



Rising Son

S.D. Perry

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A prophecy leads Jake Sisko on a desperate search for his missing father. Instead, what he finds at his journey's end is totally unexpected...In the climactic closing episode of the final season of Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Captain Benjamin Sisko, his destiny inextricably linked to that of the alien entities known as The Prophets, was last seen plunging into the depths of the Bajoran Fire Caves, locked in combat with Gul Dukat. Although he appeared to his new wife Kasady Yates and promised her that he would one day return, his son Jake has not seen him since. In Deep Space Nine: Avatar, a mysterious prophecy sent Jake on an impossible quest to trace his missing father. However, instead of finding his heart's desire, Jake is thrown across the galaxy and saved by the unexpected intervention of a strange ship with an even stranger crew. Sharing their travels and their dangers, he learns important lessons about dealing with his father's loss, and about the truth of the prophecy that sent him here. In the process, he discovers much more than he anticipated; a revelation that will change the world forever for Jake, for Bajor and for Deep Space Nine.

Rising Son Details

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Em says

Essentially two stories.

Rising Son starts as an intolerable romp with Jake Sisko as the gormless idiot on a ship full of Star Wars characters, making friends with lovable rogues. This half of the book sucks, in part because it has nothing to do with why I care about Star Trek.

The second half is about the return of Kai Opaka and how she got off of the planet she was trapped on and her pursuit of something calling to her tied to the Prophets. This half of the book? Really solid. It's actually more like the last 20% but this redeems the rest of it and makes this book a firm okay. I'd read many books about Opaka and her journeys and self-discoveries, she's a great character. Bajorans are just better than Jake Sisko.

Sareeta!! says

I just have to say, it was about time to have a story focused on the adventures of Jake Sisko, one of the most likable, endearing TV kids of all time! When Jake disappeared through the wormhole at the beginning on the relaunch, I was wondering with each book when we would find out what happened. I love that he ended up on an alien treasure hunting ship, filled with likable characters, some of whom are very unique alien species that I had fun trying to picture in my mind as I read. The story itself was very good, but I especially enjoyed Jake's relationship with the crew. The twist at the end was great and had me excited to find out what happens next.

Jackson Tyler says

can't fucking believe they made "jake sisko goes to firefly and also there's a prophecy" a good book but they did

Matthew says

We finally found out what Jake has been up to all this time! The story told here takes place across the months that the past several DS9 relaunch books have covered, from 'Abyss' through to the final 'Mission Gamma' novel.

Jake is something of an abandoned character in Star Trek. The TV show certainly gave him his own path, but he was always in his father's shadow (as he is very aware of in this book). To most people, he was always just "the son of the Emissary", rather than his own person. I always enjoyed him as a character, though, especially once he began to follow writing as his passion.

In that regard, it's something of a shame that 'Rising Son' doesn't touch on his writing, and instead turns him into a fortune hunter who falls in with a band of likeable scavengers. Not the most obvious fit, but the story is very aware of that and makes his integration gradual. There's also a huge amount of new characters to suddenly become familiar with, and the early sections are a bit overwhelming.

Perry's capable writing is able to handle this, though. The array of characters are all quite unique and alien, with distinct characteristics that let them stay memorable. I particularly became a fan of Pif (who I couldn't imagine anything but Chase from Paw Patrol) and Stessie - a VERY unique alien design. But having so many characters meant that many didn't really get a look in, and I was very interested in knowing more about Glessin, Srral and Brad who teased some really interesting things.

The psuedo-father/son relationship between Dez and Jake was also very well written, and often touching. A few parts of the book became surprisingly emotional.

The mid-to-late parts of the novel are all quite exciting. and eventually resolve some big mysteries that were left hanging from the TV show. It begins to move very fast towards the end and maybe crams too much in, but a longer book may have just been padding things out. Still, I would like to have known more about the Wa, as it seemed to serve no purpose other than to create a mystery that was never addressed. Maybe it will appear again in a later book.

Anyway, the timelines and the characters of all the books and stories so far have now aligned together in the same place, so the next book should be thrilling.

Greg says

The story of Jake Sisko is arguably one of the saddest fables ever penned in the history of science fiction. The loss of his mother to the Borg at Wolf 359 led to him being raised alone by a starfleet commander based at the very edge of the known universe. Add to the mix the discovery of the first ever stable wormhole linking one quadrant of the galaxy to another, the war hungry and militaristic Cardassians, the peace loving and religious Bajorans, the Prophets, Ferengi, the Founders, the Shapeshifters, the Jem H'dar and of course the dominion, and you come up with one helluva mess. Not to mention one of the best space operas ever made for television. But thats the story of ds9, not our Jake. And yet Jake Sisko **is** DS9.

Anyway, we all know what happened to the station, as well as the general population who manned her. We even know who lived, who died, who laughed, and who cried. But **RISING SON** continues the tale, and it does so in glorious fashion. Jake is exploring some ruins in a remote location on Bajor when hes comes across a battered scroll; a prophecy if you will, and it doesn't take Jake long to convince himself that it might relate to his lost Father. Spoilers prevent me from explaining myself here, but Jake's plans don't end well and this is whwre the book's plot takes control of the situation.

The reader is soon blessed with the classic and brilliantly realised sense of wonder moment when Ms Perry describes a particular level of the ship Jake finds himself on. I must admit to not being a particular fan of the name given to this space craft, but considering her assignexd purpose you may find it appropriate. The introduction of Kai Opaka late in the story also brings the book to life, and as she is on the front cover, there is no need for a spoiler warning.

Revelation follows revelation as you make progress toward the tale's climax, even though it feels a liittle

rushed. But rewarded, you will be, by reading this book, as even in its final pages it manages a couple of major twists. There are no major criticisms from me, and very few minor ones, so i am happy to give it full marks. A truly surprising Trek novel and a wonderful science fiction story to go along with.

Adam says

Fun start, slow middle, and rapid pace to last 20%. If I could give it 3.5 stars, I would - but I can't bring myself to give it 4. That being said, it was great to read a story JUST ABOUT JAKE and his inner life in the DS9 universe.

Erica says

This novel is about what happened to **Jake** during the time he was away from Deep Space Nine trying to fulfill the prophecy and bring his father back home. Nothing went quite the way he expected it to, and in some ways I would say that this is a **coming of age story**. And a really good one at that.

"Hey, wake up. Human boy."

It was the odor as much as the insistent verbal prodding. Jake cracked open one eye and found himself looking at a dog, one with dark brown eyes and a narrow muzzle, its head streamlined and sleek. He'd seen them back on Earth, played with them in the holosuites when he was younger.

"Finally!" the dog said, rolling its eyes, and Jake blearily realized it wasn't a dog. No ears he could see, no lolling tongue, and there was a narrow line of soft-looking, floppy spines running down its back, a shade darker than its fur, which was forest green.

It's well written and takes advantage of the, still very much unexplored, Gamma Quadrant. **We get to meet so many new cool aliens, which I love.** Even part of the ship itself, Even Odds, that Jake ends up on for several months is alive in some way. It's **so much new to explore** in this story, and there's a diverse set of characters. *One is, for example, the doglike character from the quote above, and another has different parts/selves and is extremely complex.* I can't help but to hope that we'll get to cross paths with some of these characters again in future novels.

In one way this story reminds me of Fire Ship. In that novel Captain Janeway from Voyager ends up on a journey away from her crew and everyone she knows. She's on an alien ship and becomes part of their crew for a period of time, just like Jake does in this novel. It's during different circumstances, but it kind of has the same feel to it.

One thing that I really like about these kind of stories is that **we get to know the main character in a deeper way**. They're off on their own, more vulnerable and gets their "own" adventure. For Jake I feel that for him a lot is about finding is own way and being known for *himself* and not just as the Emissary's son. He's also challenged when it comes to his values and how far he can go without losing his way.

The Eav oq, one of the alien races we get to know, is really fascinating. They have a background that just blows my mind. There's so much about them and how Jake and the crew finds them that just spells

adventure. Considering what we learn about them I would guess that we'll read more about them in novels to come. I certainly hope so, anyway.

Madeline says

Considering that this is a book about one of the least vivid characters on DS9 (that's not really a slam, because the show is so packed with vivid characters - the comparison is just such a weird one to make), albeit one with a small history of making me cry (should we just watch "Nor the Battle to the Strong" again real quick? [it won't be quick because the DS9 credits are eight hours long]), and, oh, also, (practically) nobody you know is in this book . . . Well, actually, it was pretty entertaining. Also, it did a nice job following up on the promise in the title - this is a book about ~*feelings*~ as much as it is about a couple of space heists and a prophecy, particularly Jake's feelings about his dad. And that relationship has always been a vivid and persuasive one, and I'm happy to see it explored further. But, yeah, every time Jake was pondering his decisions I was like, "but how will that affect Nog???"

Anyway, yes, still feeling pretty good about my decision to read published Star Trek fanfic, thank for asking.

Adam says

An enjoyable read which finally picks up the long-abandoned story of Jake Sisko.

After suffering a ship-wide systems failure, Jake is rescued by a group of scavengers led by Captain Dez on the mysterious ship Even Odds. Jake gradually starts to enjoy his newfound life on the ship, even participating in a daring mission to loot a storage depot on a hostile alien planet. Little does he know he's on a collision course with the results of a bizarre prophecy involving Kai Opaka and a deadly religious war.

Ever since the opening Avatar duology, I've lamented how Jake's story was seemingly abandoned by the authors and the character forgotten about. Thankfully, original author S.D. Perry returns to the relaunch series with "Rising Son", a novel given over in its entirety to filling in the missing gaps.

Despite an initial reluctance, I quickly became attached to the rag tag crew of the Even Odds, a home to everything from a sentient multipart fungus to a sentient computer program. An argument could perhaps be made for overegging the pudding here, but after the frenzied series of introductions to such a diverse collection of beings, I really enjoyed the dynamic that the author establishes. Dez is a scoundrel with a heart, and his relationship with Jake quickly takes center stage. Jake's role in the series is often minimised so much that you'd think Cirroc Lofton was more of an infrequent guest star, so I was thrilled to see Rising Son thrust his character so firmly under the spotlight. There's a lot of development going on here, and I love the intimate examination of Jake's feelings about his father, the Prophets and living under the shadow of both.

The mission to Drang was quite a highlight, but also marks a pivot point in the book. After investing so much time getting to know the crew of the Even Odds, I was somewhat disappointed how quickly they were dropped after they arrived at their next destination: the trading outpost Ee. At this stage, the author virtually drops Dez and crew completely, instead picking Jake up and thrusting him into the second part of the narrative: a reunion with long-lost Kai Opaka. This is all well and good, however such a sudden change made me question the point of spending over half the book getting to know new characters which were

destined to disappear.

Opaka's story post-"Battle Lines" was well told, and I enjoyed the whirlwind recap of 7 years of history for the character. Her encounter with the Ascendant Raiq was especially chilling, and undoubtedly paves the way for a much more sweeping storyline to come.

As Jake, Opaka, Wex and a wayward Tosk follow their instinct to the Eav'oq planet, the story takes a turn for the mystical, as the characters become mired in a pagh-hunt which has shades of Indiana Jones at times. This section felt rather loosely thrown together, a means to an end rather than a concise effort to resolve plotlines. The revelation that the Eav'oq share the same gods as Bajor ("Siblings" instead of Prophets) is sure to create a stir when the novel line returns to the Alpha Quadrant (especially with all the political turmoil which currently plagues the planet, and the newly discovered Conspiracy alien invasion).

Some unresolved plot strands:

* Just what was the Wa subdeck? At one point I felt that this was going to be a serious plot point that was developed into something else, but now it feels like it was just there for "coolness" factor.

* Tosk/Hunters: Why was the language on the Eav'oq planet written only so the Tosk could decipher it?

Rising Son provides a welcome reintroduction to Jake Sisko's story, even though the handling of the substitution of the Even Odds tales for Opaka's reappearance was somewhat choppy and abrupt.

Four stars.

Bron says

It feels quite a long time ago, in this sequence of novels about Deep Space 9, that Jake Sisko took the space craft equivalent of an old banger into the wormhole and disappeared. In this book we learn that he didn't find the Prophets, but was rescued from a near fatal accident in the gamma quadrant by the crew of a ship called the Even Odds. This ship runs a legal salvaging business, and a somewhat less legal venture recovering lost treasures. The crew is a bunch of very likeable aliens who take a shine to Jake and want him to join them. He has a few months to think about this as their route won't take them back to the wormhole immediately. He makes friends with the crew and has some adventures with them which cause him to think a lot about the values he grew up with as the child of Starfleet officers. He's a little disturbed to find that nice people, people he likes very much, can still be quite mercenary. He's torn between wishing to stay with his new friends and being troubled by their morality.

While he is still debating all this, he meets someone from his past, an encounter which changes everything and propels him back towards home.

Greg Molumby says

Rising Son - B+

Well, it took me a while, and a few times to start it, but I finally finished Rising Son. I kind of pushed myself

to get more into this book this weekend, I found it took me over the same way Avatar did. I mentioned in a previous post how I felt the first part of this novel was really slow. I mean we have Jake in a significantly damaged shuttle getting rescued by these people and the problem was at first there wasn't really anything interesting about those people. They were a retrieval squad, sure, but it was hard to care about any of them. I mean when Pifko took Jake on the tour of the Evan Odds, (And I think this was one of the longest chapters), I was like "this is the story of how Jake ended up on a Jem'Hadar ship with Kai Opaka, right? When do we get Kai Opaka".

Then, the adventure at Drang came and it seemed like that was the point the Book really started to take off. Jake was on his first retrieval mission, we got some great stuff with the other characters but it was still about Jake and how he related to everyone on that mission, especially Dez, the Captain. After that I started to see the SD Perry I loved so much from Avatar come to shine. This book picked up the pace, the crew on the Even Odds became likable, and like Pif, this book was off and running and never looked back.

I wasn't until a few chapters later we finally get to Opaka and Wex, but I have to say the wait was worth it. We get to those characters, and it felt like reading Avatar again, in that the revelations came at you so quickly you just wanted to keep reading. Everything from Opaka's stay on the Moon (Which one aspect I love is picking up things from the Gamma Quadrant before the War like Ennis/Nol Ennis moon or Tosk and running wild with it in the novel verse) to what they did with the Eav-oq and the explanation about the Idran system moving 3 light years, answering that question from the Epilogue of Mission Gamma and then being picked up by the Jem'Hadar. Everything just came together so well and I can see why this is a popular book.

I'm giving it a B+ and not an A for one reason. The stuff at the beginning was a little slow and I did start the book over like 3 different times. Maybe it was lack of motivation, maybe it was just being busy, but I wonder if they could have taken out some of that early stuff, like the Holodeck (The Wa) on the ship that really didn't seem necessary in the long run. They seemed to spend a lot longer on it than anything else and yeah it had a small impact on the space movements at the end, but we could have done without it.

I'm very much looking forward to Unity.

Elen says

Despite some flaws this was a really page turner, as evidenced by the fact that I burned through it in 3 hours when I should have been asleep. Oops. Could have used less of the almost bizarrely out of character first person memoirs (Jake's supposed to be a good writer and uh, well,) and some of the characters were criminally underutilized (Glessin could have been SO interesting but got all of five pages) but whatever. Still enjoyed it.

Crystal Bensley says

Awesome story of Jake in the Gamma Quadrant.

Bookreader1972 says

I liked this book & the return of Kai Opaka. I never liked Her being written off the show so early.

Derek Oberg says

WAAAAYY back at the beginning of the DS9 relaunch Jake Sisko took off into the Wormhole with an ancient Bajoran prophecy and hopes of finding his father... And disappeared. This book is the story of what has been up with him for the last 10 books or so.

I really didn't like the first half of this book. He hooks up with a gang of space pirates salvaging stuff from the Dominion War and selling it for profit. It drove me nuts. It felt like Jake had been transported to the Cantina from Star Wars. It's alright for the character, I guess. He's all pissed off at the Prophets for using his family, and upset at himself for running off half-cocked over a prophecy that he found and let himself get excited about. But I just found it boring.

It picks up a little bit after they meet up with a Tosk who says that there's some mysterious purpose he has to fulfill, and that purpose leads them to Kai Opaka. You learn how she escaped the death planet thingie she was stranded on, and Jake realizes that the prophecy he found HAD come true, but instead of finding his father and bringing him back, it was Opaka all along. This pisses him off feeling that the Prophets are just jerking him and his family around again.

The end was super strange. I guess the Prophets have a sibling race? Tosk's destiny/mission was to get Opaka and Jake to their planet and free them, thus altering space and moving some systems around.

I had looked forward to following them back through the wormhole and to the station and Bajor, but I guess that'll have to wait until the next book.
