



Losing the Peace

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Continuing the events detailed in *Star Trek: Destiny*: With the displacement and devastation wrought by the Borg, can the Federation survive?

The Borg invasion has left the Federation reeling. Countless people have been killed or displaced by the wonton destruction, and now seek solace on planets that struggle just to feed their own. The ideals wrought in the paradise that was the United Federation of Planets now seem to be a distant dream. Starfleet is shattered, giving old enemies a chance to gain the upper hand. The question now is, what can one ship, and one captain do to prevent humanity from losing the peace?

Losing the Peace Details

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From Reader Review Losing the Peace for online ebook

Jimmyanni says

In the stories that preceded this book, the Federation fought a terrible, bloody war against the Borg, and the Borg laid waste to numerous planets and did incalculable damage to the Federation in terms of both lives and ships. But the Federation prevailed in the end, the Borg were eliminated as a threat, and the Enterprise lost no major characters. So all is well, right? The world goes back to normal?

Of course not, but that's what we would normally expect in this sort of genre fiction. Death and destruction that doesn't directly impact our characters is usually ignored in subsequent stories. Not this time. This book looks at what happens after that devastating war; there are refugee camps of displaced citizens of worlds that were destroyed, and while only a tiny fraction of the populations of those worlds managed to escape in time, (maybe a hundred thousand or so out of billions for each world) that's still enough people to overtax the resources of the worlds that they are seeking refuge on. The Federation has lost so many ships that their resources are not up to the job of evacuating those refugees to new planets, or even keeping the peace when conflict breaks out between citizens and refugees on the afflicted planets. Survivors have lost family and friends, and suffer from survivor guilt, and hostile empires like the Gorn and the Romulans are potentially going to take advantage of the Federation's weakness if it focusses on humanitarian aid and rebuilding rather than maintaining its borders.

How the main characters deal with all of these issues is perhaps more of a test of their worth than how they deal with straightforward hostility and combat. It shows their mettle under long-term strain dealing with ambiguous situations in which there are no cut-and-dried answers to their problems, where they have to deal with moral ambiguity. Simply by addressing these issues, this book is several cuts above most in the genre. The fact that it actually does a pretty good job of examining them in a fair and balanced way makes it even better.

Scott Williams says

Most Star Trek novels are very heavy on plot and light on character. But that is changing now that CBS Consumer Products is allowing its Trek authors to open up their own post-Nemesis universe and really mess about in the Trek sandbox. It used to be that each novel had to tell a contained story and leave all the characters in the exact same place it found them. That was limiting but it had its charms.

This novel takes place after the universe-changing events of the Destiny trilogy. I still don't love the new Enterprise crew members. They seem far from the "perfect" humans of Roddenberry's TNG TV series. These are deeply flawed people and, though they're dealing with unprecedented tragedies and stresses, I still feel like Star Trek humans should be more evolved than their 21st century counterparts. That said, this novel did offer a few nice character moments to Geordi, Worf, Picard and Crusher.

The themes of immigration and refugees seem more timely to me now, reading in 2016, than they were in 2009 when this was published. I do look forward to continuing to read more of the post-Nemesis novels even though this particular one was not a favourite.

Steve says

Part of me misses the days when you could pick up a Star Trek book, and enjoy a gripping story, knowing that in the end, everything would be the same. These arcs that are building up, show that nothing will be the same. I did find parts of the story to be compelling, but some of the decisions seemed rather out of character, which left me feeling cold. The "climax", what little there was got a few giggles, but that was it. At least I now have solid grounding from stories that I've read before and after this one in the arc.

Crystal Bensley says

Awesome look at the Federation post Destiny in the refugee camps!

Sharon says

Losing the Peace is one of two sequels to the Destiny Trilogy.

In some ways this book reminds me of the The Next Generation Episode 'Family' which told the story of Captain Picard's recovery from his experience with the Borg. Losing the Peace is about the recovery of an entire Quadrant of space. There are no space battles or new Frontiers. It is a bridge story recounting how the Federation deals with the destruction of whole worlds and an untenable refugee situation. I'm glad someone somewhere decided this part of the story should be included in the upcoming literary arc.

Everyone has either lost someone or their home or both. Thousands of Starfleet Officers were lost. People are crowded on to refugee planets and their hosts are begging for help. Violence and disease break out. Things look bleak.

Doctor Crusher gets some backstory and Captain Picard gets to indulge in some 'cowboy' diplomacy and disobeys orders for the greater good.

Its a well written book and probably should be read in tandem with the Book 'A Singular Destiny' which tells the story of the political fallout of the invasion.

Christopher Backa says

A good follow up to the Destiny trilogy. The crisis situation had an interesting set up as tensions grew, however it resolved in typical TNG fashion, I just wish it kept raising the stakes, and sort of gave the situation a typical TNG easy out. The book also sets up the next group of books so we will see where it goes from here.

Luke says

Originally reviewed at <http://wp.me/p4Wvzn-FS>

If you haven't read the Destiny trilogy, read no further because there will be major SPOILERS!

Losing the Peace takes place in the aftermath of the Borg decimation of the Federation and their subsequent absorption by the Cealier. The United Federation of planets is reeling, Starfleet is stretched thin and Federation citizens find themselves homeless and for the first time ever, in need.

The Enterprise having been repaired after the Borg invasion is charged by what remains of the Admiralty to remain close to home and to assist in whatever ways are possible in getting the Federation back to a sense of normality.

In the meantime a heavily pregnant Beverly Picard (née Crusher) is sent on a diplomatic mission of sorts to the aquatic world of Pacifica to ascertain the strain placed on the world as it receives hundreds of Federation refugees from neighboring systems.

Losing the Peace isn't an action packed book by any stretch, but it is a good thought-provoking read and really does serve to portray the sense of helplessness felt by most members of the Federation. There's a particularly wonderful moment in which Picard is offered a promotion to the Admiralty but declines quoting the words of one James T Kirk

"Don't let them promote you. Don't let them transfer you. Don't let them do anything that takes you off the bridge of that ship because while you're there, you can make a difference."

Overall, Losing the Peace was an entertaining read and in its last pages really served to set up further developments in this new harsher Star Trek universe

John says

Possible spoilers ahead.

The Federation is licking its wounds after the Borg razed many of its planets in the epic Star Trek: Destiny trilogy, and millions, maybe billions, are now refugees. This novel examines the fallout from the events of that trilogy, including some of the political ramifications.

While I found nothing particularly special about this novel, there was nothing that really disappointed me either. It is by no means a thriller or adventure novel, but is more of a contemplative and steadily-paced story of how tragic events affect different people. The survivors of the Borg attacks must come to grips with the destruction of their planets, and Starfleet officers themselves are often among those now without a planet. From the back cover of the physical book (yes, I read real paper books whenever I can), you can see that Lieutenant Jasminder Choudhury is one of these. Her home planet, Deneva, was completely destroyed by the Borg, and she is clinging to the small hope that her family was among the few refugees. The book doesn't spend as much time on her as the description suggests, though, and her story is overshadowed by the refugee crisis on the Federation world Pacifica, which several of the Enterprise crew are sent to handle. There are a few political undertones as well, giving us an idea of the effect of the Borg invasion on the Federation presidency and admiralty.

This was a pretty enjoyable book, and I think it is worth three stars out of five. It won't blow you away, but it

will be worth your time.

Sinn says

Selten ein Buch, über dessen Ende ich mich so gefreut habe. Und das nicht des Inhalts wegen.

"Den Frieden verlieren" ist nämlich - von der Geschichte her - sogar eine recht gute Idee. Denn nach großen Veränderungen im Raum der Föderation bleibt im StarTrek-Universum kein Stein auf dem anderen. Und mit den Folgen zu leben fällt auch den aufgeklärten Gesellschaften des 24. Jahrhunderts nicht so leicht, wie man meinen sollte. So erhält die Enterprise gleich mehrere Aufträge gleichzeitig und tut ihr Bestes mit frustrierten Flüchtlingen, Politikern und Offizieren die Gegenwart zu meistern.

Soweit so gut.

Das Ende habe ich allerdings herbeigesehnt, da der Autor eine unerträgliche Menge an "Political Correctness" in den Text gepackt hat. So sind

- () alle ausschließlich positiv behafteten Politiker weiblich
- () alle egoistischen, voreilig handelnden Politiker männlich
- () eine nahezu 60jährige bekommt ein Baby
- () gezeigter Fußball ist selbstverständlich Frauenfußball
- () eine Offizierin lässt ihren Mann mit drei Kindern auf einem Planeten zurück und gilt als fortschrittlich (als ob in der Geschichte jemals Seeleute dafür geschätzt worden wären, dass sie ihre Partner im Stich gelassen haben)
- () das (vormals kratzbürstige, männliche) MHN wird durch ein (einfühlsames) weibliches ersetzt
- () Klingonen empfinden es (jetzt plötzlich) als anachronistisch, wenn einer der ihren sich zu einem Nach-Sex-Partnerschaftsantrag verpflichtet fühlt
- () usw. usf.

Die Liste geht noch ewig weiter. Bis hin zu einer Szene, in der über ein hässliches Baby geschrieben wird - einen Jungen. Die Protagonistin wendet sich ab und dem viel hübscheren Mädchen zu.

Jeder einzelne Punkt dieser Liste wäre hinnehmbar - *alle zusammen* sind es aber nicht.

Star Trek war immer bemüht eine Gesellschaft zu zeigen, an der jeder teilnehmen kann. Eine utopische Gesellschaft, in der zB. optische Merkmale irrelevant werden. Aber ein Umdrehen aktueller, als unfair empfundener Verhältnisse macht keine Utopie aus, sondern führt allenfalls zu umgekehrt unfairen Umständen. Dieses Buch ist deshalb für mich zu viel des Guten.

Dürfte ich eine Bitte an ST-Autoren äußern würde sie aus drei Teilen bestehen.

1 - Hört bitte auf, so bemüht Archetypen zu ruinieren. Es macht Geschichten nicht spannender. Klingonen sind der Inbegriff einer archaischen Kriegergesellschaft. Schwule, promiske Klingonen-Heiler, die als völlig akzeptiert gelten, sind vielleicht etwas neues - aber nicht alles neue ist gut.

2 - Political Correctness an sich darf nicht zu revanchistischem Geschichtenerzählen führen. Misogynie ist ein Problem - Misandrie ebenfalls.

3 - Fasst Euch kürzer, verdammt. Die Geschichten sind ewig lang ohne sich zu entwickeln. Die große

Geschichte dieses Buches hätte auch prima mit der Hälfte der Textmenge erzählt werden können. Das wäre sogar wesentlich spannender gewesen, weil sich das Tempo von "Schnecken überholen" zu "nahezu angemessen" verändert hätte.

So. Ich habe fertig. Tut mir Leid, aber irgendwann musste ich mir diesen Frust ja von der Seele schreiben. :)

Kathy says

Star Trek: The Next Generation: Losing the Peace by William Leisner was the other book I was reading during a day of being lazy and indulging pleasures while in the company of old friends. It is one of the books that remind me of episodes like "The Quickening" from DS9. It shows some of the aftermath of a war, it's slow moving but it also shows off the character strengths and weaknesses.

Losing the Peace takes place after the Destiny Series and before the Typhon Pact books. It was one of the books that are a bit slow moving that is both important to the series progression and a stand-alone book. The book uses a couple threads. First there is Crusher and Kadhata go to Pacifica to help report on the conditions on the refugees. Second is how Worf wants to help his partner Choudhury get over her grief about losing her parents and the lost of all Deneva. Third is how Picard kidnapped two officials and brought them to Pacifica so they could see the conditions of the refugees first hand after they voiced more selfish concerns after the Borg.

I love character books/episodes especially if it's a character that I like. I'm a huge fan of Beverly Crusher so I love how this book used her. It showed her compassion to medicine and even her fragility after Jack's passing that nearly took her away from that career that helped her to resonate with refugees on Pacifica. The book also talked about Miranda Kadhata in the same thread and how hard it is on families when one parent has to leave to enter the course of duty. I also loved how Picard was used. He was back to normal Picard who was brazen at times. Plus loved how he used a quote from the Generations movie. And I loved Worf. He was back to being both a protective mate yet at the same time he was trying to be sensitive and not treading on her toes too much. It was the Worf I loved over the years on DS9. The one character that I hated was Trys Chen. She seemed like an immature and extremely narrow minded which really felt wrong since she's a First Contact specialist.

I actually thoroughly enjoyed this book. It was so deep and well done. It wasn't forced. It also felt like it parallels to the world right now without being preachy. I liked it a lot.

Sean Davison says

I really liked this book.

I've been a fan of Star Trek since I was a kid, and miss the shows. I decided to delve into the novels to continue the Star Trek story I know and love, and so far have not been disappointed.

I jumped in at the Destiny trilogy and loved it, it was so good. The only thing I wrestled with is how dense the books were, there were so many characters, so much going on and lots of tech talk, and I'm not complaining because that's Star Trek right?

This book was a nice change in pace, allowing the reader to get their breath back. This reminds me of those

TV episodes you get in a show when you've had that really, really big couple of action-packed episodes, and you need an episode going through the fall out and picking up the pieces, a quiet reflection on the dramatic events, almost like the "Family" episode after the "Best of Both Worlds" on TNG.

That doesn't sound exciting in itself, and I echo other reviews in saying no, not a great deal actually happens as such, but it was a story that had to be told following the massive destruction left behind by the Borg, had the Enterprise merely warped into the next blockbuster event something would have been lost- this book accompanies the Destiny trilogy perfectly as we follow the crew as they grieve and slowly begin the enormous task of rebuilding the Federation and Starfleet.

As for the novel itself, it wasn't as dense as the Destiny books as I've mentioned, this is less about technical wizardry and more about character work and dialogue, and the whole story just flows nicely. I now feel that I'm getting to know the new crew members (new to me anyway) that much better, and even starting to like them too.

5/5 and really looking forward to continuing with these great books.

RL says

I hate it when Star Trek gets preachy. This is one of those books that shows no thought to cosmology, biology or any reasonable likelihood of occurrence. I took it as a lecture to the United States on its immigration policies. If the destruction that occurred in the previous ST stories had happened, there would be drastically different things happening. We are talking about well traveled worlds, not the frontier. There would be hundreds of commercial ships running around the star systems. System based law enforcement/search and rescue ships would be in Pacifica and Alpha Centauri systems. space habitats, mining facilities, orbital shipyards would be as plenteous. Only in the DESTROYED systems would the orbital infrastructure have been destroyed!

If a homeworld were destroyed, refugee ships would make for a colony world of their own species first. It makes sense. Biological needs such as medical attention would be better served by doctors familiar with one's own species than in a multispecies hospital. Think about the species in My Enemy My ally. No human could realistically live on those high gravity worlds that provided the crew of the Inaeu. Scientists say that there are ten's of thousands of Earth-like planets in the galaxy, supposedly. The overflow would be sent to a myriad of undercolonized worlds. They would attempt to use the Genesis Wave to recreate destroyed worlds. There should be thousands of civilian ships involved as well as planetary defense forces like we say in The Best of Both Worlds Part 2. This could have been a lot better if the editors at Pocket tried for a touch more realism.

John says

Not a bad ST:TNG book at all, but it's really going to be hard for anyone to follow-up on David Mack's incredible three-part epic "Destiny". Mack totally changed the ST:TNG universe, and now other authors are diving in and playing along, writing stories about the "clean up", as it were. This one was not one where ANYTHING really monumental or even particularly memorable happens, but it was well-written and paced, and the characters were accurate. I especially liked that Captain Picard continues to disobey the Admirals who order him around (many of whom have much less experience than him). What was really priceless was when they offered to make HIM an Admiral and he said "well thank you but I really must decline"!

Andrew says

Losing the Peace by William Leisner is the follow-up book to David Mack's epic (and galaxy-changing) Destiny trilogy. Read that series before picking up this book.

Most of this book was very down and depressing. The refugee crisis is at the forefront of the novel, along with the associated political fighting. This is to be expected since numerous worlds were destroyed and billions were killed by the Borg. A quote from page 215 is a good example of the mood: "They were like lost souls in purgatory waiting to be delivered to paradise-or, perhaps more fittingly, caught in a state of limbo."

For a while it seemed like the book would just be a compilation of bad things happening in the Federation, but around page 250 things start to pick up. Picard finds a plan to partially mitigate the political fallout, while Crusher and her team stay committed to doing what little they can to make a bad situation brighter. By the end I was no longer regretting starting a dark and dreary novel. In some ways this book is similar to Kirsten Beyer's Full Circle, which deals with the effects of Destiny through the Voyager crew.

After this book I skipped A Singular Destiny and jumped into Typhon Pact Book 1: Zero Sum Game. You don't need to read Losing the Peace to understand or enjoy Zero Sum Game. But, this book will give you more of a sense of closure with the tragedies of Destiny. The Federation is not a coalition of blissful, peaceful planets anymore.

I did have a few minor nit-picks. First, on the cover page, Picard and Worf have their rank pips on the wrong side of their collars. Second, the "Historian's Note" lists a date of 2361, which should actually be 2381 (immediately after the Destiny trilogy, not 20 years before it).

Jess says

If the Destiny cycle took its cues from big episode epics like TNG's 'Best of Both Worlds', Voyager's 'Endgame' or movies like First Contact is more inline with TNG episodes like 'Family' or 'Data's Day'. There is a lot going on here. One of the many plots is a little telegraphed but very well told. Really, the only reason it get's demoted a star is two small typos which probably came about because of last minute changes that were put in place because of Destiny and/or the ending of Singular Destiny. Still over all, it would have made a pretty good set of episodes.
