



Ghost Roads

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Passport to Hell

Buffy, Oz, and Angel are Europe-bound, only they're not flying any airlines. They're traveling limbo's "ghost roads" in search of Jacques Regnier. Jacques is the sole heir of the dying Gatekeeper whose Boston mansion is the supernatural barrier restraining thousands of the world's monsters. The evil Sons of Entropy will do anything to destroy the gate - even if it means trading the power-laden Spear of Longinus to the wicked vampires holding Jacques.

Back home, the ghost ship "*Flying Dutchman*" has set sail for Sunnydale, determined to shanghai new crewmen - dead or alive. For Willow, Xander, Cordelia, and Giles, it's an ocean of trouble, especially when the monstrous Kraken reemerges with a vengeance.

But everyone's assistance will be needed once Buffy locates Jacques, and uncovers the shocking plans the Sons of Entropy have already placed in motion - a plan that, if successful, will destroy the world and create a horrible new realm ruled by monsters.

Ghost Roads Details

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Author : Christopher Golden , Nancy Holder , Joss Whedon (Creator)

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Sarah says

05/05/09 - I enjoyed this book and give it 3.5 stars. I didn't like it as much as I did when I read it during high school. I think I've matured in my reading preferences a bit and so find books with a little more sophistication and better writing skills more enjoyable. The story was still good and one I would have really enjoyed seeing Joss make into an episode.

Slayermel says

I just love it when Christopher Golden & Nancy Holder write a Buffy novel together. It's like watching an episode on TV.

This is the second book in "the Gatekeeper Trilogy" and the story just keeps getting better and better.

Buffy, Angel and Oz are travelling ghost roads to try and find the dying Gatekeepers only heir Jacques who they believe has been kidnapped by the evil sorcerer Fulcanelli. Fulcanelli's evil henchmen "the sons of Entopy" are causing all sorts of chaos in Sunnydale and have also kidnapped Joyce Summers. Breaches are opening up all over releasing hell Demons into our world, and to top it all off Spike and Dru are mixed up in it all.

Great story that really leaves you hanging in the end and needing to get your hands on the third book so you can read the conclusion.

KayLee says

Just because I'm a major Buffy fan...I have to devour anything Buffy related. Even if the writing is eh.

It's a treat to read more scenes with Spike, Oz, and Cordelia. <3

Jose says

Pretty fun. It's really exciting seeing the characters out of Sunnydale. This one is particularly violent, going beyond most episodes in the series. One caveat is that we see Oz beating up a few demons in his human form, and I just don't ever see that happening.

LemmiSchmoeker says

Well, this one is much worse than the first book: so much so that I've decided to give up after reading half of it.

The story is mainly concerned with the removal of various creatures, among them the clichéd Flying Dutchman (though admittedly, this came out a long time before *Dead Man's Chest*). The problem is the dreadfully slow pace at which everything unfolds. It's the "trilogy" syndrome, no doubt – after a solid start, and with a pretty good idea of the ending, the authors just don't know what the middle should be about, and so they just chain filler after filler until a contractually pleasing number of pages is finished. And, I'm sorry to say, that's how it reads.

I half expect the third part to be much better, but I will have to pass on it.

Brittany says

How I Came To Read These Books: being a Buffy fan, it was only natural I turned to read some of the books. I think I also read one that was based on the series' premiere, but I preferred the original stories. Call it published fan fic.

The Plot: I can't separate these three books particularly well this late in the game, so let's summarize. There's a whole lot of wacky going on in Sunnydale, more than usual. Rather than one big bad, it seems a rain (of toads, quite literally) of chaos is coming down in Sunnydale, and Buffy is having a tough time handling it, especially with her watcher hospitalized abroad. The gang goes on a road trip (!) much like any *Babysitters Club* novel, and ends up in Boston where a 'gatekeeper' is watching over a psychedelic mansion with doors leading to endless rooms of 'ghost roads' that house things not meant for our world. Unfortunately said gatekeeper is ailing, and they need to track down his heir to take over the family business. This leads to a further trip for Buffy, Angel, and Oz to travel the ghost roads and find Jacques – all the while being thwarted by the Sons of Entropy who are hell bent on causing mass chaos. Clearly the breakdown of the mansion would satisfy this need. Back in Sunnydale apparently there are some pirates looking to recruit people to their dead or alive crew (very Pirates o the Caribbean). The final book of the trilogy is essentially the big final battle and everything that leads up to it.

The Good & The Bad: Call me uncouth, but I enjoyed this series when I read it back in the day. It took my favourite familiar characters and thrust them into a world beyond Sunnydale, something the show never accomplished. Although no one seems in quite as much mortal peril as you would hope, these books were major page turners. Really though, it's mostly fun to see the characters out of their element (Sunnydale) and taking on the worldwide spread of evil. It was just on such a larger scale than anything the show ever did really, other than maybe Glory. The writing might not be amazing (I recall them stealing phrases from the show and using the terms "a beat" as in "waited a beat" way too many times) and the characters are flat because you're expected to have a fan's wealth of knowledge, plus the story is a little far-fetched and sweeping, even for a fantasy Buffy novel, but it's still fun for fans!

The Bottom Line: Like I said...it's like published fan fic.
Anything Memorable?: Not really

50-Book Challenge?: Nope

Rain Day says

I've read more than a several (can I say that?) Buffy books - out of the jillion written. This was my favorite.

Walking the ghost roads from CA to Boston to France was the most original work of fantasy I've ever read. And I've read more than I should have. The monsters. The lost souls. The Gatehouse unnoticed right on Beacon Hill. The gatekeeper and the army of magic users attacking him. But count on Buffy and the Scoobies. Then back in time for HS. Hey!

Natalie says

I read this book and the two others in the trilogy when I was watching Buffy for the first time in middle school. Truthfully, I don't remember a whole lot about the plot or writing, but I do know they kept me engaged enough to read the other two books.

Since I remember enjoying them as a kid, I'm giving them the benefit of the doubt and a 3/5.

chisholm says

if your reading this book 1st good choice 2nd please read the first book first. no spoilers but this is a really good book. i recommend this book i recommend this author

Kay says

As a fan of Buffy through the years, I have loads of Buffy books on my book shelf. I've just started to read the Gatekeeper Trilogy and they are good. I've just finished reading 'Ghost Roads'. The book is really good, the plot is good with loads of twists and turns on every page. Though the book is good it took me over two weeks to read it. I just couldn't get into the book, as soon as I picked it up I put it down. It just wasn't a book I could really get into, towards the end it felt more of a chore to read it that reading it for my own enjoyment.

Jim C says

This book is the second one of a trilogy based on the tv series. The first one should be read to understand this one. Buffy, Oz, and Angel are trying to stop Il Maestro while the rest of the gang is in Sunnydale trying to keep everything in order. I enjoyed this one. The authors depicted the characters correctly and it had a good storyline. Although some of the creatures are a little on the fantastic side, I overlooked this because the story kept me interested. Even if you were not a fan of the show, I think you will enjoy this trilogy.

Julie_ian_curtis says

buffy oz and angel in europe FTW

Phil Syphe says

Believe I read the whole Gatekeeper trilogy during the latter part of 2002, as it was then that I bought them as a boxed set.

Although I remember little about the storyline 13 years on, I do recall that the author did a good job in bringing the TV characters to life on page. I admired his original plot ideas, yet I was engaged by the story, rather than enthralled.

Ivy says

5 stars

Enjoyed the second novel in the Gatekeeper Trilogy. Very interesting. Hope they will be able to stop the Sons of Entropy. Always nice to see Buffy and the Scooby Gang. Hope Xander will be okay.

Can't wait to read Sons of Entropy!!!!!!

Louise says

An enjoyable second book in a trilogy- I'd definitely recommend this series for Buffy fans.
