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Six Months, Three Days: A Tor.Com Original



Synopsis

Doug and Judy have both had a secret power all their life. Judy can see every possible future, branching out from each moment like infinite trees. Doug can also see the future, but for him, it's a single, locked-in, inexorable sequence of foreordained events. They can't both be right, but over and over again, they are. Obviously these are the last two people in the world who should date. So, naturally, they do. A finalist for both the Nebula Award and the Hugo Award.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Don't bother reading. Absolutely no point to story. Zero surprises and very predictable. This could have been a great short, unfortunately it wasn't.

The premise is that the heroes can tell the future. The boy thinks he's fated to act out a sequence of actions, the girl can see multiple futures leading to different endings. From the very first, their love story is overshadowed by the knowledge it will/may end badly. Will the girl have time to convince the boy that he's free to disobey his vision ? Will the boy stubbornly cling to it and refuse a happy ending ? Is the girl deluding herself that she's free ? In the end one wonders if the author is not painting a very realistic picture of optimism vs. pessimism, showing how a purely negative image of the future can be a powerful performative of doom, while optimism allows one to get a second chance at happiness. A very cogent demonstration.

Great fun unraveling the contradictions of precognition. Well drawn characters and settings.

A touching, thoughtful, resonant and perfectly paced offering from Anders, who's really an author to watch.

sad and predictable, premise is wonderful, I guess could elaborate better.

Charlie Jane Anders is a fantastic writer. This story, in particular, is full of interesting ideas as well as a satisfying storyline. One of the best young writers around.

Would have liked to have seen more of these two characters. It felt like there would be room for growth.

It's obvious why this won an award. Delving into the lives of clairvoyants is intriguing. But that also turns out to be why the well-crafted story is somewhat depressing. Or maybe that's because I can "feel" for the pessimistic guy.

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