



Rogue Genesis

Ceri London

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One man. Two worlds separated by a universe. Space-time warped by black holes. In the passing of seconds on Earth, Major Niall Kearey has witnessed the birth and death of generations on Astereal. His mind shortcuts light years to visit a fantastical world of floating sky cities populated by telepaths.

Astereal is in decline, the dueling forces of black holes threaten extinction. Ancient prophecy predicts their interstellar visitor brings salvation. As Niall faces the staggering truth – that his alien dream world is real – he and his family are targeted by secret societies, scheming politicians, and the US military.

Time is running out as Astereal races towards annihilation and temporal alignment with Earth. Power brokers vie for control of his capabilities. Niall must act, balancing the needs of Earth, his family, and the alien civilization he has come to know and love. The fate of two worlds rests on Niall Kearey's shoulders.

Rogue Genesis Details

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From Reader Review Rogue Genesis for online ebook

So, I Read This Book Today says

Ceri London has written, in *Shimmer In The Dark: Rogue Genesis* one of the most powerful science fiction/fantasy novels I have read since *Dune*. Well, actually, it is better than *Dune*. More creative, with a wider range and depth of reality, that is approachable to all readers. This is, without doubt, a science fiction novel, but it also has strong ties to military-political intrigue in the present day which grounds the novel in a level of believability even when the “fiction” portion of the science asks you to stretch your mind into new levels of belief.

Some, I suppose, would lean more towards calling it ‘fantasy’ as there are no space ships and Earth colonies on other planets. If you are one of the ‘hard sci-fi geeks’ that some of my friends are, you might be disappointed by no space rockets blasting around, I suppose, but that should in no way deter you from reading this jewel of a book.

Unlike many, I have no problem stretching credulity to new levels. I don’t expect a science fiction or fantasy book to stay within the realm of ‘probability’. I expect to be taken to a new place, a new level of existence, while I expect that existence to still feel believable. I expect to be charmed into a new sense of reality for a short while. Something that Ms. London has done brilliantly in this, the first of a four-part series.

Niall Kearey is a very special person, with a very special family. As has been described by the blurb on the book, he can, with his mind, reach out across galaxies to what he thinks is a ‘dream world’ – a world “racing towards annihilation” – a world soon to pass into alignment with Earth, with unknown outcome. Here on Earth, there are power brokers, secret societies, power-hungry and amoral politicians, and a corrupt U.S. Military. A military and power structure that will do anything, including the destruction of Niall’s beloved family, to bring him under their control and use him for world domination. Of this, and possibly other worlds
...

London, in my estimation, did a beautiful job of making me feel her characters. I actually understood, and admired, Niall. My admiration was not only for his special abilities, but also for his love of and deep commitment to his family. In the face of horrific circumstances, he stands by his family and continues to fight for them, when everyone around him is betraying his faith, his honour and his commitment to country. The very thing that Niall has fought for, and watched his friends die for, is pulled into the light, and that light shines upon a dark and venomous snarl of greed and xenophobia that would happily watch whole civilizations die, accepting only the technology and power that those cultures might provide. In all, humanity at its slimiest, humanity who would sentence millions to death, while gobbling up their scientists to live as virtual prisoners, slaves to the military-industrial complex. Yep. Humans all right. Humans who would imprison a decorated military man under “correct supervision”, using him as a lab rat to assure his “asset to this nation” status.

Yes, a lot of the book made me sick. I want to howl in despair at the horror of the reality of what humans truly are, what they are truly capable of. Of human avarice, hatred, brutality and vicious self-aggrandizement, the truly black and horrific souls within. Sick, in that everything that London writes is so very gut-wrenchingly believable in so many ways. So real within the fictitious world that she creates. Amidst the black holes, space-time jumps, dark matter universes and other fascinating and well-researched portions of the book, London delves into the human psyche, and lays bare its soul. And proves, beyond a doubt, the very reasons that, even if there are other civilizations out there, my view of how they would view Earth is “That poor, beautiful orb, filled with the trailer trash of the universe, vicious, dangerous creatures to be avoided at any cost.” I can see the signs hanging in space now:

Overall, if you are a lover of science fiction style fantasy, I cannot recommend this book highly enough. It was on my back burner for a while, a lot longer than I had wished for it to be, but I am so very glad that I finally sat down and read it. It was well worth the time. More than worth it. This book needs a lot more attention than it is getting right now. Go out and buy it. I can guarantee you that you will be recommending it to your friends. It's very creativity of concept makes it a standout in the field. That should draw you in. What will keep you there is the writing, the characterizations, and her deep understanding of the human psyche will keep you reading, and watching for the next in the series.

Highly recommended.

Paula says

PHENOMENAL!! I love this book, and I am so glad it is only the first of a series. I really took my time reading this. There was so much thought and intent put into each detail, that I wanted to make sure I took it all in. First, I love military-covert ops, strictly classified, GI-Joe, dirty politicians, shoot-em up stories - love em! I also happen to live for fantasy and science fiction especially... so the two married and had this beautiful child of a book. No review I give is going to do this story justice, but please take my advice and read this book!

Major Niall Kearey is a real life hero, he loves his country and serves it proudly, he loves his wife and family, and he is a stand up honest man... except he has been keeping a secret his whole life. The way the author weaves this world with one across the galaxy, is a beautiful thing. Human attributes make the natives of Astreal relate-able, and the way everything comes together is pure genius. I wish every ending was a satisfying as this one was. This military thriller turn paranormal/science fiction adventure will leave you wanting more from Ms. London. An absolutely amazing story!

I was provided an ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Christoph Fischer says

"Rogue Genesis" by Ceri London is a complex, highly intelligent and competently written Science Fiction / fantasy thriller. I don't often read Science Fiction and only let my curiosity get the better of me because several of my friends raved about this book. They were right to do so.

The story is based on a excellent idea: A man from Earth who kind of lives in two worlds at the same time. The other world, Astereal, is in danger because the fragile balance of black holes holding it in place is coming loose. The concept of time folds, time warps, astral travel or whatever phrase you would like to use for this double existence is highly original, fascinating and certainly unique. It made the story stand out from others in the genre just for that. With this creative set up, the subplots and the competent military/ technological writing it is impossible to find fault with this book.

Our protagonist, US Air Force Major Niall Kearey, is a splendid character with his own family life, deep thought and with - literally - A LOT on his overloaded mind. The way the author blends the telepathic fantasy side with more technological science fiction and fantasy is brilliant and made me think that maybe I should read scifi books more often. This is a far cry from repetitive and formulaic writing; this novel is innovative and therefore hugely rewarding.

It is also a gripping thriller, a family story and simply a must read.

Su Williams says

Can I get a whoop whoop! Loved this book. I'm not normally real big on the time travel sci fi thing, but indie author Ceri London definitely caught my attention with her writing style and a compelling story. It was a little hard to follow sometimes but I think that was more due to me than the book. Bravo to Ms London for creating a fantastic story.

mirba says

Another great book found in the amazon free books.

I was expecting something completely different (from some misterious reason the combination of author name and cover made me expect some cheesy sci-fi/romance) but was really really happy to be wrong.

Well written, great story, great characters.

Simon Okill says

Rogue Genesis by Ceri London is an awesome EPIC scifi thriller. First the cover - WOW this cover is so gorgeous it sends out mind waves - READ ME! Second the story - INCREDIBLE beyond mere words to describe. But I'll give it my best shot.

Major Niall Kearey has a strange ability. He can sense danger of any kind which comes in handy for his military ops. But this gets him noticed by the wrong people - covert government types. Niall also slips out of his body when in dangerous situations and travels 1000s of light years across the universe to Astereal, a planet in flux due to seven black holes pulling it apart. When on Astereal he inhabits an alien body to interact and slowly learns this planet is not a dream world. The descriptions of this planet are stunningly breath taking and made this reader sigh.

The author skilfully weaves a complex tale of mind warping, sinister organizations and a man who can exist in two worlds at the same time, two worlds inextricably connected, two worlds he must save along with his family. This reader loved every moment of every page so beautifully written.

But Niall is just a man, not ordinary - but can this terrible burden be resolved or will two planets be destroyed. Read and find out as Niall sorts out what can only be described Dune-like problems on a mega scale.

A FIVE STAR EPIC SCIFI THRILLER and a must read. Highly recommended.

Christopher Lambert says

From the very first page, Ceri London had me hooked! I liked the combination of action, drama and suspense as we take a rollercoaster of a ride throughout the novel. The character and story development were very thorough. I really liked the characters of Niall Kearey, his wife, Tami, Dr. Jacqueline Bison, and Uathach. The novel had very likeable, interesting characters, to say the least. London paints a portrait of each of her characters with such lurid words. From the humans on Earth to the beings of Astereal, the characters are fleshed out and are made real for the reader.

The imagination, time, and effort that London put into the novel shines over all. I found myself completely enthralled with the beautiful, mystical landscapes that she creates, along with the realistic feel she gives everything in the novel. I very much enjoyed the scientific aspect of the novel, as well. As someone who is not into science fiction, per say, I thought this novel was spectacular! I am very anxious to read more.

Jodi Woody says

I was given this book for an honest review by the author, Ceri London. First I just need to mention to all of my Christian friends that, though I am a creationist Christian, I read this book, as it was intended as a work of FICTION. So if it bothers you to even hear the word evolution, don't bother, having said that, I just loved this book. It is a long read, but worth every minute. This is not a book you can 'skim' through; every word is part of the story. I loved the characters, especially the Hero, military guy with a heart. There are more twists and turns in this book than a mountain logging road. This book can be read as a 'stand alone' story; I appreciate that, but will be continued. I for one will be sticking with this author and this storyline. I recommend this for teens and up (there is very little swearing and no sexual content). I give this book 5+ stars.

Tammy Salyer says

Rogue Genesis, the first novel in Ceri London's Shimmer in the Dark series, is an intricate and visionary science fiction novel that resembles a mash-up of notables like David Weber's Honor Harrington series and Peter Hamilton's *The Dreaming Void*. With a grand scope and intimate storytelling style, *Rogue* follows one man, a highly decorated and successful US special forces soldier, as he tries to save not only his family from a malevolent secret society of psychics, but also an entire alien civilization from the devastating cosmic forces that are set to destroy their home world.

Weaving political intrigue, scientific exploration, and elements of fantasy into a suspenseful narrative, London's story is highly ambitious in its vision, and she pulls it off with the kind of necessary plausibility that will appeal to many hard SF fans along with a look inside the intimacies of human nature and relationships that will appeal to those who prefer more character-driven novels.

Though the novel's initial pace is leisurely, London enhances long moments of slow narrative with superbly executed and exciting action that will definitely get your heart racing and your fingers turning the page. *Rogue* is a novel that is best consumed in large chunks, as its meandering and subtle reveals require a high level of concentration to fully grasp. It is the perfect novel for a weekend spent relaxing beachside or for filling time during a long overseas flight.

Dylan Hearn says

Major Niall Kearey is an all action hero with an edge, he can sense danger before it happens. By allowing his subconscious to escape into an imaginary world he's known since he was a child, Kearey is able to identify a way out of danger and then act. But then he discovers a shocking truth. The world he's known for so long

isn't imaginary but real, and they need his help to save their population before the planet's consumed by a black hole.

If you like your science fiction big, full of action and ideas, then this is the book for you. In *Rogue Genesis*, Ceri London successfully combines the raw excitement of a military conspiracy thriller with the ideas and scope of a space opera, taking the two separate storylines, one on earth, the other on Astereal, and intelligently drawing them together to a satisfying conclusion.

The two worlds, the dystopian conspiracy on Earth and the collapsing civilisation on Asetreal are very well put together. You cannot help but be pulled along by Kearey as he tries to do what's best for his family, his country, and his friends on another planet. The action scenes are tough and visceral, and there are enough twists and turns to keep

This is a big book and it's unsurprising there are the occasional missteps. At points the action slows as each of the elements are brought into alignment. Sometimes there is too much reliance on the science behind what's happening, making the story more, rather than less confusing. There is also an issue that Major Kearey reaches the peaks of desperation quite early in the story, meaning emotionally he has nowhere else to go, which can be a little draining. However, for the quality of the writing, the scale and ambition of the story, and the sheer breadth of ideas make this a book worth reading. I can't wait to read the next. Recommended.

Marcha Fox says

Rogue Genesis

I was continually awed and amazed by the plot twists and connections woven throughout this fast-paced story. The protagonist, Niall, is a kickass, Special Forces type who has an uncanny knack of smelling trouble and escaping just in the nick of time. This does not escape notice by his superiors who decide to find out exactly what his psychic abilities comprise. As it turns out, even Niall doesn't understand their extent until he realizes the excursions he's enjoyed since childhood to the distant planet, Astereal, were real, leaders on that planet now looking to him to save them as it's in the process of being destroyed by the gravity of its neighboring dark stars, a.k.a. blackholes.

As the U.S. military fully recognizes his talents he of course becomes a threat and the intrigue begins. Earth's magnetic grid plays an important role as do various locations where significant anomalies are known to exist and how they affect his abilities. The story cleverly weaves within its scientific premise such things as psi phenomena, astral projection, and teleportation along with a touch of conspiracy theory and the origin of ancient civilizations who possessed technologies we cannot duplicate today.

Anyone fascinated by quantum and string theory, psi phenomena, civilizations on other planets, or just any other unsolved mystery you can name or imagine up to and including "ancient aliens" will really enjoy this book and how it's all tied together in such a credible way. My only criticism is that at times the story moved faster than I would have preferred, not allowing me to ponder and visualize the various locations and characters as much as I'd like but that will undoubtedly be rectified easily enough when I read it again, which I surely will.

Lotta Bangs says

Shimmer In The Dark: Rogue Genesis
by Ceri London

If only this book had been published a few months earlier, it would have completely taken the wind out of the sails of Messrs. Resnick and Malzberg and they could have continued mumbling into their beards unheard and ignored.

This SF story is the debut novel of a young English woman who has managed to get absolutely everything right. She has plenty of hard science, carefully researched, her hero is a well-drawn US Air Force Major who specializes in hazardous casualty evacuations from war zones and she has all that properly researched too. Major Niall Kearey is a family man in love with his beautiful wife, so there are no sexual shenanigans to upset the old fogeys.

The plotting is seamless, the story very exciting, the writing superb and you won't be able to resist falling in love with the characters. This is the best SF story I have read in thirty years and it's the first of a series.

Niall has learned to hide his psychic ability since childhood when first the whispering, strange dreams and shadowy monsters woke him screaming. His mother moved them to a new house away from the 'evil spirits', his father took to drink. To prevent causing them further distress Niall buried his secret so deep in his subconscious even he believed that the strange world he visited, with its advanced telepathic people living in floating cities was an imagined dream. He rationalized his fleeing there when in extreme stress or danger as just his mind evading the looming crisis.

Major Kearey has had too many life-saving precognitive visions to dismiss them. His wife Tami has her own psychic ability, and now his 6-y-o daughter Lizzie also wakes screaming from the night terrors.

After one too many impossible escapes from certain death, the Air Force also notices and he is ordered into a new classified project where his talents can be investigated surreptitiously.

Then comes the day when he is pulled to Astereal while still awake and conscious on earth and finally has to admit that Astereal is a real place not just an exciting dream he has imagined, and this world will soon be torn asunder by the forces of the unbalanced black holes around it.

Niall struggles to master the knowledge and abilities required to help the Astereans while hiding his powers from those seeking to investigate them and shield his beloved family from the secret power brokers who hope to tear them from him for their own purposes. To get help for his family Niall is forced to come clean.

The Earth powers are all hungry for the new technology of Astereal but Niall is handicapped by their distrust, suspicion and efforts to try to control him. Everybody seems to want a piece of him, but they all want him to do only what they allow and attempt to keep the star-traveler on a short leash. The alignment of Astereal and Earth is looming closer and closer, and still Niall isn't ready. Before his preparations are complete, he is incarcerated and illegally tortured by his own countrymen.

He manages to escape and flees, struggling to complete his work with the entire worlds' resources mobilized to find and recapture him. Despite his many setbacks and fears for his family, the drama eventually concludes in an entirely satisfying though surprising manner.

With the knowledge Niall has gained of the true workings of government, the Air Force and politics, it will be interesting to see what role he will play in the follow-up and third books in this trilogy.

I received a free advance copy for an honest review as part of a Read 4 Review offer.

David Bruns says

I tend to separate my science fiction into two categories. In some SFF, the science part is a story element used as a setting or a device to keep the plot moving forward. Then there are the tales where the science is integral to the story, almost like another main character.

Rogue Genesis is the latter, the kind of science fiction where I found myself googling terms like “geo-magnetic flux” and “ley lines” in my spare time.

But lest you be frightened away by the science, fear not, good reader! The story of Major Niall Kearey, USAF, is a great read with lots of well-developed characters and military-political intrigue. Kearey has had greatness thrust upon him, the fate of a world rests on his abilities to navigate space-time.

As a small child, Niall found his mind could slip away to what he thought was a dream world. Over time he came to realize the dream world was an actual planet on the opposite side of the universe called Astereal. Kearey travels there in the blink of an eye and is able to interact with the Astereans by taking a host body, which the Astereans gladly offer. Earth and Astereal exist in different timeflows, meaning that a very short period of time is much longer on Astereal and Niall’s visits span many generations of Asterean history.

As we enter the story, Astereal is slowly being torn apart by “dark stars” or black holes. The upside to the dark star problem is that it is also slowing Asterean time down to match Earth’s timeflow, a point called Alignment. As Alignment approaches, Niall’s powers grow beyond mind travel such that he is able to open portals in space-time and move actual things, like people. A lot of people.

Earth (understandably) is worried about the potential for a rogue super-psycho-kinetic mind traveler to transport millions of aliens to our planet. Enter the bad guys: a shadowy organization reaching the highest levels of world power who are very interested in Asterean technology. Through a series of carrot-and-stick maneuvers, they compel Kearey to cooperate.

The stakes mount for Kearey. His wife, his children, and the Asterean race all become pawns in an intergalactic game of chicken. Major Niall Kearey, USAF, needs to come up with a new plan.

Geo-magnetics, flux engines, secret societies, portals, space-time slipping, aliens, mental shields, and dark stars, Rogue Genesis literally has them all, but somehow Ms. London makes it all work in this self-described “science fiction/fantasy techno-thriller.”

First in “Shimmer in the Dark” series, I will definitely be coming back for more.

Cross-posted on my blog at <http://davidbruns.com/2014/03/12/rogu...>

Lilian Roberts says

I purchased this book because the cover was very intriguing. I love science fiction and I was sure that this

book was for me, and I was right. Only a third into the novel I found myself pulled into the plot like a magnet. "Rogue Genesis" by Ceri London is an amazing novel very well written and filled with a mixture of emotions, fantasy, thrill, suspense, drama and mystery. A very complex novel that kept me glued to the pages cover to cover.

The story is about a man from earth Niall Kearey, his wife Tami, Dr. Jacqueline Bison, and Uathach. Niall found from a very young age that he had an amazing ability to travel in a blink of an eye from earth to another world at the opposite side of the universe called Astereal. At first he thought it was simply a dream but soon he realized that it was really happening. He lived in two different worlds at the same time, which I found captivating and enthralling.

Astereal is a fantasy world brilliantly created by the author and it is in grave danger. It reminded me a little about superman and his planet Krypton before it was destroyed. The characters are very likable and very believable. London paints a picture of her characters cleverly and the reader can't help but fall in love with them. Niall's love and deep pledge to his family is remarkable.

The author did a fantastic job with this book. Niall's life is very complicated and wonderfully presented by the author. On earth he is working trying to find a connection between supernatural and what is happening around him while keeping his family safe. In Astereal, he is a field general who is trying to transport many aliens to earth before their planet is destroyed.

I am so glad that I decided to buy the book, because I loved getting lost into this astounding plot. I don't think I have ever read a science fiction book that I enjoyed more than this one, in a very long time. I would recommend this to anyone who is interested in science fiction and would like to read an absolutely fascinating book.

Travis Luedke says

So, you like scifi?

How about epic, universal, telepathic, psychokinetic, electromagnetic, space-time warping, worm-holing scifi?

Yeah...I thought so.

This novel is all that and so much more.

Rogue Genesis presents us a seemingly simple military man, Niall, who has a little something special, an uncanny intuition, and the ability to astral project out across the reaches of space. Niall soon learns he will be held responsible to save all 100 million inhabitants of an alien planet on the far side of the universe. This planet he visits regularly in his subconscious dreams, Astereal, happens to be parked curbside to the apocalypse. Not one, not two, not even three, but SEVEN black holes encircle this poor solar system. And one of them has become dominant, throwing the whole deal off balance.

But the US govt., and age-old corrupt secret societies are not having it. Not unless they are in control of Niall and his abilities.

Niall finds his whole world turned inside out, friends become enemies, everything he holds dear is

threatened, and yet the responsibility to save these alien people resides solely in his hands.

Astereal is running out of time, and Niall is running out of options on Earth. As this epic paranormal scifi thriller drags you to the clinch point, we realize the future of mankind and the Astereans depend on the choices Niall makes.

As it says so eloquently in the description, “The fate of two worlds rests on his shoulders.”

They say you can’t judge a book by its cover, but this one you can. The book is even more awesome than the pop-bang-wow head-turning cover art.

If you call yourself a fan of scifi, you need to read Rogue Genesis.

Just do it.
