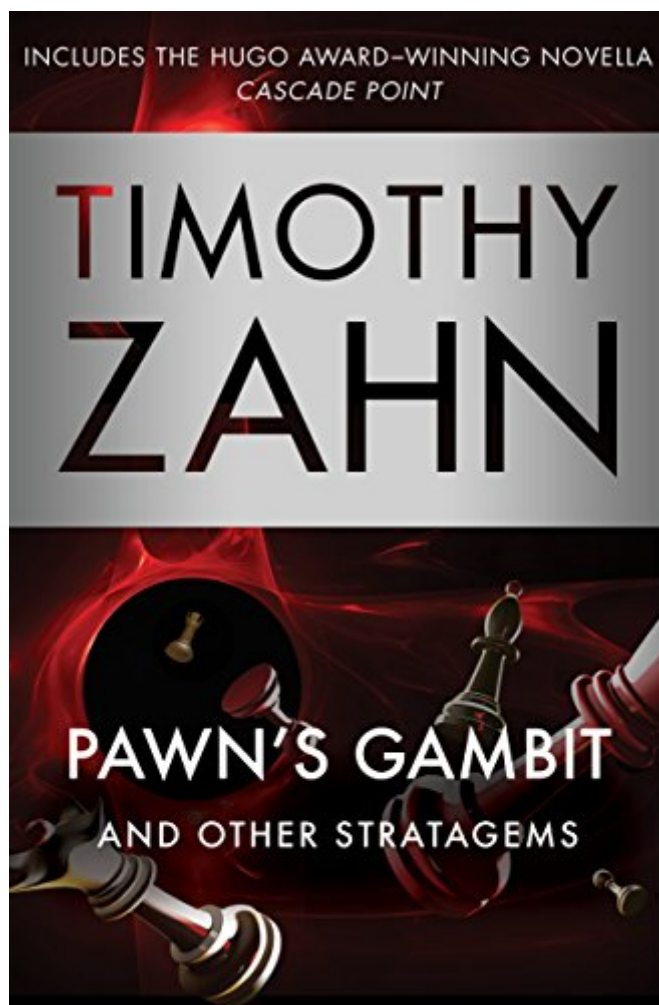


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Pawn's Gambit: And Other Stratagems



Synopsis

A collection of career-launching short fiction by #1 New York Times bestselling author Timothy Zahn, including the Hugo Award-winning novella *Cascade Point*. Timothy Zahn shows an unparalleled mastership of science fiction in the fifteen tales gathered here. "The Price of Survival" features an alien ship that arrives in our solar system without hostile intentions but with a desperate need whose fulfillment could destroy humanity. "The Giftie Gie Us" tells the story of two lonely survivors who find love among the ruins of a post-apocalyptic United States. And in "Pawn's Gambit," a human and his alien opponent face off over a game that will decide which one of them will return home. This collection also includes the Hugo Award-winning novella *Cascade Point* and nine other works of science fiction, post-apocalyptic drama, and humorous fantasy previously unpublished in book form. Timothy Zahn is the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Star Wars: Heir to the Empire* and has won multiple awards for his work. With nonstop action, suspenseful plots, and high-tech twists, the stories in *Pawn's Gambit* are science fiction at its best.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

These short stories each have something unique to offer and it's hard to pick a favorite; but the story for which it's title would make sense. For those who love Zahn's novels, you're bound to be a fan only left to wonder what more he could have done had he expanded it! For those who haven't yet read his novels, this is a great taste of just how quickly he can draw you in to care about a character and create a fascinating, developed, unique premise that explores the human psyche and complex thinking that will keep you on your toes with his strategy. I would highly recommend getting this for younger readers who don't think they could make it through a full novel; his writing might just change their minds and make them (like my boys) avid Zahn readers!

It's Zahn, what do you expect? I'll admit, not all of these stories are gold; some of them are silver. There were none I regretted spending the time on, and some were fan-friggin-tastic. I've always been amazed at the amount of work Zahn's willing to do to create a universe and backstories just to write one-off books (eg, Spinneret, Triplet); he seems to have put that much work into each one of these stories. My favorite is probably "The Final Report on the Lifeline Experiment." That ending. Gut punch! Do yourself a favor and read this book.

The stories cover a broad range of subjects and styles. Each of them is excellent. The crown jewel is the namesake story at the end. However, the others should not be skipped. The story Trollbridge is the most fun and entertaining fantasy story I've ever read. As a bonus, it is also suitable for readers of all ages. This book is an excellent example of short story writing at its best.

The science fiction blew me away! Brand-new ideas and concepts in a wide variety of stories kept me off balance and entertained. I never knew what the next short story had to offer. I enjoyed them immensely. The fantasy; not so much. There was a pretty good story about a wizard and a troll and the George Washington Bridge was amusing. The others I did not enjoy. All in all..... A nice introduction to an author I was unfamiliar with.

I love Timothy Zahn's writing. He's my favorite sci-fi author; so, it surprised me to see some differing genres in this short story collection. Each story pulled me in and had the trademark wit and play on words that Zahn is known for. His craft of writing is evident even as he moves across genres. I was thrilled to see a fantasy story!

Would not consider some of these stories SF but all of them were good - imaginative and well written. In particular, the story of the wizard's curse really stuck with me.

Awesome collection of short stories. Quick reads to pass the time and highly entertaining. It seems there is also deeper thoughts and meanings hidden under the surface

I don't read many SF short stories, but I've been a fan of Timothy Zahn novels for a long time so I took a chance. Enjoyed it very much. An interesting mixture. The last story...Pawn's Gambit...was a classic. Try it, you'll like it!

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