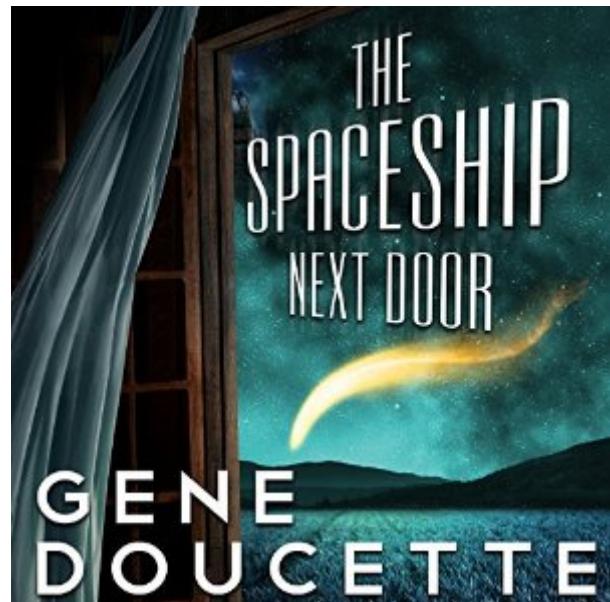


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The Spaceship Next Door



Synopsis

The world changed on a Tuesday. When a spaceship landed in an open field in the quiet mill town of Sorrow Falls, Massachusetts, everyone realized humankind was not alone in the universe. With that realization everyone freaked out for a little while. Or almost everyone. The residents of Sorrow Falls took the news pretty well. This could have been due to a certain local quality of unflappability, or it could have been that in three years the ship did exactly nothing other than sit quietly in that field, and nobody understood the full extent of this nothing the ship was doing better than the people who lived right next door. Sixteen-year-old Annie Collins is one of the ship's closest neighbors. Once upon a time she took every last theory about the ship seriously, whether it was advanced by an adult or by a peer. Surely one of the theories would be proven true - if not several of them - the very minute the ship decided to do something. Annie is starting to think this will never happen. One late August morning, a little over three years since the ship landed, Edgar Somerville arrived in town. Ed's a government operative posing as a journalist, which is obvious to Annie - and pretty much everyone else he meets - almost immediately. He has a lot of questions that need answers, because he thinks everyone is wrong: The ship is doing something, and he needs Annie's help to figure out what that is. Annie is a good choice for tour guide. She already knows everyone in town, and when Ed's theory is proven correct - something is apocalyptically wrong in Sorrow Falls - she's a pretty good person to have around. As a matter of fact, Annie Collins might be the most important person on the planet. She just doesn't know it. *The Spaceship Next Door* is the latest novel from Gene Doucette, best-selling author of *The Immortal Trilogy*, *Fixer*, *The Immortal Chronicles*, and *Immortal Stories: Eve*.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 11 hours and 35 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Gene Doucette

Audible.com Release Date: August 5, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B01JQC5XWW

Best Sellers Rank: #34 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science Fiction > Adventure #128

Customer Reviews

Have you ever had a moment of amazing cleverness that gave you a feeling of intellectual invincibility? If yes, then this book is for you. If not, first I'm sorry, but this book is also for you since it will help you understand what the rest of us have enjoyed. But on a side note, this book is very good and will make you laugh out loud which is always awkward when you're at work and supposed to be working... Basically read the book. Gene Doucette took the idea of First Contact and put a clever spin on it that honestly made me laugh more often than not. Following 16 year old Annie and the other wonderfully crafted characters on the hunt for why the spaceship landed where it did and for what reason reminded me why I keep coming back to everything Gene Doucette writes. !Minor Spoilers ahead! Whilst reading this novel, I kept finding myself in disbelief as the main duo uncovered clues as to the ship's purpose (which Annie and Ed were also in a mild bit of denial as they uncovered things), like why the Wizard of Oz matters, and what is the significance of a drum. Also, why we should all have a great friend who is very introverted, or one who makes Mad Max battle armor. And if you have not read the book yet and you are reading this to see if you should, the above spoilers won't ruin the book for you but should make you curious on how that all matters to a spaceship. If I had to make a comparison to another book, it would be Douglas Adams' *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency*.

This book is a mixture of everything I love to read. Aliens. Teenagers. Conspiracies. Mind-screwing craziness. Plus, a rather surprising twist I wasn't expecting, but I love, love, loved it. The only thing not in the book was a romantic plot (I love me some romance), but this story really didn't need it. *The Spaceship Next Door* is a science fiction novel about a spaceship landing in a small US town. That's it. It just lands. No communications. No death by laser ray guns. No big alien invasion. It sits in the middle of a field and does nothing. Or does it? The story centers on Annie, a sixteen-year-old girl who is by far one of my favorite fiction characters. Not only does she actually act like a sixteen-year-old, she is completely unlike most Young Adult heroines. She doesn't have boys chasing her, she isn't awkward, or full of angst. She is intelligent, feisty, strong-willed, with a humor that really showcases her wit and maturity. They called it anti-rape class because that was what it was. Annoyingly, while the girls were in that course, nobody was teaching the boys' course called don't be a rapist. - *The Spaceship Next Door*, Gene Doucette Annie is

who I wanted to be when I was a sixteen-year-old. I reiterate - I LOVE HER! However, she wasn't the only well-developed character. There were so many - from the soldier Sam to her employer/ government agent Ed to her socially awkward best friend Violet. Every character gets a chance to have a bit of their story woven throughout the plot. For example: Rick was the first local kid roughly Annie's age that had a self-evident drinking problem.

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