



The View from the Imperium

Jody Lynn Nye

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A Paperback Original. Science Fiction Adventure with a Generous Dash of Humor by the Co-Author of the Best-Selling *The Planet Pirates*. P. G. Wodehouse meets space opera, as Ensign Thomas Innes Loche Kinago, fresh from the Academy is given his first command. A crumb from the upper crust, he's eager to uphold the traditions of his family, and in particular, his mother, a distinguished Admiral of the Imperium. Of course, he's aware of the importance of always having simply smashing tailored uniforms on hand, and having his camera ready to record memorable moments for his scrapbook. In the meantime, a charismatic leader has arisen who seems able to control the minds of anyone he meets, and may be on his way to taking over the entire galaxy. Can Kinago's aristocratic bearing and unbridled snobbery stand up to such a challenge? Fortunately, his constant companion, the unflappable Jeeves, er, Parsons, is on hand to look after the young, impulsive master, and somehow help his charge bumble his way through, perhaps even saving the galaxy in the process.

Praise for Jody Lynn Nye's An Unexpected Apprentice:

"I thoroughly enjoyed it, the plot, the settlement, the whole nine yards, and especially the twitch of humor at odd moments...a book I can thoroughly recommend." —**Anne McCaffrey**

"An unusual story well-told, with characters it's a real pleasure to spend time with." —**David Drake**

The View from the Imperium Details

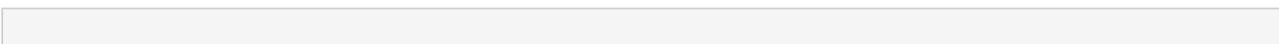
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From Reader Review The View from the Imperium for online ebook

Jennifer Heise says

NOT Wooster and Jeeves. (*throws hard rolls at the reviewers and publicists who say it is*) but fun in another way.

Let's be honest, this just isn't funny enough to be even breathed in the same category as P.G. Wodehouse. The main character just isn't hapless Bertie Wooster, though the aide-de-camp may exceed Jeeves in sagacity. In fact, if he were a butler he might be the Black Butler, or something else higher up in the butlers-of-utmost-resource-and-sagacity scale. But, honestly, he's boring. Miles Vorksigan's retainers are more interesting.

And yet, I gobbled this up. Despite the 'foolish scion of the nobility' doing an earnest, completely unintentional original of the Albert-Campion blundering-idiot-about-town first experience with actual service. Despite his foolishness. This is good, solid, space opera. And while it's not Bujold, nor is it yet Heinlein, it's a good yarn.

Ove says

Jeeves of the Space Ways – fun & thrilling

Ensign Thomas Kinago starts by making a fool of himself the first day by pimping out his uniform in admiral stripes and arriving late to his first dinner with an Admiral known for adhering strictly to punctuality. The dressing-down he gets afterwards is a beauty I enjoyed greatly as a reader and it sets the tone for the rest of the book. I laughed out loud for a long time when the Admiral asked if he had trouble keeping inside the lines with crayons in kindergarten too.

Thomas is a member of the imperial family somewhat distant from the throne but nonetheless firmly removed from reality when the book starts. It is amusing, emotional and revealing as he realizes how protected he has been. He is a good-hearted fellow it is easy to love but he keeps getting into trouble due to inexperience. It is lucky that he has his Jeeves sorry Parsons that steers him the right way.

Jody Lynn Nye isn't exactly new to me. I have enjoyed her Doona collaboration with Anne McCaffrey and a few short stories especially in Worlds of Honor. This is promoted as a space opera version of the P. G. Woodhouse's Jeeves books and it is not too far from the truth but Thomas is more talented than his counterpart.

The story is about as much about his journey of discovery, including some military adventures not mentioned in the blurb as it is about how a mysteriously charismatic leader threatens to take over a distant former sector of the Imperium the new Emperor wants to re include. It makes sense to send Kinago and Parsons there to find out what is going on.

The characters are great and I love the story even if I get to stretch my sense of disbelief a time or two. Thomas makes mistakes, it wouldn't be as much fun else but he also makes many things right especially to his friends old and new. It is good when you cry from laughter and deep emotions in the same book.

View from the Imperium is fun character driven space opera with a bit over the top characters, a big heart and thrilling action. I hope Jody Lynn Nye will continue with the characters and make this a series. As you understand I warmly recommend this light-hearted novel.

Patrick Doris says

A very slow book... slow reading... slow action....slow character development it featured a very preposterous social milieu that was populated by stock characters the ending was predictable the foreshadowing was more like forespotlighting but I did finish it

Ron Judenberg says

to-read

Richard says

This novel proved to be far more interesting and fun than I had thought it would be, so much so that I was sorely disappointed to see that there is no sequel! A great light hearted romp!

Liviu says

A bit disappointing novel that starts great but fizzles after the first third since the premise is thin and wears fast. For a similar but better novel - or at least one that holds its own for the full novel though even there i got tired by mid-second installment and stopped reading - I recomend Space Captain Smith by Toby Frost which is the UK take on space opera humor

Li says

I picked up this one up as I had the next book in my Baen ebook bundle. In theory, this should have been right up my alley - space opera, with a dilettante hero prancing around the galaxy and accidentally saving the world. However, I found the story disjointed until the last quarter, when everything finally clicked. There was a moment when I wondered how the author would manage to wrap up the story in the remaining pages, but she managed that quite satisfyingly.

Nihonjoe says

I mostly enjoyed this fun little romp. Really the only thing which bugged me about it is that too much time was spent on the build-up to the actual confrontation, which made the first 400+ pages a little thin on plot

(they were mostly back story to the actual plot).

I don't regret reading the book, though, and I think people would generally enjoy it.

Jane says

Ensign Thomas Innes Loche Kinago is on his first space navy cruise and making a lot of mistakes as he goes. Not unusual for a brand new officer in the Imperium Navy, but Thomas's mistakes come from a far different place than the average ensign in the Emperor's navy. Thomas is a member of the royal family. Sure he's a cousin and pretty far removed from actually inheriting the throne, but he grew up in the rarefied confines of court and had no clue what life is like for the average naval officer. His attempts to fit in and learn the customs so-to-speak meet with mixed results and he ends up making more mistakes than friends at first. He does make friends though and he does stumble into some naval success - much to the chagrin of his Admiral.

I loved getting to know Thomas who is smarter than he or anyone else thinks he is and though he has no street smarts at all, his charm and willingness to learn make him extremely likable. Helping him navigate "real life" is Commander Parsons, his aide-de-camp and someone who has an agenda of his own. The duo are marketed as a Jeeves and Wooster in space - a fair snapshot description - but I think Thomas shows himself to be a little more on the ball than his predecessor in literature.

This book did bog down a bit in the middle but Ms. Nye draws such interesting characters I was able to make it through the slower bits to a fabulous ending.

A slightly altered version of this review was posted to MADreads: <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/m...>

Jeff Means says

a fun read it framed a picture very well in my mind to the point I was even smelling the garbage when kenago was running through the back halls after he tried to take down some terrorists unsuccessfully. I want to read more in this story line.

mirba says

Love this series.

The character should not be taken seriously, cause he doesn't. I just love him, he makes me laugh outloud with the most insane dialogues and improbable moments of dumb stupidity.

As the first book, it might be a bit upsetting at first to have to see the world through a character that is so naive, out of the world and completely lacking in normal social skills.

Laura says

I like Jody Lynn Nye and I was thrilled to see a new book by her on the shelves at Barnes and Noble.

I was disappointed. the characters are two-dimensional. The plot was confused by the multiple storylines.

I kept comparing the protagonist to Prince Roger of David Weber's March Upcountry. Both are of the space nobility. Both are fops. Both are thrown into adventures which they were not prepared for. Prince Roger, though, grows as a character and becomes a hero. This guy doesn't.

Kris Sellgren says

Very silly, but fun to read. Imagine what a Miles Vorkosigan novel would be like, if Miles was truly clueless.

D.M. Dutcher says

Nice light science fiction romp in the spirit of P.G. Wodehouse. Imperial heir goes on a military ship, flusters and charms people he meets, while his jeeves gets work done. To his surprise, he might actually become useful after all. Meanwhile the Trade Union is trying to take over a nearby confederacy of worlds. Will snob win against villain?

I would have ranked it higher, except the whole trade union aspect felt tacked on. What's worse is that there is an explanation for how certain things work in the novel that will put people off: it involves why people like the main character so much, and it's a bit too serious in its implications for what is a fine comic novel. The main character is very well done, somewhat of a naive snob with a good heart who needs to grow serious.

Still, it's nice to read SF that isn't doom and gloom dystopia or transgressive future moral anarchism. You could do a lot worse than this.

Kathy Sebesta says

When Jody Lynn Nye and Robert Asprin wrote together, it was always fun - fun to read, fun characters, and fun to involve. But Nye on her own just isn't. Have read two or three of her stand-alones and they're dull and plodding and just not worth spending any more time slogging thru. Half read, this one is gone.
