

Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga)

By Peter F. Hamilton

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Critics have compared the engrossing space operas of Peter F. Hamilton to the classic sagas of such sf giants as Isaac Asimov and Frank Herbert. But Hamilton's bestselling fiction—powered by a fearless imagination and world-class storytelling skills—has also earned him comparison to Tolstoy and Dickens. Hugely ambitious, wildly entertaining, philosophically stimulating: the novels of Peter F. Hamilton will change the way you think about science fiction. Now, with *Pandora's Star*, he begins a new multivolume adventure, one that promises to be his most mind-blowing yet.


The year is 2380. The Intersolar Commonwealth, a sphere of stars some four hundred light-years in diameter, contains more than six hundred worlds, interconnected by a web of transport “tunnels” known as wormholes. At the farthest edge of the Commonwealth, astronomer Dudley Bose observes the impossible: Over one thousand light-years away, a star . . . vanishes. It does not go supernova. It does not collapse into a black hole. It simply *disappears*. Since the location is too distant to reach by wormhole, a faster-than-light starship, the *Second Chance*, is dispatched to learn what has occurred and whether it represents a threat. In command is Wilson Kime, a five-time rejuvenated ex-NASA pilot whose glory days are centuries behind him.

Opposed to the mission are the Guardians of Selfhood, a cult that believes the human race is being manipulated by an alien entity they call the Starflyer. Bradley Johansson, leader of the Guardians, warns of sabotage, fearing the Starflyer means to use the starship's mission for its own ends.

Pursued by a Commonwealth special agent convinced the Guardians are crazy but dangerous, Johansson flees. But the danger is not averted. Aboard the *Second Chance*, Kime wonders if his crew has been infiltrated. Soon enough, he will have other worries. A thousand light-years away, something truly incredible is waiting: a deadly discovery whose unleashing will threaten to destroy the Commonwealth . . . and humanity itself.

Could it be that Johansson was right?

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Hamilton's exhilarating new opus proves that "intelligent space opera" isn't an oxymoron. By the 24th century, the vast human Commonwealth has spread from Earth via artificial wormholes. Various benign or seemingly indifferent alien races have been encountered during exploration of new planets, but an astronomer sparks curiosity by announcing that a pair of stars is enclosed by a mysterious energy barrier. [...] The author deftly juggles many characters in multiple plot lines, sometimes slowing down the action briefly, at other times racing forward. Revelations late in the book will have readers scurrying back to earlier pages to reinterpret what they initially thought. Not many SF writers are capable of tackling such a big project so confidently. In this respect, Hamilton (*Fallen Dragon*) resembles a less cheery but very tech-savvy—and extremely paranoid—Charles Dickens. Given the abrupt cliffhanger of an ending, some may prefer to save this massive installment until the story's conclusion, *Judas Unleashed*, appears next year. Anyone who begins this one, however, probably won't be able to put it down.

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From [Booklist](#)

Hamilton creates a dense, thoroughly defined twenty-fourth-century world, in which humanity has colonized the stars, thanks to the discovery of wormhole travel, and established a successful commonwealth. The species has even encountered aliens and space-faring artifacts. One remaining mystery is the barrier around stars known as the Dyson Pair. Human curiosity still being what it is, a spaceship capable of faster-than-light travel (thanks to those wormholes again) goes to investigate. When what's behind the barrier is discovered, the thrill-ride really starts. Aliens formerly trapped inside it, fighting over limited resources, are freed to invade human space. Unfortunately, that is more or less where this book leaves us, but a sequel is in the works. Hamilton's attention to character development makes the slow buildup to a dizzyingly destructive denouement rewarding, and all the little subplots and threads one hopes will be tied back to the main thread keep it complex and engaging. Hamilton is never simple, and even his aliens are well written, complex creations with their own motivations. *Regina Schroeder*

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Review

“The depth and clarity of the future Hamilton envisions is as complex and involving as they come.”

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“The author’s expansive vision of the future combines action and intrigue on a panoramic scale.”

—*Library Journal*

“Astounding . . . Thrilling . . . Hamilton uses technology to excellent effect.”

—*Science Fiction Age*

“Shows how thought-provoking yet entertaining science fiction can be. Some of the best fiction . . . in years.”

—*Midwest Book Review*

“[Hamilton is] taking on one of sf’s (and maybe all of literature’s) primal jobs: the creation of a world with the scale and complexity of the real one.”

—*Locus*

“[Hamilton is] a rare talent.”

—*The Denver Post*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dana Gallo:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children until adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important normally. The book Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga) ended up being making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The e-book Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga) is not only giving you more new information but also to become your friend when you truly feel bored. You can spend your own personal spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship with the book Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga). You never experience lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

Patricia Watts:

Now a day folks who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each facts they get. How a lot more to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Reading a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information mainly this Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga) book as this book offers you rich info and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it everybody knows.

Todd Porter:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with training books but if you want sense happy read one having theme for entertaining including comic or novel. Typically the Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga) is kind of book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

William Kavanaugh:

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