



Planet X

Michael Jan Friedman

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On the planet Xhaldia, ordinary men and women are mutating into bizarre creatures with extraordinary powers. But is this a momentous evolutionary leap or an unparalleled catastrophe? The very fabric of Xhaldian society is threatened as fear and prejudice divide the transformed from their own kin. Dispatched to cope with the growing crisis, Captain Picard and the crew of the Starship Enterprise receive some unexpected visitors from another reality, in the form of a group of mutant heroes known as the uncanny X-Men. Storm, leader of the team, offers her help in resolving a situation that is agonizingly similar to the human/mutant conflicts of their own time and space. But when hostile aliens appear in orbit around Xhaldia to try and abduct the transformed for use as superpowered weapons in an attack on the Federation, even the combined forces of the crew of Starfleet and the X-Men may be unable to prevent an inferno of death and destruction. Starfleet's finest crew and Earth's greatest mutant heroes will need all their powers and abilities to save the Xhaldia people and stop a deadly threat to the Federation.

Planet X Details

Date : Published May 1st 1998 by Pocket Books

ISBN : 9780671019167

Author : Michael Jan Friedman

Format : Paperback 265 pages

Genre : Media Tie In, Star Trek, Science Fiction, Fiction, Marvel, X Men, Superheroes

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From Reader Review Planet X for online ebook

Aaron says

What something named *Star Trek: The Next Generation -- X-Men: Planet X* might be, in increasing levels of amazingness:

1. A three-page comic drawn on lined paper during a 1991 study hall
2. A Patrick-Stewart-on-Patrick-Stewart slashfic solely with internet distribution
3. A '90s 'zine that featured avant pop poetry
4. A graphic novel
5. A small cult located on the Southwestern border of Nevada that got wiped out by the ATF after making a NevadaCon too awkward
6. A novel
7. A good novel

I congratulate this book for making it all the way to 6.

Bryan says

I wish I could give it both 1 star and 5 stars at the same time. The book is absolutely horrible. Just the thought of a crossover between these two franchises is absurd. However that's just what makes this so much fun to read. Akin to watching a bad horror movie where you laugh instead of scream; *Planet X*, from the very get-go is just one absurd scene after another. If you're a fan of either franchise, or particularly a fan of both, read it for fun. Just don't expect anything amazing.

Matt Mazenauer says

How can you pass this book on a bookshelf and not buy it? Don't judge me, it was like 2 bucks! Actually, it's kinda silly but at least they tried. We get the requisite Star Trek team chumming it up with the X-Men on the Enterprise (where they mysteriously teleported) and get this! They've met before! Anyways, after the stretch Wolverine chatting it up with Worf as long as possible, they move to a planet where a population of mutants is being persecuted, OMG just like the X-men are used to. The majority of the rest of the book revolves around the new mutant uprisings and their all new characters with occasional cameos by the famous folk giving sage tolerance advice. The sci-fi plot, stripped of X-men and Star Trek is actually decent, thus the high rating.

Shadowdenizen says

I tend to be very forgiving of genre fiction (particularly "Franchise" fiction), but this book was just BAD. (Especially in light of some of the actual good Trek fiction out there over the last few decades!)

You would think by taking 2 franchises I like, you would double the enjoyment factor, but not quite so much

in this case.

I found this book to be poorly plotted and tedious, and the characters were barely recognizable as themselves in order to service the laughable "plot."

I'd give this a recommended "Miss", and refer you over the some of assorted other Trek fiction out there (like the "Corps of Engineers" series, the "IKS Gorkon" series, or the DS9 relaunch titles such as "A Stich in Time".)

Norm says

This is the kind of book you really *can* judge by its cover; If you think it's going to be really silly, you're right, but if you think it's going to be AWESOME, you're right, too!

Star Trek and X-Men fans will get their money's worth, here. There's a bit of fun fanservice, the characters do what you expect them to do, and the bad guys are big gross lizard people. Boom, novel.

The book also takes an enjoyably TNG-esque plot arc - The first half is full of dull (but well crafted) one-on-one dialogues and peppered with hinted-at-but-never-realized fanboy-approved romances, just like an episode of TNG. The last half is lasers. Just like an episode of TNG.

Ultimately, a Trek/X-Men fan will enjoy this book, but don't expect it to make a convert out of a non-believer.

Slayerscott says

Well it isn't exactly 5 star writing. It's a bit hackneyed in places and full of obvious shoutouts. The majority of doomed security officers (redshirts!) have the names of famous comic book creators. However as a proud nerd this book hilariously and excitingly manages to distill the essence of what makes both franchises great. I imagine it might be unreadable for noobs as it demands a great deal of foreknowledge of both series. If you have the science fiction background for it though this is so much awesome you're surprised it can fit in one book.

Daniel McGill says

The author definitely knows Star Trek a lot better then the X-Men (even has trouble keeping track of how many claws Wolverine has) and it also takes place during Wolverine's regrettable bone claw phase. Not bad over all though even if it does read like well written fan-fiction as did the comic book prequel. Too many characters to really go into depth with any of them especially in 260 some pages, but that's not necessarily a bad thing as it's generally not a good idea to try to get too deep with somebody else's characters in this kind of work. I have to say Q was pretty out of character in his cameo, for the TV series anyway, he does tend to

come off brighter and more subtle in the books.

Yvonne says

This was underwhelming...

After having wanted to read this crossover book for years, it was quite a disappointment. I've read better Star Trek books and X-men.

It's basically about how people are becoming mutants on a random planet and being persecuted. Because this is Star Trek though there also has to be an alien invasion thrown in. The X-Men show up to help.

That's about it.

The writing is very wordy. If half the words were chopped out we would still have the entire story and more than enough fun stuff.

So overall three stars, but I'm mentally giving it five because reading the epilogue is so worth it. In fact if you have the chance, just read the epilogue.

Jessica says

X-Men and Star Trek: The Next Generation; it makes for an enjoyable book if you don't try to take it too seriously.

This is actually the sequel to a short comic entitled "Second Contact", which has the hilarious premise of the crew of the Enterprise and the X-men teaming up to defeat a time traveling villain and setting right the time paradoxes he's created. If you've ever wanted to see Nightcrawler and Wolverine tear into some Borg, I'd suggest tracking down the comic as it's very entertaining with very nice art! But it is not necessary to read it to enjoy the book.

Overall the book itself is enjoyable. The flimsy excuse of an obscure planet suddenly having a mutant problem is just that- a flimsy excuse to write this really fun book. The writing is well rounded, even if a few of the characters come off a little flat, and while the plotline is predictable, it's still interesting. If you like either TNG, or the X-men, or just want to drive your geekiness level to the extreme, this is good read!

Jenny says

Although I enjoyed parts of this book I just couldn't give it 3 stars due to its awful writing. I've never read anything with so many sentences that start with "But" and "And". Friedman uses excessive description not for world building but for needless reasons such as describing where characters are in relation to each other. I'm not a writer so I have a hard time describing the problems with the writing, but if you go down a few reviews there's a good example of the wordiness. If you're a fan of X-Men and Star Trek: TNG I would recommend this to you as a silly read. When I saw it on the bookshelf I had to buy it because of the

absurdness of it. Although if you're a big fan maybe it's not a good idea to read it because Friedman makes a lot of the characters pretty cheesy. This is a book not to be taken seriously. Hopefully the Doctor Who/Star Trek: TNG crossover is better than this.

Adriana says

This book was exactly what you would expect for a clash of two different worlds. The writing was mediocre but not horrible. It got the story along and the story itself made sense in the way that Star Trek: Next Generation and X-Men stories do. In short, this was a fun piece to read if you really want to get your nerd on, then pick it up lol. But I would recommend not investing too terribly much into this book, and if you expect something horrible, you'll be pleasantly surprised. If you expect something fantastic, forget it lol. There is only so much one can do when mixing two worlds together and making it an epic story is a rare thing. Consider this a filler episode and just call it good :) That is what I did.

Jonathan Lumpkin says

My friend showed me this book and a feeling of nerdy obligation floated through my brain. I don't really read star trek books. This was the first and quite probably the last. It wasn't terrible, just a pleasantly decent stab at the meta human genre with a star trek twist. The only annoying thing about it was how much effort the author spent showing a best buddy friendship between the characters of Worf and Wolverine. Because the both like violence. For all the sense that makes. I would have loved to see an alpha male-type struggle for dominance between the two. That would have been vastly preferable to the instantaneous brothers-in-stab dynamic in the book.

D.M. Dutcher says

In the star trek: the next generation universe, some aliens suddenly become mutants. Meanwhile the enterprise is surprised to suddenly find the X-men on board, but not too surprised mostly because they have fought besides them before (? Any idea where?) Cue the X-men interacting with the NTTG crew in weird ways, like Worf and Wolverine running sims in the Danger Room-wait the Holodeck, Storm and Picard having some weird romantic tension, and Archangel getting chewed out for flying around in the halls. From there, you can get a decent idea of what will happen.

I wanted to give this -4 for writing, and 5 for sheer audacity, so I ended up with a 1. The writing...well, even by Star Trek standards, it's bad. We are talking fan fiction novel level, possibly published only because the author has a amazing 30+ books to his credit, and lets face it. Sheer geek appeal will ensure some of these get bought. Other than that it's meandering, wasting tremendous amounts of time on the nondescript aliens that become mutants, has a silly plot, clunky prose, and probably will infuriate fans of either show.

But for the fact that this being published gives hope to all struggling writers everywhere, and that a writer obviously got to write a dream crossover, I have to give him props. That this book exists at all is an achievement, even if a notorious one.

ihtsham says

This is perhaps the most gloriously awful book I have ever read.

Robbie says

X-Men and Star Trek in the same book? Together? Shields up! My nerd brain's gonna go supernova!
