



Among the Nameless Stars

Diana Peterfreund

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Before Kai joined the Cloud Fleet, he wandered... AMONG THE NAMELESS STARS

Four years before the events of FOR DARKNESS SHOWS THE STARS, the servant Kai left the North Estate, the only home he'd ever known, and Elliot North, the only girl he ever loved, in search of a better life. But the journey was not an easy one.

Featuring narrow escapes, thrilling boat races and at least one deadly volcanic wasteland.

Among the Nameless Stars Details

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Author : Diana Peterfreund

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From Reader Review Among the Nameless Stars for online ebook

Aoi says

Among the Nameless Stars is the prequel to For Darkness Shows the Stars, filling us in on Kai's escape from the North Estates and his meeting with Captain Innovation.

Reading this isn't very essential to enjoy the series; but for me, it was a valuable glimpse into the making of Captain Malakai Wentworth. His struggle and despair at making a new life, his conflicting feelings of longing for Elliot and betrayal for her choice, makes his character even more compelling.

Jodi Meadows says

:D :D :D

Sara says

This is a short story about Kai. He is a servant known as a Post, to the Luddites. Everyone is seperated into their class. He decides to leave the life he has in search for something better. He leaves for the enclaves. Here he is trapped into a worse life of servitude to Pen. Pen is extremely evil and manipulative. He didn't die in the end, but I guess he got his dues. It will be interesting to see if he is in the rest of the series.

I really enjoyed the writing style. Kai would write or pretend to write letters to the girl, Elliot, that he loves/loved. I enjoyed these and it gave insight into his mind and past and feelings. Highly recommend.

Norah Una Sumner says

"How did anyone see the stars and not wish for more than the confinement they were born to?"

This is a really nice prequel to For Darkness Shows the Stars. We learn about Kai's life after he ran away from the North estate and how he felt about Elliot not coming with him. I thought that we would see what Kai did after he went with the Admiral and his family and how he felt when he came to the North estate again, so I'm a little sad that those things weren't shown in this book. However, it was a really nice and quick read.

Bethany says

Seeing this was a prequel to For Darkness Shows the Stars, I decided to read it as a sample to help me make my mind up if I wanted to read the book. And boy do I want to.

Peterfreund writes an interesting short story that is part dystopian with flecks of fairy tale bits. Makes me wonder what her other novels are like and I guess I'm going to have to find out.

Books says

I haven't yet read "For Darkness Shows the Stars" but I've seen it getting a lot of good reviews everywhere, so I was happy to download this from Amazon when it was free for Kindle. During the first half of this quick read, I felt a little as though I stepped into the middle of the story and missed out on a lot of Kai's history with Elliot, but I soon realized this is only the prequel to "For Darkness Shows the Stars" and was relieved to know we'll find out more about Elliot and Kai in the first book. I enjoyed this novella immensely and in the span of twenty minutes I really got to know and understand Kai's character and his motivations. I'm a little weary of reading another dystopian book as the last ones I've read turned out to be rather formulaic with nothing new to add to this genre, but from what I can tell from the prequel, that might probably not be the case with this series. "Among the Nameless Stars" is well worth the read.

Kailey (BooksforMKs) says

I loved this prequel showing how Kai managed to run away from the North Estate, and his disappointment that Elliot didn't join him. All while I was reading For Darkness Shows the Stars, I kept wondering, How did Kai make his fortune? What was he doing all those years out on the ocean? How did he meet the Innovation family and become such a brilliant mechanic/inventor? And this little story answers most of those questions.

For a novella, there is a really good story-arc, with some depth and complexity, but I wish there were more seafaring in the story. I've always loved Kai's character, and seeing these experiences that made him so serious-minded helped me understand him better.

TheMadHatter says

First Read: 23 June 2016

Second Read: 17 April 2017 - This is a short story linked to the first book which is a futuristic/steampunkish version of Persuasion (Book 2 is a retelling of Scarlet Pimpernell). This details what happens to Kai (aka Cpt Wentworth) when he originally leaves Elliot (aka Anne). This is the book series I re-read when I need a persuasion hit....with a twist. Looking forward to re-reading book 1 and finally reading book 2.

Original Review - Actual Rating: 3.5 Stars.

I have not been subtle in my love of Jane Austen's Persuasion. I simply love it. So when I heard about this futuristic adaptation of the novel, I just had to read it and connect once again with Anne-Wentworth (aka

Elliot-Kai). Most readers recommend starting with this short story first as it is told for Kai's POV and it allows you to understand the futuristic world setting (a bit) and learn more about Kai's back story exploring some of the missing years after he leaves the North Estate.

I really enjoyed it and it definitely made me want to pick up book 1. Loved the idea of the world with the Luddites and the CORs and looking forward to book 1 and finding out more how the world came to be as it is. I am just hoping the author takes some artistic liberties with the Persuasion story and makes it her own. In fact, I am half agony and half hope over it :-)

Dragana says

While For Darkness Shows the Stars talked about present and past relationship between Kai and Elliot, prequel novella Among the Nameless Stars is about the time period that very much intrigued me, but is not covered in main novel. It's about the time Kai's spent alone away from the estate as free Post.

Kai soon discovers that freedom has many forms and influences his life in more ways than he's expected. Because Kai is now not only free from commands of Baron North but also from his protection. And unprotected posts do not have it easy... Prepare for some heartbreaking moments. But will Kai regret his decision? I do not think so, because as Kai poetically said:

"How did anyone see the stars and not wish for more than the confinement they were born to?"

Writing novellas that are set between main books in the series has become a trend lately but there are a lot of times when these short stories do not add nothing significant to the whole picture. This is not the case with Among the Nameless Stars, we learn a lot more about Kai's feelings and life of free Posts in the big city. So, grab it while it's free and enjoy a little bit more of Diana Peterfreund's beautiful writing!

In The End...

Among the Nameless Stars is definitely worth to be read by all of those who liked For Darkness Shows the Stars, it will give you intriguing new glimpses into the society and Kai's character. While it's numbered as a prequel, my recommendation is to be read after the main novel, when you are already familiar with terms and world.

My rating: 4 stars

Disclaimer: This text is also posted on my blog Bookworm Dreams in a little bit more styled edition.

Sophia says

Among the Nameless Stars is a prequel companion novella to For Darkness Shows the Stars. It falls chronologically before FDStS, but actually works best reading it as a follow up.

This novella fills in some of the gap of the four years that Kai is gone from the North estate. It is told from Kai's point of view and covers the time of his adventurous, danger-fraught journey from the North Island and to parts south and to Channel City. Kai is hurting that Elliot would not come with him, lonely, scared, but very determined that this is right. He wants to be free and make something of himself rather than remain back on the estate slogging away with no chance of advancement or change as the status of a poor slave for the aristocratic Norths.

Kai is confronted by evidence that his former home might have been dull and constricting, but was in no wise the misery-laden and deprivation ridden one like what he sees other Reduction and Post workers experiencing. He also learns that the cost of personal freedom and advancement is high and rare. He is forced to exchange one slavery for another and is now glad that Elliot didn't come with him and is far from his new miserable existence. But then he spies a chance to get out from under his indenturehood to a crime boss and takes it. He encounters the Innovations and the begins of the Cloud Fleet are born.

This was a tough coming of age tale and I enjoyed getting it. I was curious about the details of Kai's time away and how his adventures shaped him.

Those who enjoyed For Darkness Shows the Stars should definitely read this one.

Mairéad (is roaming the Undying Lands) says

For my first story read for the new year, I award it 4.5 stars--only because I wished it continued beyond the 60 pages there was lol.

I actually really liked this prequel novella a lot. Much different than I thought it would be. It begins with a very bitter and resentful Kai who escapes the estate without his beloved Elliot. The letters he writes to her, whether by hand or by mind, that he never sends to her are meaningful and display exactly how much she means to him. And I loved that aspect to his character. He also never really gave up, and kept fighting against his unfortunate circumstances. It's remarkable how much he changes in a mere 60ish pages.

I can't wait to read the novel sometime now. I want to see exactly how he fares. And if he succeeds in his fierce desires that is spoken of throughout the story.

Julie says

Actual rating: 3.5

This novella was enjoyable but I had a few problems with it which I shall go into once I write up my proper review for this. It was difficult not to compare it to For Darkness Shows The Stars which is unfair because it's only a prequel novella but I'll elaborate further later.

Elaney says

It's FREE on kindle!

Eh. It was ok.

Kaede says

Among the Nameless Stars is available for free with the link that can be found here.

Now originally I had no intentions of reading Among the Nameless Stars. That may or may not be due to the fact that I had no knowledge of it's existence. But one way or another, I managed to find my way to this prequel, and boy am I glad I did.

For Darkness Shows the Stars is one of my most anticipated books of 2012, so I was really upset when I couldn't work it into my TBR pile until July at earliest. But then, my super awesome friend directed me to the URL for the sixty page prequel, and I knew that someone had answered my prayers. And just for the fun of it, I'll include my reactions after my friend told me about Among the Nameless Stars:

Friend: "Kaedeeeee, have you read For Darkness Shows the Stars yet?"

*Me: *glares angrily**

*Friend: *backs up slowly with a mocking smile* "Whoa now, someone's got an attitude."*

*Me: *laughs* "Sorry. And to answer your question, no. I want to, but I have no time. Unless...you want to read all these books for me and then tell me if they were good or not?"*

Friend: "Thanks but no thanks. And if you don't have the time to read For Darkness Shows the Stars, why don't you read the prequel first? It's short and free."

*Me: *screams so loudly that my friend is forced to cover her ears and run a safe distance away from me* "WHERE! WHERE, WHERE, WHERE?"*

Okay, enough of that, you get the point. But even if you do have the time and plan to read For Darkness Shows the Stars soon, I'd say read Among the Nameless Stars first. It's a **prequel** for a reason darling. In a rough sixty pages, Diana Peterfreund is able to explain how Elliot and Kai got to where they are in For Darkness Shows the Stars.

And weren't those letters just the sweetest? It's too bad that a guy like Kai, a guy who still *knows* how to write and doesn't spend his life gaming, comes around once in a million.

Natália Lopes says

Actual rating: 3.5 stars

This novella takes place after Kai ran away from the North state, leaving Elliot and the life he always knew behind. It tells a little of what happened with him in the 4 years he's been away and how he came to meet the Innovations and become a part of the Cloud Fleet. It was nice to follow Kai's POV for a while, I was always wondering what he was thinking during For Darkness Shows the Stars and what he was feeling, and I got at least a brief glimpse here. I still think he was a bit unreasonable with Elliot, but I can understand his desire to go away and be free. He went through a lot after the escape the North State.

The only thing I felt was a little bit unresolved for me was his two friends, Cleopatra and his little brother, Napoleon, the ones he was teaching how to read and write. Are they supposed to be Andromeda and her brother in the past? That's how they met and the siblings ended up in the Cloud Fleet? Because I thought the story of these two siblings in this novella resembled the siblings in the main novel, especially when Kai mentions that Cleopatra told him about her original state and how bad it was there and we know for a fact that Andromeda and her brother escaped their state very young because of all the violence and abuse they suffered. I like to think that it was indeed them in this novel and that's why Andromeda is so protective of Kai - because he was the one to actually save them, by helping them and after through the Innovations, getting them on Cloud Fleet.

Nice novella to add to this world Diana Peterfreund created!
