

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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- Sales Rank: #160956 in Books
- Brand: Del Rey
- Published on: 2005-01-25
- Released on: 2005-01-25
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.90" h x 1.40" w x 4.10" l, .92 pounds

- Binding: Mass Market Paperback
- 992 pages

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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:

Katy Pinkham:

Inside other case, little folks like to read book Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga). You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. So long as we know about how is important a book Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga). You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world by just a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can understand everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple point until wonderful thing you can know that. In this era, we can easily open a book or perhaps searching by internet device. It is called e-book. You should use it when you feel fed up to go to the library. Let's learn.

Chad Foster:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always try to and must have the spare time or they will get great deal of stress from both daily life and work. So , when we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to you of course your answer may unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga).

Mark Nixon:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga), you may enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Eugene Howard:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got students? We believe that that issue was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. So you know that little person just like reading or as studying become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You will find good news or update with regards to something by book. Amount types of books that can you choose to adopt be your object. One of them are these claims Pandora's Star (The Commonwealth Saga).

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