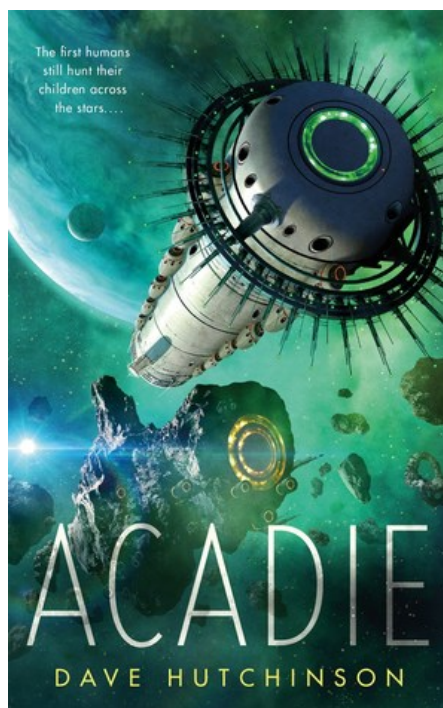




Acadie

Dave Hutchinson

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The first humans still hunt their children across the stars. Dave Hutchinson brings far future science fiction on a grand scale in *Acadie*.

The Colony left Earth to find their utopia--a home on a new planet where their leader could fully explore the colonists' genetic potential, unfettered by their homeworld's restrictions. They settled a new paradise, and have been evolving and adapting for centuries.

Earth has other plans.

The original humans have been tracking their descendants across the stars, bent on their annihilation. They won't stop until the new humans have been destroyed, their experimentation wiped out of the human gene pool.

Can't anyone let go of a grudge anymore?

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Acadie Details

Date : Published September 5th 2017 by Tor.com

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Author : Dave Hutchinson

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Genre : Science Fiction, Novella, Fiction, Short Stories

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From Reader Review Acadie for online ebook

Carlex says

Three and half stars.

An awesome start, very promising; the plot develops well, good dialogues and characters well depicted... but the end kills me. Perhaps this story deserves a full novel.

Trish says

This was such an interesting view at the future!

In the distant future, we have a guy supervising part of a space colony that has no further contact with Earth after an "incident". They travel through space, occasionally settling in a system for some time, but always running away from their persuers while creating all kinds of impressive tech and even tweaking the human genome in some very weird ways.

One day, a probe appears in-system of the current colony so there is an imminent danger, which prompts the MC to take action and sets in motion some interesting events.

What makes this so special is the feel of deep-space exploration combined with human politics, the allure of all that might (hopefully) be possible scientifically in the future and people doing what they do best.

Plus an atmosphere that grabbed me from the beginning and a pretty cool twist to it all in the end.

The Shayne-Train says

For a short novel, the beginning made me really work to get through it. But the story did eventually pick up, and got pretty enjoyable. That being said, it seemed a little too self-aware, to the point of being precious.

Seriously, hundreds and hundreds of years in the future, people are still making Tolkien and Star Wars references? #doubtit

Lucille says

3,5/5 rounded up to 4 because the ending was incredible, blew my mind!! Like WOW. I might read this again because that final twist is the kind that makes you want to read the story again once you know what was going on

Kate says

Excellent novella (or long short story) with a fab ending. I just wish it were longer.

Helen says

Enjoyable novella.

Richard Derus says

Rating: 4.75* of five

The Publisher Says: The first humans still hunt their children across the stars. Dave Hutchinson brings far future science fiction on a grand scale in *Acadie*.

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My Review: What I love about reading Dave Hutchinson's work is the certainty that he's going to flip the script on you at some point. Usually just after you've become comfortable with the world as it is. And always to the effect that you're longing to go back to the way things were. But, just like life, that's not on the table. You can't unsee/unhear/unlearn what's happened. It's a bear, innit?

Why would a sane person like that?! As if I'd know what sane people like, still less why.

In the space of a novella, Hutchinson packs a space opera's worth of concepts and creations. Chief among them is the first-ever pop culture mention of kudzu in a positive light. Kudzu for the uninitiated is a terrifying invader of the southern USA. It destroys any and every man-made thing in its path. It terrifies me. But given its incredibly thoroughgoing colonial growth habit and ability to fix nitrogen, it makes sense to us it for structural elements in a hab(itat) in space.

Stuff still gives me the willies.

I love the use of quantum-entangled bits (qubits) for instant communication across immense distances. It sounds so plausible that I just assigned it the mental label ansible and didn't think much about it again while I was reading. It is cause for pause that I'm using one fictional communication concept to explain another in my mind...maybe I read too much sci fi...naaahhh, not possible. Quantity "too much sci fi" not defined.

It's also the script-flipping ending of the book that leads me into the star-granting stratosphere. It's delicious. It's like the Big Bang...it leads to more questions than answers, which is exactly how I want my fiction. I began to go back over the beginning as I read the ending. It made more sense, It made different sense, really,

not more, and that's something to savor. I've read a lot of books in my life so I'm always after a new sensation. When I find one it makes me very happy.

Which leads to that missing quarter-star. Why, given the praise I'm heaping up here, didn't I give the damn thing the full five?

Ninety-six pages. Ninety-lousy-fucking-six pages. Really, Dave? There'd better be more stories set in this universe.

Just sayin'.

Trevor says

'Duke' is the president of a utopian colony that has escaped from the tyranny of the rest of humanity. The 'habs' they live in are the perfect dream. Illness and even death is overcome. No-one needs to work and life is great. The only thing they have to worry about is being discovered by the rest of humanity.

After three hundred years their security misses a probe but it is captured and disarmed by a pilot of a mining ship. 'Duke's security team cannot understand why the probe was missed and they make plans to move their society on to a new location.

Considering this is a measly 112 pages long, this story could easily cover a trilogy yet it is complete. The characters are likeable, the world is one we would all hope to live in and I think we would all want to defend that life in a similar way.

I love a good short story and Acadie is certainly that. Well written, well thought out and perfectly executed. Fantastic read!

Thanks to Tor Books and Netgalley for the free digital version to review. I always give an honest and unbiased review

Bradley says

On a whim sponsored by a buddy read, I hopped on this novella by Hutchinson not knowing what to expect at all.

I mean, sure, the cover kinda tells me something, but other than something like a deep space opera or a generational ship and perhaps some AI action, I kinda cleansed my mind and let myself slide in.

And it was a gentle ride! Superbrights and an interesting colony and technological advancement and a really laid-back narrator. It was cool and light and pleasant...

Until the end. Or nearly so.

I LOVED the dark twist. :) No spoilers, but it's quite hardcore and tickled all my fancies. Hard SF shouldn't be afraid to go all dark. :) Fun twist, solid story.

Lata says

3.5 stars. Interesting little space opera of a bunch of scientists/rogues/criminals who've established a colony far from Earth. The colony has been researching and implementing a variety of different technologies, and live in fear of being discovered by Earth. The colony is jeopardized with the arrival of a ship/probe.... I liked the setup and the characters, though I was confused by the ending.

Paul says

Acadie's formula is all about the setup for the ending when I felt that the setup should have been more explained. I didn't really enjoy the way the story was told, it seemed like a lot was cut out of the novella. At times it felt like a novel with large chunks taken out. I still enjoyed it and thought the ending was fantastic. I would still recommend it to readers.

Lindsay says

Great novella-length space opera piece with an interesting setup and follow-through.

A group of renegades that have built themselves a space habitat utopia via gene-modding are hiding out from a restrictive Earth regime that vindictively pursues them over centuries. The current president, Duke Faraday, is enjoying his life in the society the group have created when a probe from Earth is detected and action needs to be taken.

This is an interesting novella in a way. A lot of the recently fashionable novellas are either serial novels or novel ideas that haven't been fleshed out to a normal novel length. This one has a more traditional feel, that of a long short story which pivots around a single idea or concept.

It's well-written, but I think the ending will be off-putting for some. It originally went that way for me, but on reflection I quite like what he did with it.

Thomas Wagner says

Full review coming.

Robyn says

Short (cause it's a novella, d'uh), but packs a powerful punch. Hutchinson sketches our quite the universe in so few pages. Very much enjoyed!

Veronique says

Didn't know what to expect when I started this novella, and sure enough, the ending completely got me, which meant I had to re-read it immediately. Some will love this, while others won't, but it will make you think.

This was my first Hutchinson, and yes, I do want to try something else of his, especially now that I have an inkling of his style.
