



Dreams of the Raven

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A merchant ship's frantic S.O.S sends the *U.S.S. Enterprise*TM speeding to the rescue! But the starships mission of mercy soon becomes a desperate struggle for survival against a nightmarish enemy Captain Kirk can neither identify nor understand, an enemy he must defeat without the aid of one of his most trusted officers.

For the Leonard McCoy Kirk knew is gone. In his place stands a stranger -- a man with no memory of his Starfleet career, his family, his friends... or the one thing James T. Kirk needs most of all. His dreams.

Dreams of the Raven Details

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Author : Carmen Carter

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From Reader Review Dreams of the Raven for online ebook

Katie says

This is actually the first Star Trek novel I've read (Having read loads of the graphic novels) and I've got to say I really enjoyed it.

I think how Bones' accident happened and then how he snapped out of it was all a bit corny, but then that's what Star Trek's all about.

When he lost his memory, it became all to clear that the friendship between Bones, Spock and Kirk is so integral to *every* Star Trek story - it was really interesting and **strange** to not hear Spock and Bones bickering with each other!

Kirk's a hero as ever and the idea of Aliens who take on their victims personality, voice, etc by eating their brains, was seriously cool.

I thought Bones may have remembered the Dr.Dyson kiss at the end... the girl should of gone ahead and kissed him anyways!!

I ♥ Bones. And, as ever, I ♥ Star Trek. Bring on the next novel!

Darran Summerfield says

The very first star trek novel I ever read, and I loved it

Stacey L says

My fave of all the 1,000 Star Trek novels i've read. i think i read this one 4 times.

Kay says

The (partial) amnesia is contrived, but getting into McCoy's head for a while is a lot of fun. The interactions between the big three are mostly well done. A few scenes felt like they went nowhere as if the author (like the characters) couldn't quite find the right words to say about McCoy's dilemma.

Amnesia aside, the mystery facing the Enterprise has a couple nice twists. Captain Kirk's stress level is a little higher than usual as he tries to make the right choices while flying blind and without Bones' stabilizing influence. New clues trickle in, which made parts a little slow. Kirk's frustration over a lack of progress was certainly relatable.

Overall, a treat for any McCoy fan.

Cary Spratt says

Boring. McCoy's amnesia (cause & recovery) is mostly just annoying, and the bad-guy-alien plotline was okay, but not good enough to earn additional stars.

David King says

“Dreams of the Raven” by Carmen Carter is an Original Series Star Trek novel which is primarily focused around the character of Dr. McCoy. The overall plot follows the crew of the USS Enterprise as they attempt to deal with a new and dangerous species who are seemingly able to take control of ships and their crews with relative ease. Unfortunately, the crew aren't helped by a head injury to Dr. McCoy which has resulted in him losing all his memories from his time in Starfleet. Devoid of all his experiences, he is more of a hindrance than a help as the crew tries to battle the new foe!

The first thing to mention about the plot is that the cause of McCoy's amnesia is rather silly and quite unimaginative. The concept of his reversion to a younger self however was an interesting one which did keep me intrigued. It was particularly nice seeing how the effect of past experiences could change someone as was evident with McCoy and how he now acted without those experiences. However, I do think that the author maybe went a bit too far at times as some of McCoy's core personality traits were altered beyond what I felt was realistic. Of course, it could be argued that this was potentially just another aspect of his head injury.

The plot elements around the alien threat itself were rather standard and uninspiring. It wasn't that long ago that I finished the book but I am already struggling to remember anything of note about these aspects of the plot. Overall, this is probably best described as another average Original Series novel. The amnesia plot is a bit trite in set-up and conclusion but it was nice to see a book dedicated to McCoy and the concept of how the memory loss affected him was interesting. The rest of the story isn't really anything memorable but it isn't the worst Star Trek novel I have read.

Mike Crate says

Dreams of the Raven is a well written classic style story of the original series, some action and humour with one of the central characters having an issue they have to deal with. In this story it's McCoy who is feeling a little sorry for himself and thanks to his mood and a little alcohol gets himself injured and suffers some memory loss. Not the best time for McCoy but made even worse as the Enterprise has to battle an unknown alien species who it seems are capable of gaining control of vessels and crews with extreme ease. As the Enterprise limps from each encounter the crew have to understand this very aggressive species while dealing with a chief of medicine who is certainly not himself.

This was a enjoyable read, I would have liked to have seen it expanded a little more since there was certainly scope to do so but never the less a good story told well and loved the new Spock/McCoy dynamic that emerged after the doc was injured.

Bert says

Bones! Amnesia! A lieutenant called Benus! And a Vegan Tradeship! (which is sadly only a tradeship from Vega, not a tradeship delivering tempah across the universe) This was a really good Star Trek novel, capturing the spirit and feeling of the original series.

Robert says

Better titled "Bones Gets Amnesia". (What up with these Star Trek covers that all look the same anyhow?) A handful of minor characters get screentime.

Katharine Holden says

Muddled, melodramatic Star Trek novel featuring the Original Series cast. McCoy loses a chunk of his adult memory and only has the memories and skills of the recently qualified and traditional M.D. that he was before he entered Star Fleet. It's an interesting premise. Unfortunately, Carmen Carter tries to make drama and nightmare out of the fact that the Bones we all know and love was created by his years in Star Fleet; without them, he is someone else and that someone else is immature. Well, of course, he would be different. Aren't we all shaped by our years of experience? Weren't we all immature just as we were starting out in our careers? She even tries to make us believe that the pre-Star Fleet McCoy was a run-of-the-mill young doctor without much humor. It's unlikely that a man with mediocre medical skills would have turned into the McCoy who can face an unknown space disease and come up with a vaccine in record time. I wish she had focused less on trying to show how the non-Star Fleet McCoy is less-than-Bones in contrast to the "real" Bones. More interesting are the moments in the book when she focuses on the difficulties McCoy faces as a person with amnesia trying to function in a world he no longer recognizes.

Natasha says

I know a lot of people think this book is absolute crap. I don't believe so. The way Dr. McCoy receives his injury is a bit... stupid for lack of a better word. But the rest is fascinating. It was more of a book for those who deeply love McCoy because it's more of a character study of what he was like 25 years before he became the Bones he is today. Of course, it isn't without flaws, and it wasn't a spectacular rendition of what I believe McCoy would have been like. He was lacking many of his admirable skills, like loving and healing no matter what, and was, quite frankly, a bit of a whiner, but it was alright. I did think the book resolved itself too prematurely. All of a sudden, everything was back to normal, even with a main crewman still "out of the picture" (at a risk of spoiling anything.) But it was a good read for those of us who love McCoy and wish to see him have more stories revolving around him.

The "side story" (what I like to call it) was alright, but there was so much technical jargon and not enough action I found myself very tempted to just skip to the part where McCoy shows up again.

All in all, a good leisurely read for the beach or maybe a chapter or two a night before bed.

Daniel Kukwa says

Carmen Carter is more famous for her TNG work, but with this novel, she also demonstrates a superb command over the crew of the Original Series Enterprise. In fact, it's full of amazing character work all around, combined with an interesting plot that puts Captain Kirk & crew in the way of some very serious, yet very unique jeopardy. It's also a great deal more subtle & contemplative than the back cover blurb leads a reader to believe...and we all need a bit more subtle & contemplative in these bombastic times.

Abbie says

Review to come....

Elizabeth Nelson says

BONES, BONES, BONES!!

I'm a Leonard McCoy girl and this gets deep into his character, as well as the themes of death and memory, and some truly terrifying aliens.

Plus, Carmen Carter really *gets* the whole crew, and every character's personality quirks come out so vividly that I really believed it could be an episode of the original show. Many interactions or comments had me laughing out loud, and this was definitely one of my favorite Star Trek books ever.

Jerry says

Better than usual for this series.
