

GE News

Women talk Sci Fi

CUS LOTS OF WOMEN OUT THERE LOVE A GREAT STORY, CUTE MEN AND WOMEN, AMAZING COSTUMES AND A WONDERFUL VISION OF THE FUTURE

GE what's new?

GE News has moved!

We have a new website!

www.genews-ezine.com

Click on the link above and have a look, and well yes it has not changed much at the moment, but it will!

Over the next few months GE News will spend time developing our new look and maybe even another new website or two.

As you can see from our masthead we are GE News ~ Women talk Sci Fi and in the future GE News wants to bring you just that! We are in the process of not only giving you the option of reading our words but also hearing them.

We could be talking with friends or even some actors, or writers or just people who like Sci Fi and why they like it.

So if you see two crazy women with recording devices in their hands running towards you and asking you lots of questions please be gentle, just answer the questions they ask (we promise not to make you look like an idiot). We could make you a star! LOL

So watch this space or maybe keep your ears open too!

Website www.genews-ezine.com

What's inside this issue?

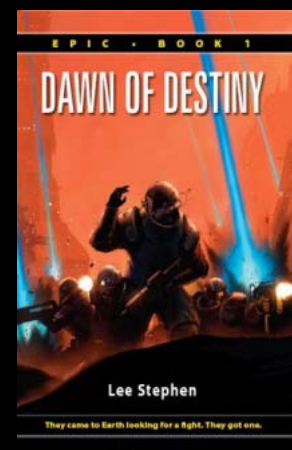
So what have we for you this month?

Star Trek: Aurora



Fantastic Fan Film, don't miss it!

Interview with Sci Fi Author Lee Stephen



Female Leads take Spotlight in Sci-Fi Series' Third Installment

GE have a look at this!

Star Trek: Aurora ~ a fan film by Tim Vining



Ever wondered what happened to all those characters that you saw in a Star Trek episode? Not the crew senior or otherwise but the people that we see for only one episode. Tim Vining did and then he decided to do something about it.

GE News downloaded Tim's film Star Trek Aurora parts one and two of an expected four at www.auroratrek.com. Not really expecting much. How were we so wrong?

"Wow" we thought when we saw the opening shots of this movie! This is a fan fiction production!!! It is fantastic and we

haven't even watched it yet. From the first shot we were captivated. A strong word we know, but before you judge us download the film and watch it. Tim has delivered a work that we feel is equal to many a professional released production. We are in awe of his ability to render characters and his ability to have to portray emotion in his "actors", their movements and more.

Tim developed the storyline, wrote the screenplay and composed the music as well! The voice work was supplied by his wife and friends, more great work that only adds to the film. This is an amazing piece of work and if Tim was to release it commercially we would buy it.

The animation is in our opinion, fantastic, the quality of the rendering is, well, let's say again, fantastic, the colours vivid and crisp and the edges sharp. There is so much attention to detail. You get the feeling that you are watching 3D characters and not just a 2D everyday cartoon!



Cont'd page 3

GE have a look at this!



The animation is just as good as anything that we have seen from some of the big studios and lots of anime. Have a look at the screen shots in this feature and I am sure that they alone will encourage you to "download" this film.

www.auroratrek.com

We are not going to give anything away about the storyline and we understand that what we have said will increase your level of expectation from this film.



Star Trek Aurora, blew us away from the first frame and with episode three to be released in Summer 2008 (Northern Hemisphere, cus it has finished down in Oz, ("the land down under" that is)), we have set an alarm to keep checking for the next release.

Tim Vining should be congratulated for his work and we can't recommend this highly enough. Even if you are not a Trek fan you would find the story engaging, the animation believable, the humour laughable and the characters watchable. Seek out Star Trek Aurora, watch it keep going back to catch the upcoming episodes. The only slightly negative thing that we could say about this film is that other fan fiction animation will be judged by us as "...is it as good as Star Trek Aurora?"



Next issue

Interview with Tim find out how he did it and why!

GE look who we talked to!

Poised for Prime Time



AUTHOR LEE STEPHEN

They're supposed to die quietly.

They're not supposed to become perennial guests on the bestseller's list.

Dawn of Destiny, the first installment of the Epic series, was released in January of 2007. As could be expected from any debut author with no promotional campaign, sales began modestly. How modestly?

"*Dawn of Destiny* sold nine books during the month of March. That's a single digit. Let me tell you, that's humbling." To this day, March of 2007 remains Epic's worst sales month. So why is Stephen smiling? "The scales started tipping that summer. By the end of 2007, monthly sales were in triple digits. In December, we sold 316 copies."

It's a significant number for more reasons than one. Despite not being a Christian series, Epic's spirituality is deeply rooted in Christian ideals—and for Christians, 3:16 is a fairly important number. "It didn't really strike me at first, but when I realized a while later that I'd sold 316 copies during the Christmas season, I'd be lying if I said it didn't make me smile. This series has been in God's hands from day one, so if that's His subtle means of affirmation, hey, I'll take it."

Female Leads take Spotlight in Sci-Fi Series' Third Installment

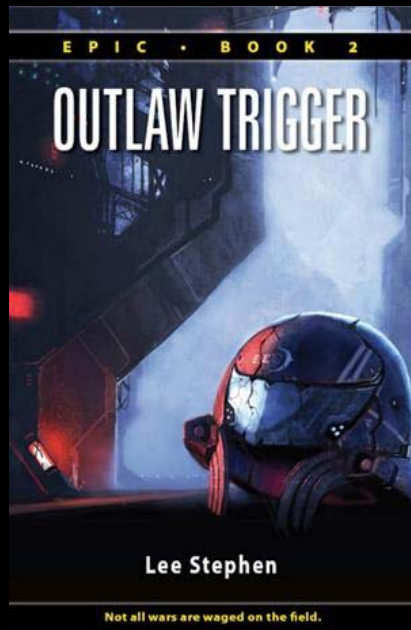
Don't feel bad if you blinked and missed it. The Epic series—published by small-scale Stone Aside Publishing—is a far cry from *Harry Potter* or *Left Behind*. Like a small town on the outskirts of metropolis, Epic has found itself in the unenviable position of almost being a literary unknown. Almost.

"This has been an unbelievable ride from day one," says Epic author Lee Stephen, a New Orleans native. "To think we'd be sitting here in the position we're in, after such a short period of time has passed, it really makes you feel blessed." No, he's not talking about the Big Easy's rebound from Hurricane Katrina (although if you ask him, he'll tell you that the city's biggest triumph was the Saints' first game back in the Superdome). He's got his own reasons to feel blessed. You see, authors like him aren't supposed to exist. They're supposed to be flattened. They're supposed to be suffocated.



Svetlana Voronova

GE look who we talked to!



So how has this simple science-fiction series gained enough momentum to be ranked as high as the #2 general science-fiction series on Amazon.com? Before we begin to answer that, we first have to look at what Epic is.

The premise of *Dawn of Destiny*—the first book in the Epic series—is a simple one. Earth has come under attack by hostile alien forces, resulting in the formation of a global military: the Earth Defense Network (EDEN). Enter series protagonist Scott Remington.

“Scott makes a monumental decision personally by enlisting with EDEN,” explains Stephen. “He’s a young man with a promising life in the civilian world. He’s got a fiancée. He’s got a good future. His decision to enlist takes him away from all of that.”

Dawn of Destiny introduces readers to the Fourteenth of *Novosibirsk*, the squad that becomes Scott’s band of brothers. It’s a book Stephen refers to as an “extended character introduction,” familiarizing readers with the wide cast of characters that will carry the eight-book series to its finale. Don’t let that fool you into thinking it’s a soft read. *Dawn of Destiny* is infused with heroic action and battle sequences, giving readers a front-line view of the Alien War from the soldiers who fight in it. In contrast, book two in the series—*Outlaw Trigger*—is a dramatically darker experience. *Outlaw Trigger* was released to high fan expectations and came out of the gate roaring, debuting as the #1 hot new release for its category on Amazon. According to Stephen, it’s that fan enthusiasm that has made Epic an underground success. “We have no promotional budget. No ads, no commercials, nothing. Everything has been from word of mouth.”

“Without a doubt, this is military science fiction,” Stephen explains, “but if there wasn’t a human element, it would be superficial. You should be able to look at any character in this series and say, ‘I know someone like that’.”

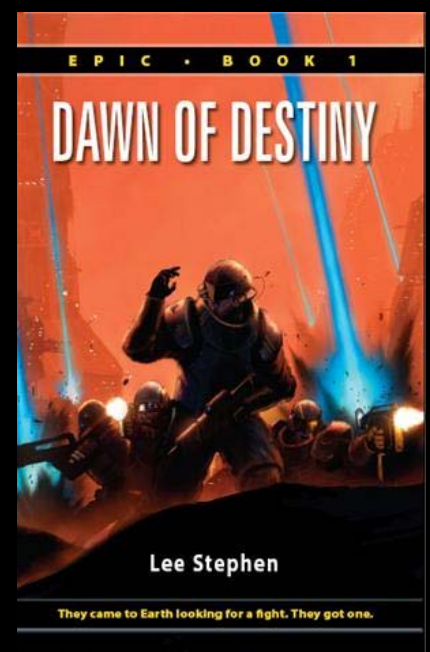
So what should Epic fans look forward to in *Hero*, the series’ third installment?

“The women of Epic are finally getting their due. They’ve waited patiently for their turn in what has so far been a male-dominated series. Svetlana [the unit’s medic] has something to prove. Esther [a special-forces agent] has something to prove, too. What’s going to happen? Just wait and see.”

A release date for *Hero* has not been given. For more information on the Epic series, visit :

www.epicuniverse.com

-Stone Aside Press



GE why I love...!

Why I love Sci Fi. By Jo Shrapnel

Why do I love Sci Fi? What a question? There is no one thing I can put my finger on, I love the use of science to tell a story. I know much of it is made up but as the years go past more and more of it is coming true and surpassing the fanciful ideas put forward decades ago. Things that we think of now as common everyday items such as automatic doors. Star Trek used stage hands only 40 years ago but now we think nothing of a door opening on our approach. Mobile phones are credited by their inventor as being inspired by Star Trek communicators. As time goes by who knows what will be achieved by the scientists and engineers of today and how much will be inspired by science fiction.

My own love of science and decision to pursue it as a career (as a geologist) was inspired by Dr Who, Jon Pertwee to be exact. I loved how he constructed things from the everyday (and not so everyday) to battle his enemies. I have enjoyed science ever since. While my knowledge will never be that of a Time Lord it is an ever inspiring field that I read about still, both inside and outside my skill area.

Sci Fi has also shown women to be more than just a wife of the hero. We can be the hero! Shows such as Star Trek and Dr Who have shown women to be the scientist, warrior, journalist etc. In my home town women were expected to give up their job once they married, this continued until the late 1970's when a women stood up and said no. I was around eight when this happened and don't really remember much of her decision but it is still talked about in my home town as it was a monumental change in town and union policy. Whilst I can't contribute Sci Fi to her decision, it has played a part in my life and choices.



Jo with John Billingsley and Bonita Frederic



Jo with Claudia Christian



Jo with Tony Amendola and Rachel

Stargate is one of the latest Sci Fi shows to portray women not only in the role of leading scientist or more than capable warrior but also in a leadership role. As a women who also is learning martial arts it is refreshing to see a women who can defend herself as well as, if not better than some of the men portrayed in the show and doesn't need to be 'rescued' every episode.

Stargate has also gone a step further than many shows and placed women in roles of leadership, not just of a small team but in overall command of both fictional Stargate programs. The leaders have been portrayed as sometimes fallible but over all competent leaders who can make the easy and hard decisions.

I love the optimism of Sci Fi. Even against the direst of odds people strive to win or just to survive. The message, to me, is to never give up, don't just accept defeat or bad luck. Continue to work towards what you want or need. Life can be hard or unfair but we shouldn't stop.

Life can also be wondrous and Sci Fi can make it even better

GE look what's coming to town!

If you have a show, event, or convention etc let us know and we will put you here too! Send and email to: Contact@genews-ezine.com

Eureka

Showing now on Channel 10 HD in Australia (only two years late after screening in 2006 in the USA) is Eureka. Now, not that naked Greek man running down a street shouting "Eureka, I found it!", but the US Sci Fi TV show. Jack Carter, a US Marshall appears to be transporting a young juvenile delinquent to LA. Circumstances prevail and they get stuck in the town of Eureka. A place every Geek dreams of! Gadgets, gadgets and more gadgets and a house that is just one great big gadget, a geek paradise!

The interesting thing about Eureka is that the hero is your average Joe, not like all of the verrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr smart residents, from all disciplines of science who seem to go a step too far at times! Jack gets the job as the local sheriff and although feeling inadequate solves all the incidents, cus there is little crime in this here town. Funny, clever, cute as a button and as stated before the dream town for geeks, this is a great show and I look forward to seeing more of. Just check out the titles alone and this will give you an idea on what happens on the inside.

Gerri (G)

Eureka

Came across this series by a accident and I am glad I did as it's great to watch. It begins with Jack Carter (why is it that hunky Sci Fi leads are either called Jack or John?) and his daughter breaking down in a town called Eureka. Meeting themselves leaving the town sets the tone that there is something strange about this town. Then you are introduced to Henry Deacon, the town mechanic who also designs rockets and spaceships. Eureka is set up by the US Government to house scientists involved in research in all sorts of amazing experiments. True to form not all of these experiments go to plan and weird things happen. This show will be enjoyed by everyone not just Sci Fi fans. The story lines are interesting and quite funny. The thing that irritates me is the character Jim Taggart played by Matt Frewer, a veteran of many a Sci Fi series who plays an Australian. Yes, well we know how well Australian accents can be mimicked by Americans, just check out Meryl Streep in Evil Angels, he sounds more South African and you cringe when he opens his mouth. But this show should be given a view and I am sure you will get as hooked as I am.

Eugenia (E)

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on so that others can enjoy!**

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Have a look at our MySpace site. If you want to know what is happening in the world of Sci Fi, Fantasy and Horror check out our friends on My Space.

We have amazing friends!

Authors of some of the great Sci Fi and Fantasy books you read as well as Official TV show sites and Official Actor sites as well. Add some of them to your own page and GE NEWS and let's tell the world how much that we love all of these genres. Send an e-mail to your favorite actor or someone that has the same interests as you. There are some fantastic artists who do great artworks, there are podcast sites that point to their downloads and just simply fans as well. So come on over the light is always on and you can drop in anytime!

So let's be friends!

Click on the Picture to get there

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