



Veil of Reality

A.K. DuBoff

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The greatest deceptions are never suspected. After twenty years with the Tararian Selective Service, Cris Sietinen is in the unprecedented position of being both Lead Agent and heir to a High Dynasty. Family, career, information—it would seem he has it all. But when his fourteen-year-old son, Wil, is captured by the mysterious Bakzen, Cris is forced to question all that he once took for granted in his life. Only one thing remains clear: it's imperative he rescue Wil. What Cris and Wil learn in the process will change their perception forever.

Veil of Reality is the second installment in the Cadicle series. This fast-paced adventure novel with intrigue, danger and self-discovery begins to untie the knot of secrets binding the TSS, High Dynasties and the Priesthood.

Is it possible to change destiny? The Cadicle series follows three generations of the pivotal Sietinen Dynasty as each learns their part in an elaborately orchestrated galactic conflict. Torn by politics, love and war, the Cadicle and those he holds most dear must choose between duty and morality as the true nature of their purpose unfolds. Through their roles as Agents in the Tararian Selective Service, they will be on the front lines of space battles, but the political skirmishes they must face on Tararia could prove just as dangerous. The Cadicle holds the key to winning both, but at what cost?

Veil of Reality Details

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From Reader Review Veil of Reality for online ebook

Tony Parsons says

Primus Lead Agent Cris Sietinen (Sights?, Tararian Selective Service (TSS) is in charge of new trainees. His wife is the Primus 1st officer Kate Sietinen under his command is in charge of the TSS Vanquish (transport ship).

She & her crew have just got back from a mission; Bashari Prime. Currently she is an instructor at the Headquarters teaching training classes while the ship is having a Preventive Maintenance (PM) check.

Their son Williame Wil Sietinen Sietinen (14) is also involved with TSS as a Primus Junior Agent. Other Primus crew members are Primus High Commander Banks, Primus Arron Haersen (Mission Coordinator) & Militia Officer Dylaen who worked a lot with Cris.

All the Primus crew have their DNA on the Genetic Archive.

The Sights couple just got some heartbreaking bad news the Bakzen (enemy) had kidnapped Wil.

Primus High Commander Jason Banks ask for volunteers for this very dangerous mission.

Primus Lead Agent Cris Sights, Primus 1st Officer Scott Wincowski,

Primus Agent Kari Wilsen (weapons & communications systems), Primus

Agent Alec Braensen (ship's pilot, navigation), Primas Agent Matt Nomalor (Former Chief Engineer) & Dr. Irina Saunatev (TSS) were all sent aboard the TSS Vanquish to get Wil (aka Dragon) back safe/sound.

Later a huge problem arose the crew lost contact with the Command Center.

Much later on finally the Command Center received a faint transmission from a small planet called Arnca (Sector 14).

The Bakzen War had been going on with the TSS for 100's of yrs.

What about the Cadicle (Priesthood)?

What were Colonel Tek (Bakzen race, telekinetic abilities), & General Carzen (Bakzen race) up to?

Will the Primus Crew rescue Wil?

What will they do to the Bakzen race?

I did not receive any type of compensation for reading & reviewing this book. While I receive free books from publishers & authors, I am under no obligation to write a positive review. Only an honest one.

A very awesome book cover, great font & writing style. A very well written futuristic outer-space book. It was very easy for me to read/follow from start/finish & never a dull moment. There were no grammar/typo errors, nor any repetitive or out of line sequence sentences. Lots of exciting scenarios, with several twists/turns & a great set of unique characters to keep track of. This could also make another great HS age futuristic outer-space movie, animated cartoon, or mini TV series. To be continued. It was just OK for me but I enjoyed it, so I will still rate it at 5 stars.

Thank you for the free Goodreads; BDL Press; Author; PDF book
Tony Parsons MSW (Washburn)

Brook says

Solid 3 stars for space opera/fantasy genre.

Disclaimer: I was provided a copy of this book by the author to review, after reviewing #1 in this series, *Architects of Destiny*. I wrote what I did and did not enjoy about the book, and the author suggested reading the second title to address some concerns. Both copies were complimentary.

The first book was, at least to this reader, very similar to the first book in the *Dune* series, but with foci on areas that did not interest me as much (romance). This book takes a decidedly different tack, focusing more on events outside of one couple's relationships.

Book 2 does a good job of making a paced introduction of the larger world. Where Book 1 focused on specific relationships, this book introduces new characters and plot points in a coherent manner. The pacing can still be a bit off (characters expressing deep emotions without a framework established beforehand for those feelings), but it is much more enjoyable for this reader than the first one. The author does a good job of bringing in bits of suspense and intrigue that will encourage the reader to grab the next title.

It is difficult for me to review individual parts of a serial, so I attempt to look at the book as part of the larger narrative. Where the first book established the protagonists and their basic past/motivations, book 2 begins to make sense of the external threats while introducing even more characters.

The improvement from book 1 to 2 is noted and applauded. Keep it up.

If you are looking for easily-digestible space opera (think *Dune* or *Star Wars*) in a short serial format, and like the character interactions of *Star Wars* more than the space battles, then this may be for you.

Michael Wood says

Very Good Second Novel: Dynastic/Space Opera

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: BOTH THIS BOOK AND ENTIRE DYNASTIC SPACE OPERA EPIC

Amy DuBoff has, in this second novel, written a story with the excitement, action, plot twists and enjoyable reading she managed with her first novel of the series. The storyline, as it develops, gives more and more information about the situation facing Wil and the rest of the human race.

I did not like the fifteen-year jump between the novels. Wil, the son, is now fourteen years old, and already a junior agent in the TSS. It becomes clear that Wil has been planned (by who and why, we don't know). It also becomes clear that there is some sort of hidden relationship between the TSS and the priesthood. (The priesthood has been seen as opposed to the development of paranormal abilities that the TSS develops)

Many questions remain, both for the primary characters and for the reader...

Chris says

An excellent continuation from the first book in the series. It's now almost 2 decades later and Cris and Kate are married with a 14 year old son Wil. Cris is the Lead Agent of TSS HQ still working on diplomatic type issues with Kate acting as his First Officer more often than not and Wil is already a junior agent advancing faster than any agent before him.....seemingly ready to fulfill his secret destiny in the war against the Bakzen. But just who are the Bakzen, what is the relationship between the TSS and the Priesthood? What are the details of this unknown war. All questions that needed answering at the end of the 1st book. And here in book 2 we start to get those answers along with many more questions.

Wil is a great character. He's extremely smart, talented and independent but he's also vulnerable, unsure of himself and lonely due to being so advanced at a young age. He has no true peers to share things with. This is definitely a coming of age adventure for Wil as the actions of a traitor in the TSS lead to Wil's capture by the Bakzen where he begins to learn the truth about his existence and the true state of the galaxy. In an effort to rescue him, Cris learns some of these same truths only to realize that everything has been a lie. Once reunited and after a trip to a secret TSS base they come to the conclusion that there answers really are just more questions because they know that they aren't being told the truth.

I love the mystery aspect of this sci-fi series. Just when you think you know everything that is going on there is just a bit more out of reach. It drives me through the book because I really want to find out what's happening. Like the first book, this one is well written, has a nice pace and great character development.

Jedi Master B says

This book rocks! It has everything I've wanted in a sci fi space series. In this one we meet a new race of beings that threaten to end humanity. We also get a new hero who's powers surpass anything we've seen in the previous book. It's fun, adventurous, and leaves you guessing until the end.

Tom Johnson says

“Science Fiction At Its Best.”

In this sequel to ARCHITECTS OF DESTINY, it has been two decades since we left Cris and Kate Sietinen. Their son, Wil, is 14 and shares their heightened ability of telekinetic powers, and shows signs of hidden strength that might prove beneficial to either side in the ongoing war between the TSS and the Bakzen Empire. A traitor within the TSS opens a doorway for a Bakzen team to enter the headquarters and kidnap Wil. Cris is given the ship, Vanquish, and penetrates the Bakzen defensive net to rescue Wil. In the process, Cris and Wil learn more about the ongoing war with the Bakzen Empire, and the people behind the conflict.

There are still secrets being kept from them, but the readers learn more about the reason for the war, and now the status of good and evil is not so easily defined. The more I get into this series, the more I'm reminded of the Null-A series by A.E. van Vogt, and the game players that sparked that series. Like the great science fiction of the early years, the Cadicle series has a feel of inspired prediction for our future. Whether a fan of early SF, or modern, readers will find “Veil of Reality” a great read. Highly recommended.

Marcus Dean says

This entry in the series was better than the first. The story seemed fuller and more realized. However, I would have liked another couple hundred pages to slow down the pace and dive deeper into the world. I also have a bit of an issue with how patriarchal everything is. All of the main characters in the series have been men. Women pop up now and then but only have a line or two. Kate is the only prominent woman in the series and she is pretty much on the sidelines crying, kissing, or hugging. Even though she is allegedly a powerful agent, she is never a part of the action. The great thing about writing about the far future or other advanced societies is that the author can more easily challenge things like gender norms. I wish there were more women in the series.

If you liked the first book at all, give this one a read. It has faults but overall it is an enjoyable quick read.

John Piper says

Loving this series! The universe Amy has created is filled with action, and very well written. The characters just suck you in! I'm already starting book 3! I highly recommend checking this series out!

Clabe Polk says

In Book 2 in the series beginning with *The Architects of Destiny*, Kate and Cris's marriage have united the heirs of two of the most powerful of the dynasties. They may now be in a position to politically influence the other dynasties in the future. As members of the TSS Command Level, Cris has risen to Chief Agent and is a major influence in the TSS. Kate and Cris's son Wil has grown to the age of fourteen and has proven to be as strong as predicted. He has risen on the Bakzen's radar screen and is known to them as the "Dragon". The violent Colonel Tek has arranged with a Bakzen sympathizer inside TSS headquarters to have Wil kidnapped. Bakzen General Carzen would like to turn Will peacefully to sympathize with the Bakzen, but Colonel Tek would like to kill him and destroy the threat he poses.

Cris is faced with rescuing Will from the the Bakzen at all costs. Will is able to help in his rescue, but what they learn changes both him and Cris in ways they never imagined.

The Veil of Reality is an entertaining continuation of the *Cadicle Series* that continues to pose the question "What next?" The reader feels that they are posed on the brink of a precipice ready to take the next step and slide down hill into the story, but there are always more developments occurring, more surprises around the corner and new characters entering the battle on both sides.

The *Cadicle Series* should appeal to every classical science fiction fan and to every reader who just loves a good military/political adventure story.

Max says

I'm enjoying how the author has broken up the series, with the first providing a solid backdrop of the environment and the next introducing the primary protagonist. The series seems to be shaping up to be an interesting take on the "Ender's Game" concept, wherein the hero is notified many years ahead of time that he will be personally responsible for saving his race through complete annihilation of another species.

Stephen Milletello says

Veil of Reality was a great follow-up to Architects of Destiny. It's writing was clear and concise which kept the action intense. It was a fairly short book with a lot of heart and passion put into it. I really enjoyed this book as well as seeing the evolution of the characters introduced in the first one. It was full of twists and turns, a true page-turner. I recommend this book to any lover of sci-fi and good writing and I can't wait to see the conclusion of this trilogy.

Vanessa Kay says

The Veil of Reality is the second book of the Cadicle series, but it could also be read without having to read its first book (though I don't recommend such). There's no denying that I wasn't really impressed with its first book, the Architects of Destiny, but this one totally hook me up!

The focus of this book moved from Chris to his fourteen year old son Wil, who's going to be the future of humanity. Yeah right? This book was so fast which I bet it's way faster than to jump drive (lol). Though I admit I wasn't that impressed on how it's too fast pace on its previous book, this one didn't annoy me at all. And I love love love the addition of action, kidnapping, revenge, betrayal, sabotage and adventure in this story. Sounds like a one-stop shop eh? I even had this guessing game on who's the traitor, but dang! How many times do they have to proved to me that I don't have that investigative skill eh?

One loop hole (for me) that I found in the story that I didn't like at all (which mainly explains why I only given this story a 4-star rating) was when Wil was captured by Bakzen and they didn't even bother on checking whether he's armed or not right? I mean, total Idiocracy with the capital I for the Bakzens eh? Oh well, maybe they are? And also, I hate hate the part where Chris and Will are talking and then ended up arguing which happens most of the time. I mean, huh?? (I just find it a bit annoying)

For the characters, Chris' was so far improved and I love his transition from being a young "too independent" lad to a matured father and husband to Kate. And Kate? Well, I don't really have any complaints about her character even from the first book. Also, I was impressed on Wil's character, and the way he deal to his "already planned" destiny.

Just like its predecessor, this book is just a short read and could be finish in just one sitting. So far, all words and terms used we're so easy to understand, so it's going to be a day off to your ever reliable dictionary (wink). This book totally proves that you shouldn't judge the series by its first book.

Highly recommended.

Rating: 4 out of 5 stars

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S says

It's a good story, quite engaging, but I'm amazed that the father hasn't lamed his own kid. 14 years old and dismisses his own father on several occasions. Turns out his kid is a bit of a mary sue character as well.

Eric says

This book has almost everything: kidnapping, revenge, betrayal, sabotage, action, adventure, and the all-important creation of a nemesis. Though sadly, it's missing an epic space battle (I love a good capital ship battle). However, knowing where the series is heading, an epic space battle showdown is almost certainly in the cards for future books.

The focus of Veil of Reality moves from Cris to his son Wil. Wil's importance to the TSS, the Priesthood, the Bakzen, as well as the possible future of humanity is unequivocally laid out before him. At the forefront, can Wil live up to the expectations placed upon him, and will others allow him to meet those expectations?

For me, it was a fast and thoroughly enjoyable read. As such, I've read it cover to cover twice (thanks to receiving a pre-release copy from the author in exchange for an honest review).

Character development is excellent. I can empathize with Cris and his desire to do anything for his family. I understand Wil's determination to be a strong leader and not let down his family and friends. Kate's worries for her family turning into a dogged determination to find out the truth is something I've seen in others when dealing with hardships.

Pros:

- This novel stands alone. By that I mean it doesn't require reading the first book to enjoy this novel. However, much like seasoning will enhance the flavor of something cooked on a grill, reading the first novel will enhance the readers experience of this novel.
- Brings us up to speed quickly without feeling like we're missing some vital piece of information. Initially I was concerned about the time gap between the end of Architects of Destiny and the start of Veil of Reality. However, Ms. DuBoff handles the transition in such a way that we don't need a detailed history of the

missing time span.

- Wils destiny is laid out before him, setting the stage for where the series is heading. Based on Architects of Destiny (book 1) and Veil of Reality there will be a lot of political intrigue, military battles, and personal conflict as the truth is revealed.

Cons:

- We skip over the formative years of Cris and Kates relationship and jump right into their having a teen aged son. While the series is about Wil, I'd love to see some back story on the two. Perhaps future spin off series?

This series stands apart from others in that it's not just another "humans leaving Earth and exploring the universe" plot line. This is an alternate view of our galaxy/universe and what could be going on just out of sight. Highly recommend!

John Walkenford says

The real beginning

Book 1 was more if a prelude. This is where the story really starts moving with the son of the main character in book 1.
