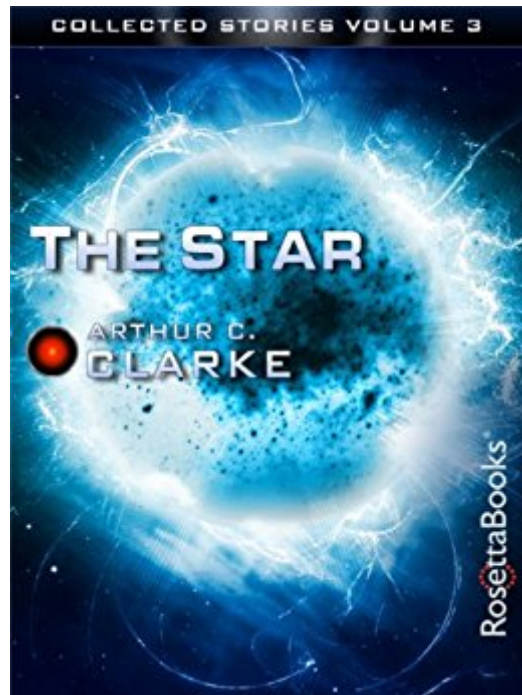




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The Star (The Collected Stories Of Arthur C. Clarke Book 3)



Synopsis

In the title story of this outstanding collection, a group of cosmonauts discovers the remains of an advanced civilization in a remote star system-destroyed when their sun went supernova. They find that the civilization was very similar to Earth's-and that its people knew of their coming doom centuries before it occurred. What they find leads their chief astrophysicist-also a Jesuit priest-into a deep crisis of faith, sparked by a shocking revelation that has implications not just for history-but for religion. This collection of short stories demonstrates not only Clarke's technological imagination-but also a deep poetic sensibility that led him to ponder the philosophical and moral implications of technological advances. These stories demonstrate the range of his vision as an author-based on both our scientific potential and the deeper aspects of the human condition.

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Customer Reviews

I own the original "Collected Stories of Arthur C. Clarke" in its 2-inch thick paperback form. That excellent compilation, including a Foreword by Clarke himself, is marred by inexcusable copy-editing/proofreading errors. Now comes RosettaBooks, who has divided the paperback into a series of ebook Volumes. Apparently, Rosetta has transferred the DTB version to electronic form

verbatim. I have not read this entire ebook. I am less familiar with these stories than are some of the reviewers of the paperback version. But the first, title story of this collection includes an egregious blunder that leaves the reader puzzled and frustrated. As Frequent Reader noted in his or her review of the paperback version, "The absolutely worst typo was leaving out an important word in the last, critical sentence of Clarke's Hugo winning "The Star." This error, and all the other typos, shows breathtaking incompetence and disdain for readers. Someone should be fired..." I recommend prospective buyers read the reviews of the paperback before buying this e-version.

A classic set from one of the masters of fact-based science fiction. This anthology has some of the best of AC Clark's short stories!

I bought this because I remembered how much I enjoyed "The Star" when I first read it and how much I enjoyed Sir Arthur's work in general, and I was not disappointed. Although most of these stories were first published around the late 1950's so they inevitably get a few things wrong, they mostly read as if they were written today and show what a visionary Clarke was. I was especially pleased to finally read many of the "Tales from the White Hart." Somehow I'd missed those before, and they are a lot of fun.

Clarke did a good job writing this story, and you don't see the pithy end coming (I'll avoid a spoiler). It's certainly iconoclastic, to say the least, and obviously written with that intention. It makes you think. Make sure your faith is on good standing before you read it if you have any and want to keep it.

If you love science fiction stories and, like me, you started reading them with Clarke, Asimov, Heinlein and Sturgeon, you will certainly LOVE this collection. They are some of the best Clarke stories, from his most creative period and though they have been published many times before, I didn't hesitate to buy this selection. It's a real pleasure to have these stories at hand, to read and re-read them over and over. The sense of wonder is amazing! Very few modern stories make me feel like this. I am sure you will enjoy this book, and I heartily recommend it!

Short stories are entertaining in that one can finish it in a sitting. The stories presented here were engrossing and thought provoking from a science fiction stand point without burdening the reader with overly scientific concepts. I really liked comparing the settings in some of the stories to what we

are enduring in today's society since most of these stories were written before the technology even came close to providing us with what's shown as possible in these tales.

While Arthur C. Clarke has been and remains one of the iconic writers of SF, the stories that evolve from the friends in the bar become ponderous in their repetition. While the stories are creative and interesting, they eventually blend together into the same arrow shot into a different part of the same tree. To get the most of the series, read them one a month and not back to back to back.

These short stories, although dated because of the unmet projections of space colonization, still recall the very heady, optimism of the first decade and a half of the Space Race. Still well worth reading. Perhaps they will help rekindle the desire to make space an important part of the human environment.

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