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Secrets In The Stars (Third Book In The Family Law Series)



Synopsis

When Lee Anderson and her parents discovered a new world teeming with life, it was the dream of every explorer: they were rich beyond their imaginations. But tragedy struck when a herd of creatures overran their camp and killed her parents. The only other adult in her life had been their partner Gordon, who adopted her as parent. Which didn't turn out to be easy, because he wasn't human. He was a large intelligent alien, and to Lee he was Uncle Gordon, but neither his race – the Derf – nor Humans were gracious about accepting their family relationship. After various misadventures and strife they made others accept their relationship, and also found that while they might not share blood, they both had exploring in the blood. Unhappy in civilization they decided to explore again – going really deep this time, far beyond established frontiers. They met other alien civilizations, made claim to new sources of wealth that rivaled their previous claims in value, and then headed home to present their new claims on Earth. But a lot of things didn't make sense. Warnings came from their Fargoer allies that not everything on Earth was as it seemed to be. This is the story of their return voyage, and the unexpected mysteries in what they had left behind.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Secrets in the Stars is the third in the Family Law series and continues to delight the reader. Lee (teenage human) and Gordon (middle-aged derf) have more adventures with their Little Fleet and return from Deep Space to Derfhome and Earth to upset the status quo. Although quite serious, there are lighter moments when outsiders to society view things taken for granted by others. I admit to giggles at a couple of points, although my reaction to Lee's possible romance was mixed. 117 years is quite an age gap. The author has chosen to merge this series with his April series with this book. That is not a real problem since the Family Law series is set at least a century later. It was handled okay, but was not a major thrill. Errors were present, but except for a couple of places (Far Away and Fargone mixups) didn't disturb me too much. Although, I did find more while rereading it. There is also a plot issue with the cruiser Murphy's Law. I am afraid the fans rushed the publication a little too much. I really like this series and recommend that newcomers start with Family Law. Great!!

Nice tie-in with his other series (April). I wonder if he'll have additional cross-over stories between the two. I certainly hope so.

Can't wait for the next.

I like this series

So much fun!

There's so many possibilities for this series. Please tell me it's not really the end. As with so many series I'm left wanting more.

This book was previously published and has now been re-released, but dropped the previous excellent reviews. As a long-time reader of SF, I have a short list of "must buy" authors whose new works I buy the instant I see them. Mackey Chandler made that list before I finished the first of his work that I ever read. I highly recommend this book and, indeed, every book he has written. If you are new to his work, take the effort to find and read the series in order; otherwise, you'll be lost

without the considerable back story. If that's you, you are in for a treat!

It's par for the course in terms of writing by this author. However, I didn't enjoy the tie-in with the April series. It kind of ruined the book for me. Now there is going to be plot holes and inconsistencies where both series have to follow the same universe. As there is already problems with consistency in this universe -- I'm looking at you, April #9 -- I think this was a poor decision, and it felt a bit gimmicky. Overall, a disappointment.

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