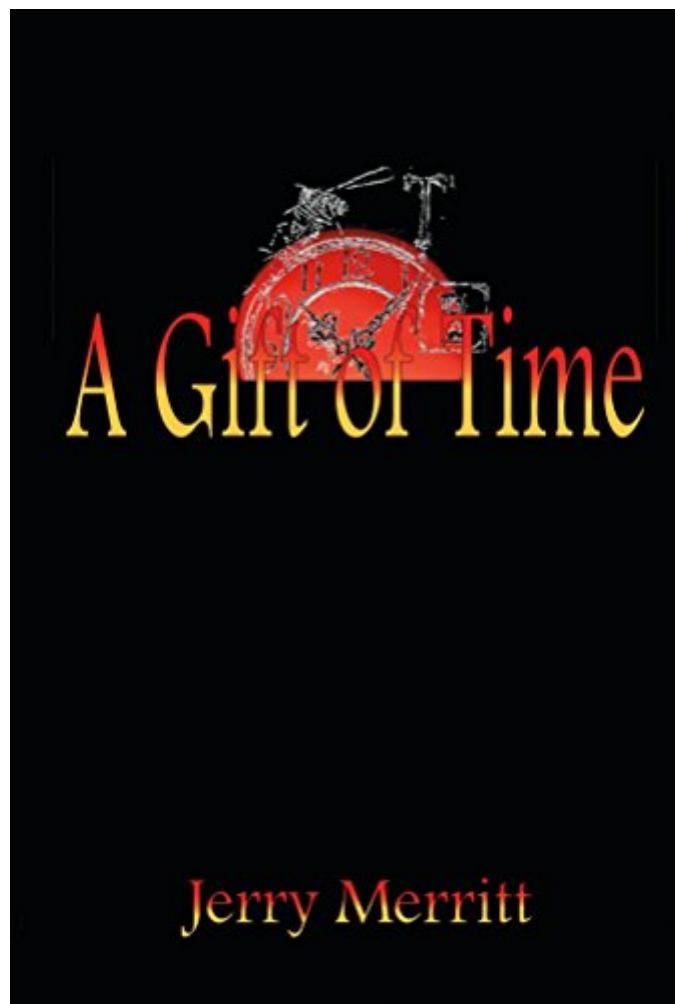


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A Gift Of Time



Synopsis

When Micajah Fenton discovers a crater in his front yard with a broken time glider in the bottom and a naked, virtual woman on his lawn, he delays his plans to kill himself. While helping repair the marooned time traveler's glider, Cager realizes it can return him to his past to correct a mistake that had haunted him his entire life. As payment for his help, the virtual creature living in the circuitry of the marooned glider, sends Cager back in time as his ten-year-old self, knowing everything he'd known at eighty and gives him access to advanced equations of space and time. But living life over knowing the future isn't as easy as Cager has anticipated. His every action alters the future he remembers until much of what he remembers never happened at all. And those changes work against him at every turn, preventing him correcting the most serious mistake of his life. Now he must use his advanced mathematical ability to build his own time machine to go back and try again. But he needs a fortune even to begin. Then he receives help from a strange, young woman with no history. While perfecting time travel, Cager and his new partner overcome enormous problems, even being hunted by dinosaurs in the Cretaceous. After that, though, things get really bizarre.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm so glad I stumbled on this book. Nay, glad that I stumbled on this author, because I have gone on to read another of his books, which is equally complex and interesting, and will probably read some of his others. But, back to The Gift of Time; the story pulled me in from the very first page and there's little to add to all of the other glowing reviews. The story is complex in its characters, concept and technical content. The world(s) he creates is/are so richly described that this reader got the feeling of actually being there. One of the things I found most satisfying was the author's take on the famous "going back in time and meeting yourself, or killing your own grandparent" paradox. His treatment of it seemed highly logical. There is humor in the blend too. I don't know if it was intentional on the author's part, but one of the walk-on characters is named Dr. Hofstadter, which made me wonder if it was perhaps a wry nod to 'The Big Bang Theory" TV show that has a character of the same name.

All the previous reviews have said it all. A terrific book. I found it to be three stories actually, all tied together in the end. My only problem with it was the over the top explanations of scientific processes which were all Greek to me. I did a lot of skipping over in the last third of the book because of that. Other than that I thoroughly enjoyed the book, the well developed characters, a chance to do some things over and try to do it right. Of course, some things cannot be changed. A great understanding of human psychology and the goodness that we all, hopefully, possess. I highly recommend this very interesting visit to the past and back to the future as some would want it to be.

There is no time travel book to compare to Jack Finney's Time and Again, it's the standard by which I judge all time travel attempts. This one is wildly different, but held my interest through out. Some of the math was beyond me, and I think it got a bit sloppy when he was trying near the end to bring the book into the time the loop it needed, but I enjoyed the story, the characters and the ending was well done. If you've not ever read Time and Again, start there....it's old now but holds up well. I am fortunate enough to have a friend who lives in the Dakota Apartments so I've stayed there many times and it always reminds me of what an excellent novel that is. Having sidetracked, I'll get back to saying try this book after having read that one. A very different take on how one tries to change the past, but both are enjoyable ride-alongs for the reader. This book appears to be self published, but I would think any publishing house would have been more than willing to have published it. The quality of the book I received (in the physical sense....binding, print, etc) measures up to any published volume.

This is a sci-fi story that is as human as it is futuristic. Both in equal measure. It is unique, even for a time travel book. It spends much time inside an 80-year-old's 10-year-old life and regrets and makes the reader care about alien slugs and their feelings. It also brings back unwanted memories of long ago animalistic bullies and their violent intrusions into the lives of others. It doesn't back away from real scientific thought, for which I was grateful. The author gave credit that some readers know some science. It was a story worth immersing myself in.

Plenty of detail and outlines in other reviews. I'll add my metrics for a book I enjoy. While I'm reading it, I can't wait to move on to see what happens. Once I feel that urgency, I'm sorry the story is over and wish the book went on - not criticizing the story, it's length, construction or narrative. If I'm really enjoying something, I don't want it to end (does anyone)? Finally, I cared what happened to the characters - multiple ones. I find that if I care what happens to the main character, the story has me hooked. This one had a bunch tied together. Even if that character is deeply flawed person, which none of which these seemed. This random surprise was a great read, and all too short. Fitting all my categories for a good book. As to form, this was the first novel I've read on my iPad that made me completely forget the format. My previous tries hadn't done that, so more digital attempts coming up for me. While I still enjoy the tactile sensation of an actual book, how cool is it to carry around as many as you'd like at such a small weight? Downside is, you can't share it so readily.

Oh, I love a good time-travel story. This one is great, and not only that, it wraps up in one novel. All of the characters are sweet. I was a little puzzled by the download and upload, but I decided not to worry about it and just focus on the characters. I totally loved this story. I bailed on my homework to read it, haha. It has a really great wrap-up for all the characters. Nice job, even if I didn't understand all the technological stuff.

I felt that the initial first chapters were a little slow and just prodding along but once the character building was completed and the ground work for the story line begun the book keep and even progression of interesting characters and intrigue of story. The human touch that evolved with the story was not the standard use of pathetic and overused instances used by so many in place of real thoughtful compassion. A Very Good Read.

Very well written - Good Story Telling! The thing that most stood out for me is that the author skirted

around sensitive subject matter with PG details. No foul language. Intelligent. Violence and intimate relationships were written as innuendos without details - I really appreciated that. I really like sci-fi and time travel, but finding a good story without the smut is becoming hard to do. Jerry Merritt proves a good clean story can still be entertaining.

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