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EDWARD JAMES

Reviews

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University of Illinois Press, Urbana and Chicago, 2015. Softcover. Book Condition: New. 224 pages. Softcover. New book. SCIENCE FICTION. A full-length study of one of the most popular contemporary writers of science fiction and fantasy Lois McMaster Bujold has won four Hugo Awards for Best Novel, a number matched only by Robert Heinlein. Her ongoing Vorkosigan series redefined space opera with its emotional depth and explorations of themes such as bias against the disabled, economic exploitation, and the role of women in society. Acclaimed science fiction scholar Edward James traces how Bujold emerged from fanzine culture to win devoted male and female readers despite working in genres--military SF, space opera--perceived as solely by and for males. Devoted to old-school ideas such as faith in humanity and the desire to probe and do good in the universe, Bujold simultaneously subverted genre conventions and experimented with forms that led her in bold creative directions. As James shows, her iconic hero Miles Vorkosigan--unimposing, physically impaired, self-conscious to a fault--embodied Bujold's thematic concerns. The sheer humanity of her characters, meanwhile, gained her a legion of fans eager to provide her with feedback, expand her vision through fan fiction, and follow her into fantasy. The first full-length study of one of the most popular contemporary writers of science fiction and fantasy, Lois McMaster Bujold will both enlighten fans and set the foundations for further study of her works. Edward James is Emeritus Professor of Medieval History at University College Dublin. He coedited the Hugo Award-winning Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction and is the author of Science Fiction in the Twentieth Century. "What James is particularly good at is placing Bujold in her context in science fiction history: what authors she would have read growing up, who were her likely influences, what else was being published...



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