



The Long Run: A Tale of the Continuing Time

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Few of the telepaths survived the massacre by the United Nations Peaceforce. Seven years later, the last telepaths, Denice and Trent, are marked by the Peaceforce, and will die unless Trent can carry out his plan to avenge the deaths of his friends.

The Long Run: A Tale of the Continuing Time Details

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Author : Daniel Keys Moran

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From Reader Review The Long Run: A Tale of the Continuing Time for online ebook

Roger says

My rating is based upon having read this book for the first time (on or about) the year 1989. I remember eagerly turning pages as Trent escaped one hair-raising action sequence before entering another. This book was for me like crack is to a crack addict. I am tempted, oh so tempted, to read it again.

UPDATE:

Having just completed a re-read, I find that my previously high regard for this book has diminished over the last 20 odd years. I no longer consider this book to be one of my "all time favorites". The "Long run is still a good book, IMO, but no longer a "GREAT" book. The book is unchanged since my first reading, so the reason for my re-evaluation is a change in the reader...yours truly. I am a different person than I was in 1989. A lot of books have been read since 1989. The "Long Run" has suffered in comparison. IMO, in the year of 2013, the "Long Run" deserves 3 stars.

SPOILER ALERT*****

For certain types of adventure literature to be enjoyable (for me), the contests between protagonist(s) and antagonist(s) need to provide a certain amount of tension. The bad guy needs to come close to killing/defeating the good guy. There needs to be a real question concerning the outcome. If your protagonist is freakishly smart and the antagonists are bureaucratic simpletons, there will not be any doubt as to the outcome. No doubt, no tension.

Trent the Uncatchable is this story's protagonist and resident super genius. The PKF (Peace Keeping Force) are the story's simpleton antagonists. Time and time again, Trent effortlessly eludes or evades or outthinks these petty bureaucrats who are collectively the baddest of the bad in our Solar System.

Yawn...after a while, I stopped buying the BS that Trent was in any danger of getting caught or killed. Once that happened, I lost interest and finishing the book began to feel like a chore. It is a shame really, because I had such fond memories..

END SPOILER*****

How in the world did I ever consider this book to be among my "all time favorites"? Maybe I am too jaded to enjoy a story of this type any longer?

Dave Bell says

Big fan of Daniel Keys Moran. Story goes that he wrote 33 volumes of a sci-if epic when he was in high school. Not sure how true it is but I dig his style - future world (2060's) after a UN war to unify all countries, goes back and forth between "cyber-punk" themes of hackers and AI's running amok, cyborgs built in zero-gravity orbiting space stations, a solar system wide human culture, genetically engineered telepath protagonists (which were spawned by time-travelling humans from the future involved in their own interneccine warfare). I dig it much - no holds barred sci-fi.

Ric says

Even on well panned riverbeds, one can still find gold. And this is just what I found, via the *Goodreads* discussion groups, a **golden** book from the 80s. The Long Run is the 2nd book of the *Continuing Time* series by Daniel Keys Moran. It's primarily the story of Trent Castanaveras, 2nd generation genetically engineered human, who unlike Carl of the 1st book (*Emerald Eyes*, an amazing book in its own right) is not a telepath but instead is physically enhanced. Trent is a thief and a (cyber-)Player who is moved to payback the atrocities of the world-dominating military, the Peacekeeper Force, in particular, of the cyborg Vance Mohammed. The book covers the pursuit of Trent by Vance from subjugated earth to the Lagrangian stations and onto the moon. That pursuit in and of itself is engaging, although there are instances of fortunate coincidences to help Trent along. What is memorable is the inventive use of the back story and its science fictional elements that avoid the sensation of "plucking things out of thin air" that can be found in similar chase stories. Along the way, Moran presents a view of both the physical and cyber worlds of his future that is amazingly contemporary and, except for one aspect noted below, does not feel dated at all.

Moran's prose has a schizo tendency to jump about in short bursts, particularly during action sequences, from one point of view or point in time to another. This may be a jarring style that takes time to get used to. Since I made through the first book, I was used to this by this second book. In fact, I think Moran is more linear in his approach here. Anyway, I view this technique as supplemental to the "coolness" factor of the story-telling reminiscent of Neal Asher's Gridlinked or William Gibson's Sprawl series.

Trent is an interesting character. The comparison to Case of Neuromancer comes up immediately because of the cyber skills, but ultimately Case is a victim of circumstances outside his control while Trent makes his own destiny. Another comparison is with Wade of Ready Player One, this time with the game Player dimension, and I think, with their relative youthfulness. Both reluctantly find themselves "King of the Hill" and give the powers-that-be a kick in the b. Trent survives the reading process better because of his intransigent nature that seems to say, "you thought you knew me, but you actually don't" weeks after the final page.

For all the imaginative extrapolation of Moran's world-building, especially in relation to the development of the worldwide net and cyber culture, he did miss out on *Moore's Law*. While the book considers 700 TB of memory as a pinnacle of technical achievement, other authors have projected singularity based on the progressing speeds of digital computation. But this minor issue does not detract from the overall quality of the book. Take this as just a wise-ass comment from a lowly reviewer. Regardless, Moran has **made a fan** out of me, and I am adding him to my list of must-read authors.

I am looking forward to reading the next two books in the series. For fans of the books mentioned above, this one is **highly recommended**.

Patrick Collins says

Big Peter Abe with a surprising recommendation - forgotten Sci Fi from the late 80s, that reads with a

contemporary feel - Brought me back to Red Mars with hints of the Bourne Identity.

Matt says

Picked this off the "to be read" pile as it was the highest rated of my unread books on Goodreads (over 4.7 average rating!). I've read both The Last Dancer and Emerald Eyes so had some curiosity about the legendary Trent.

On the whole it's a reasonable action adventure come "heist" tale.

The prose style, choice of view point and pseudo-historic epigrams conspire to sap a fair bit of the tension about how the job is going to go that a "heist" yarn could have. (The fact that I've read the books out of order probably didn't help either).

Shawn Holman says

A friend of mine recommended this book to me and told me there's no need to read #1 or #3 of the trilogy because it stands on its own and it's the best of the trilogy. It does stand on its own. And it's a great book. I love Trent - no, I want to be Trent. Trent the Thief, Trent the Uncatchable. He's funny and sarcastic and brilliant and has morals and this is a great book. It's very sci-fi however, I'm not a huge sci-fi book fan and I really enjoyed this book.

Chris says

3.5 stars. I picked this up because of a secondhand recommendation and didn't learn anything about it before starting. Two paragraphs in, I knew it was one of *those* books from the 80s where the UN invades and nukes the US (it was always the USSR or UN) and some people have psychic powers. The main character is handsome, witty, athletic, total nerd wish-fulfillment. And while he has one true love, he won't hesitate to bang his way out of a situation. I wasn't wrong about any of those, but the book was better written than I expected. Not literature, but not bad either. By the end, I was happily surprised at how well Moran had subverted my dime store expectations - with a great take on hacking and AI and some unexpected social commentary.

Michael Bourgon says

"The Crystal Wind is the Storm, and the Storm is Data, and the Data is Life."

The whole book is basically one giant chase scene, from downtown New York City to orbit, to the Moon. All the while our hero, Trent The Thief (mind the capitals) is busy running from the Peace Keeping Force, and determined to steal things. Great scenes and quotes abound.

Jeffrey says

Stunning. A virtuoso performance. Mindblowing action. Great characters.

If you haven't found a good book to read, pick this one up.

A little background first. Trent, the main character, is a webplayer and a thief. He is also a genetic mutant. The United Nations is controlled by the Peacekeepers who are headquartered in France. The Leadership of the Peacekeepers, the Peacekeeper Elite are cyborgs.

In a previous novel the Peacekeepers dropped a nuclear bomb on New York City to destroy an enclave of telepaths because they threatened the Peacekeeper's rule. Most of Trent's family, who were there were killed, but Trent was not there because even though he was a genetic mutant, he was not a telepath.

Now several years later, using his talent as a webplayer and his gifts as a thief, he and his crew have escaped out of the wild areas to approach actual society, but the Peacekeeper's have not forgotten that he is out there and they still seek him.

They pick him up in a set up and lock him away in jail, but when his friends break him out, Trent has no choice but to run away.

This book follows Trent's run from the Peacekeeper Elite that seek him from New York City, to a starship in space to the Moon and beyond.

This is one of my all time favorite books.

Joseph says

My absolute favorite book ever. I have read this at least a dozen times since I bought it in high school. That reminds me . . . it's been a while.

Nicholas says

So, point of honesty: this was my favorite book when I was 14. And it was 1990. And the internet was still shuffling towards "a good idea."

It's not the best prose in the world. It's not the tightest story ever written. It's not the best cyber-punk heist novel of all time.

But it's damn good, and it tries hard, and it still kicks ass more than twenty years later.

I've had three paperback copies. I know Moran had some really high quality hard-back versions printed, but I

wasn't in time to pick one of those up. So dog-eared and aging paperbacks were all I had until I got the ebook a few months ago.

I've re-read the whole series, and this one still stands out.

The book is just a romp. It's a heist and a chase scene and a set-up, and it's all of those at the same time running flat out non-stop no-holds-bared from New York to the Moon.

You might not love it, I really don't know what other combination of eclectic passions would lead someone to love this book...but for me it's damn near perfect even decades after I first read it.

Jamie Friesen says

The 2nd book in Moran's Continuing Times series (of which four have now been written), this one chronicles the adventures of Trent Castanaveras.

Genengineered by a geneticist, Trent should have been a telepath like the rest of his extended family. However, lacking the three genes of telepaths, he instead goes on to become one of the planet's best Players (hacker) in the InfoNet (21st century Internet) and premiere thieves years after his telepathic cousins are slaughtered by a world government terrified of their power (this all takes place in the first novel, *Emerald Eyes*).

He is apprehended by the UN PeaceKeeping Force and charged with crimes against humanity. His escape from a high security prison with one of the last surviving telepaths and fellow thieves is an epic chase, culminating in a run to the lunar colonies on the Moon. Along the way, he makes more than his fair share of friends and enemies.

The characters are interesting, the humour sarcastic and biting, and the words practically drop from the page. I've read the book probably twenty times and still read it once a year for the pure adventure of it. Everyone I've loaned my copy to has loved the book. Frankly, I'm surprised that this cyberpunk novel has been overlooked for so long.

Gregory Brylski says

Creative, smart

I liked this book, it made me smile - but, are all women such a soft touch? Of course, read book 1 in the series first.

Scribal says

I'm pleased to discover Moran however belatedly. I just read *Emerald Eyes*, *The Long Run* and the *Last Dancer* in that order. *The Long Run* is the tightest and most satisfying of the three. Comments have been made about it as a heist story and a long chase--yes that's the form of the book but that's not why it's

good. There are lots of tightly written genre novels with similar forms and often I don't like them enough to finish or forget them after I do.

The Long Run is good because Moran can write plot, character and idea all at once! There's satisfaction to be had in following the shape of his plot. Trent is an interesting (if slightly inhuman) protagonist that's easy to invest in. And Moran does a very interesting thing with ideas--he keeps the reader unsettled about where he and the characters stand on a lot of issues. The world he creates seems very black and white sometimes, but it always shifts to grey.

This is more evident if more of the Continuing Time series is read. Emerald Eyes and especially Last Dancer are less balanced--Moran doesn't always handle the character shifts well--I didn't invest in other characters as much as Trent and unless the series is going to be continued for a long time (and I hope it is), there was way too much detailed back story that was ultimately left hanging.

Lurple says

Daniel Keys Moran deserves more attention from sci-fi fans. My copies of his books are dog-eared and beat up, and this one is missing the cover, but I treasure them still. Moran has created an interesting sci-fi universe peopled with interesting characters. I encourage readers to check out his *A Tale of the Continuing Time* novels as well as his standalone work.
