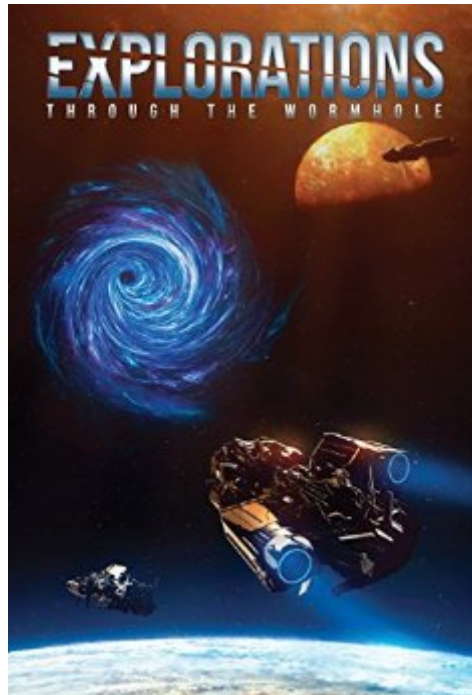


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Explorations: Through The Wormhole



Synopsis

It's 2052 and the first known wormhole appears in lunar orbit. Earth sends a ship to investigate and the future of space travel changes forever. The Solar System develops in many ways over the centuries, but one thing remains constant; the wormholes continue to appear. Join many of today's most exciting indie science fiction authors as they chart a shared universe and future-history, each telling us stories of:

Explorations: Through the Wormhole. The Challenge - Ralph Kern
Through Glassy Eyes - PP Corcoran
Here, Then, Forever - Chris Guillory
AI Deniers - Rosie Oliver
Flawed Perspective - PJ Strebor
The Lost Colony - Josh Hayes
The Aeon Incident - Richard Fox
The Doors of the Temple - Jo Zebedee
Dead Weight - Thaddeus White
Webbed Prisms - Charlie Pulsipher
Anathema - Jacob Cooper
When the Skies Open - Shellie Horst
A Second Infection - Stephen Palmer
Personal Growth - Stephen Moss

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Customer Reviews

Most anthologies of shorts are, by definition, a mixed bag, and the subjectivity of the reader is

forced not merely to interpret one author's work, but at least a dozen of them. With that in mind, one has to be both trepidatious and generous when approaching an anthology. A bad story is no reason to put down the whole book, for a gem may be hiding amid the rough prose. Happily, Explorations 1: Wormholes is light on the rough and dispenses more than its fair share of gems, and a couple of startling diamonds when you least expect it. The stories of Explorations take place in a shared universe, though it often is light on the shared—but heavy on the universe. The stories don't feel as tightly-wound together as, say, the stories from Woodbridge's earlier anthology, The Haunting Of Lake Manor Hotel, where the stories took place in the same building; in Explorations, they take place in the same, er, cosmos. So there's less scope for overlap, but perhaps greater scope for ambition. Explorations opens with The Challenge, by Ralph Kern, who also acts as the anthology's co-editor. It's a steady if unexplosive start, providing thematic exposition and a hint at the dichotomy of the wormhole's nature as a device of hope versus doom, and, in a quantum twist, often both simultaneously. While it doesn't offer any thrills or spills, it does strap us in for the ride. It takes a little while for Explorations to hit its stride. The shared universe aspects of Through Glassy Eyes (PP Corcoran) seem a little detached from the rest of the book thematically, while the language and mood of AI Deniers (Rosie Oliver) veered from faux-comedic at the beginning to stylized noir toward the end, leaving a sense of inconsistency.

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