Jerry Oltion's "Mudd in Your Eye" which brings back the old nemesis of the Enterprise in novel form. The overall concept behind the story seems relatively simplistic but gets out of hand when the reasoning behind the war gets revealed & even Mudd's tactics get old very quickly along with the return of android wife Stella. Oltion's plot goes on far too long & this story which amounts to an overdrawn episode of the show itself & keeps adding plot twists simply to lengthen the story. Granted, Mudd's appearance is nice to see, but should've been kept far briefer than what it was.

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### Elizabeth Nelson says

Listen, I never expected a book featuring Harcourt Fenton Mudd to give me major Sads, but this succeeded beautifully at the Presumed Dead trope. Everyone's characterization was beautiful as well - there was a lot of wonderful Spock-McCoy banter that warmed my soul. Themes include finding the middle ground between different values, the value of death and of life, and the kind of love that comes with bickering. A very fun read!

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### Arcia Gavriel says

Being in the book for classic Trek, I was on a roll with a shelf full of novels at a friend's place (hi, Jade!) and the second I chanced to pick up was this one -- a Harry Mudd-centric comedy thriller which I'd expected to be fluff, and which turned out to be very fluffy indeed. Flyaway entertainment. The plot is okay; the writing is okay; the characterizations are okay.

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Uh, what can you say? A solid 3 stars, I guess; not quite “meh”, but not the kind of rolling on the floor, breaking ribs laughing one might have hoped for. The plot was certainly bulked out here and there to squeeze more mileage out of it, and at times it did seem the joke had either worn thin -- or I was missing it. It's not often I miss a joke, but it has happened. Anyway, it's always enjoyable to return to Harry Mudd. This character was based on Poul Anderson's deliciously outrageous Nick van Rijn, whom I love to bits ... so -- Mudd in Your Eye. What the hey? 3 stars it is.

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## Jerry says

I had fun with this one.

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## Bryan says

Why give a Star Trek book 4 stars? Is this a hidden gem of high literature that the world needs to discover?

No... but it's got Harry Mudd! Con man extraordinaire, the dapper and witty miscreant is the main attraction in this book. In fact, Mudd takes center stage even over Kirk himself - in a unique twist I'd never thought to see in a Trek book.

It's not as easy as one might think to write a Trek book...

- it must be consistent with the show (both in terms of plotlines and in characterization)
- it must be unique and novel enough to merit existing (too much of the fanfic around neglects this)
- it must keep reader interest up just as much as any book (balancing the above requirements with decent development of action and plot)

And that's really all this book aims to accomplish, besides keeping you entertained. **Oltion succeeds on all these levels.** Thus, since I enjoyed it AND since it tried something new while still keeping consistently within the standard Star Trek universe, I happily award this book four stars.

So what's new, unique, and novel in this book? Well, it's perhaps a bit more far-fetched than Oltion's other Trek TOS book (Twilight's End), but in both cases I applaud his efforts to try to go imaginatively forth into new frontiers.

Oltion is a credible SF author, and he does try to keep his futuristic fancies palatable in terms of the science. Perhaps this book goes a bit far, and certainly some readers will be skeptical when they realize what type of civilization exists on the planets Kirk and crew encounter.

Without introducing any spoilers, suffice it to say: Oltion is the first author that showed NO fear in killing off major Trek characters! I honestly never thought I'd have this degree of "oh-wow-anything-can-happen" while reading a Trek book, but this book went farther than any other I can reference.

Well done, Mr. Oltion. I'm a fan of your original works, and I've enjoyed both of the Trek TOS novels that I've come across.

Worth a look - it's a quick fun read, and there's some unique (if a bit fanciful) SF elements not usually found in a Trek book.

All that and it's got Mudd too! 4 well-earned stars!

[image error]

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### **Daniel Kukwa says**

"Mudd in Your Eye" just scrapes its way to a 3 star rating. The novel has a light & pleasant tone, some solid action writing, and a neat plot twist. But I find Harry Mudd & his Stella-droid to be largely unnecessary to the proceedings, and the overall tale didn't exactly compel me to finish the novel quickly. Harmless, forgettable fun.

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### **Charles says**

It is clear from the title and the cover that this story features the scamp Harcourt (Harry) Mudd. Therefore, one expects there to be a little comedy in the story, as Mudd can be counted on to be obnoxious and create headaches for Captain Kirk and the rest of the Enterprise crew.

The story starts out interesting, the two planets Prastor and Distrel have been at war for millennia and it appears that peace is actually at hand. The Enterprise arrives to represent the Federation and they are surprised that none other than Harry Mudd is responsible for the peace.

It sounds impossible and of course it is, Mudd is there in order to try to enrich himself and things are not what they appear to be. The story then descends into Mudd trying to steal treasures while the war has restarted and rages around him. Even death in this story is not what it appears to be, yet the mechanism is so implausible that it becomes a bit difficult to read through the entire story.

Kirk and many of the main members of the Enterprise crew are on the ground caught in the crossfire and while they fight bravely they suffer the consequences of innocents caught between two warring groups. As is known before you begin the book, Kirk and company are going to survive the crisis and emerge victorious. What makes a Star Trek book good is how that is done, in this case the path from opening to closing is poorly executed.

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### **Dan says**

Mudd in Your Eye is definitely an enjoyable TOS adventure, with some fascinating world-building. I was never the biggest fan of Harry Mudd, but his character is a little more well-rounded in this novel. His final gambit at the end of the story in order to get away once again was inspired, and I have to admit to being as fooled as Captain Kirk was. A fun story with an interesting premise that held my attention, Mudd in Your Eye would benefit from a re-read due to the twists we learn later in the story. Some narrative choices knock the score down a little bit in my opinion, but not egregiously.

Full review: <http://www.treklit.com/2018/08/TOS81...>

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### **Kreg says**

Yet another computer-run civilization. At least this time it wasn't Kirk that broke the Prime Directive to put

it back in what the rest of the universe would consider "normal". Characterizations were somewhat flat, and the plot dragged on in places, but overall it was far better than some other Trek books.

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### **Monica Leigh says**

I loved this one. Interesting new take on a couple of old concepts, and we got to spend some time with Harry Mudd.

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### **Conan Tigard says**

Mudd in Your Eye takes place during the original 5-year mission. No Stardate is listed.

Harcourt Fenton Mudd, from the original Star Trek series, has always remained a favorite character of mine. He appeared in two different episodes, "Mudd's Women" and "I, Mudd." He also appeared on the animated series in a show called "Mudd's Passion." All of the episodes are funny and I loved the Stella android that was tasked to watch over him.

In this story, Harry Mudd once again makes an appears in the Star Trek Universe, along with Stella, when he stops a war that has been killing people for twelve thousand years. The question that should be asked here is, "Why did Mudd do this?" Well, it sure wasn't to help the people out, as it may seem on the surface. Harry Mudd always has an ulterior motive for the things he does. And if he can get rich in the process, all the better for him.

The story by Jerry Oltion is both fun and fast. I was shocked when some of the Enterprise crew were killed on the planet. I knew that they would be back . . . but how? After all, you cannot kill main characters in a book, unless this is the last Star Trek book ever, which it isn't. So, how did Captain Kirk, Scotty, Sulu, Chekov and Mudd get out of being killed? Well, they didn't? Hmmm . . . seems to be a mystery here. I am not going to tell you how the books ends, you are just going to have to read it to find out.

I loved this book. The story was well-developed and engaging. The characters are very well written and the plot is interesting. I was shocked as the crew of the Enterprise were picked off one by one, but as the story unfolded, I had to laugh whenever they died, even if it was multiple times. After all, I knew they would be back.

Overall, Mudd in Your Eye is one of the best Star Trek novels I have read. I highly recommend this book to any lover of science fiction and, of course, to anyone out there that enjoys the Star Trek series. This one is a winner!

I rated this book a 9 out of 10.

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### **James Lotshaw says**

I'm guilty when I first saw this book, because I really liked the no account scoundrel that is Harry Mudd, and it's a real shame that his character didn't appear again in the Original Classic Series. While this book has

many of the same stereotypical situations, that the crew of the U.S.S. Enterprise encountered during the series (ie. a society that is run by a computer, and the death of a beloved character only to be revived again later in the episode). I feel that this would have been a decent episode for the Original Series.

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### **Thomas says**

I am a Mudd fan. Star Trek was always better when it did nit take itself too seriously,

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