



# The Seams Between The Stars

*Kameron Hurley*

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**The Seams Between The Stars** Kameron Hurley

A short story in the world of 'God's War'.

## The Seams Between The Stars Details

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Author : Kameron Hurley

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## From Reader Review The Seams Between The Stars for online ebook

### Jenni says

A glimpse into the wider universe, the scope beyond Umayma, in Hurley's Bel Dame Apocrypha. Utterly depressing, which I love.

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### Katy says

I found this short story free on-line at this site, where you can download it in PDF or from Smashwords. This is a prequel short story in the Bel Dame Apocrypha, which I am going to read as soon as I've read the two free short stories available on-line.

This is a desolate science fiction story. I imagine a lot of the themes will make more sense to me once I've read the first full book, *God's War*. The writing is gorgeous. If you like sci-fi and enjoy a sort of desolate, war-torn universe, check out this series by reading these free shorts.

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### Athena says

Well *that* was depressing. Bit hard to follow; need to read book 1.

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### Peter says

A short story that left me more bewildered about what's going on in its universe than before I read it. Maybe the other stories in the God's War series will clear things up?

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### carol. says

<http://www.kameronhurley.com/free-sho...>

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### Jezier says

Nie przeczyta?em jeszcze 'God's War', ale to opowiadanie dobrze wró?y.

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### Kira says

4.5 Stars

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## Lance says

*"I wondered if it would be enough. Wondered if it mattered. One more dead boy, circling another dead world that did not want us."*

This is another addictive extension to Kameron Hurley's *Bel Dame Apocrypha* universe. It examines the dark disposability of young men in war, with all the stylistic urgency of a first-person shooter.

*"These things I find in the seams between the stars, they are not broken... they are just gently used."*

Here we get the perspective of a young soldier, presumed dead, from the Christian interplanetary dealers in biological weapons of New Kinaan. *"We were seeded and grown in batches, and there were only so many different faces on a field like the one she pulled us off."* The New Kinaanites' recklessness and arrogant manipulation of nature has forced them to breed a 'caste' of soldiers as pest-control tasked with managing the mutant product of their genetic tampering with nature. *"We killed them in droves, but they kept coming, these small horses that grew great claws and mandibles and shed mucus and bloody snot and crushed us whole in jaws the size of military lockers."* The nameless narrator is bland, lacking in identity. But is this the result of being created a clone or being raised as one?

*"We were saving the universe from slow contamination."*

The narrator and a squadron of other reanimated soldiers are sweeping planets made toxic by their human inhabitants for genetic material. For some tantalising reason, they are under the leadership of an old Nasheenan general. *"'Always meet violence with violence,' was her first lesson to us, followed closely by, 'If they don't bring violence we bring it.'" who describes her home world Umayma as "a lost relic she called Umayma that stirred at the far edge of some unnamed system."* The unresolved teasing of the squad's purpose was too enticing for me. *"This world is dying anyway. No reason we can't learn something from it before we set fire to the whole thing."* Who do they serve? What are they doing with the genetics they uncover? If they can move between star systems, why not search for more habitable worlds? Perhaps I am attaching this short-story too firmly to Hurley's extended universe rather than appreciating it for what it is. The meek New Kinaanite recruits repeatedly come into conflict with the brutal Umayman veterans. *"Boys on Umayma were trained as soldiers when they were teens, not just born into a warrior caste, like us."* For all the crudeness and swaggering of the Nasheenan boys, it is them who still harbour an attachment to the world of their birth. *"He casually shot Efraim in the head. It wasn't loud – few of our weapons were – and Efraim's body lolled back quietly next to me, the whole back of his head blown out."* And they use the narrator's closeness to their officer to hijack a flight home.

*"The closer we got, the more of the debris turned out, on closer look, to be full, intact ships of all sorts. Spherical objects, like tiny worlds; jagged spires; core-oriented ships with double helix orbiters; blocky squares like pieced-together puzzles; and one horizontal plane that looked like an entire city had once thrived on its surface, powered by some globe at the other end that looked like a fish bowl. There must have been a hundred wandering ships there from a hundred types of worlds."*

I won't spoil the ending.

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## Maggie Gordon says

The plot of *God's War* tells readers that there are worlds outside of Nyx's, but, for the most part, we don't know anything about them. *The Seams Between the Stars* shows us a glimpse of what the rest of the universe looks like. It's pretty unpleasant :| Hurley gives us enough tidbits to make readers wonder what the

hell is going on in this corner of space. So hopefully we get some answers in later books!

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