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Basis for the Jodie Foster movie



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Our Review

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Carl Sagan's first novel, about humanity's contact with an extra-terrestrial civilization in the late 1990s. (It could happen!) Our appreciation for *Contact* has grown since the release of the dim-witted ET flick *Independence Day*. The older Sagan may be a stuffy PBS-sponsored prima donna, but this book was

written in 1985 when he seemed more open to the idea of aliens giving a damn about our puny little planet. The political climate Sagan envisioned may seem dated -- world leaders conferring with the United Nations, Ha, Ha -- but the story is still fairly deep. Sagan's aliens don't want to steal our women, decimate our planet or even be taken to our leader. They are god-like creatures without physical form, whose arrival at the end is anti-climactic. This novel is not about aliens but about humans trying to come to grips with them -- which of course is the real issue in ufology. Most of the conflicts take place on earth, as scientists try to explain their complex evidence to the same sort of average clods who made *Independence Day* a hit. -- *Glenn Campbell*

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From the Book Cover

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About the Author

CARL SAGAN, the distinguished astronomer, is the most widely read scientist in the world today. **Cosmos**, first published in 1980, is the best-selling science book ever published in the English language. The accompanying Peabody and Emmy Award-winning television series was seen in 60 countries. His other books include **The Dragons of Eden**, awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1978, **Broca's Brain**, and (with Ann Druyan) the recent bestseller, **Comet**.

Dr. Sagan has been deeply involved in spacecraft exploration of the planets and in the radio search for extraterrestrial intelligence. His numerous awards include the NASA Medals for Exceptional Scientific Achievement and for Distinguished Public Service, the John F. Kennedy Astronautics Award, the Honda Prize, and the Joseph Priestley Award "for distinguished contributions to the welfare of Mankind." He has also recently received the annual Awards for Public Service of the Federation of American Scientists and of Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Dr. Sagan is the David Duncan Professor of Astronomy and Space Sciences at Cornell University, where he also serves as Director of the Laboratory for Planetary Studies at the Center for Radiophysics and Space Research.

-- From the Publisher

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"Who could be better qualified than the author of the highly successful *Cosmos* to turn the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence, and humankind's first contact with it, into imaginative reality? This is precisely what Sagan does in this eagerly awaited and, as it turns out, engrossing first novel.... Sagan's informed and dramatically enacted speculations into the mysteries of the universe . . . make *CONTACT* an exciting adventure." - *Publishers Weekly*

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"CONTACT WILL AMAZE AND DELIGHT YOU, AND MAKE YOU THINK. IT WILL ALSO MAKE YOU PROUD AND HAPPY TO BE ALIVE." - *The Baltimore Sun*

"A call for reconciliation between science and religion... on the common ground of reverence for the magnificence of the universe... As uplifting as a trip to the stars." - *Wilmington News-Journal*

"LIKE A GOOD MYSTERY, CONTACT KEEPS US CURIOUS TO THE END. INGENIOUS AND SATISFYING." - *Newsweek*

"Sagan's continuing compelling plea that we do not destroy the ineffable loveliness of life on this planet is present in every scene and phrase of CONTACT... It is pleasurable and reassuring to read a popular author in whom the observable and scientifically imagined universe inspires excitement, humor, love, awe." - *Newsday*

"If there is a God and He isn't in hiding, He will have left an unambiguous message. What will the message look like? Sagan's answer is STUNNING AND SATISFYING." - *Los Angeles Times*

"Goes to the very core of human experience... Sagan has made CONTACT with both the mind and the heart." - *Louisville Courier-Journal*

"The pages literally shimmer when Sagan teaches us about ... the search for intelligence in the universe.... This is Carl Sagan's attempt to make contact with us." - *Houston Chronicle*

"GRAND AND VIVID . . . A LOT OF FUN." - *The Village Voice*

"WITH TERRESTRIALS LIKE CARL SAGAN, WHO NEEDS EXTRAS?" - *Time*

"SAGAN EMERGES AS A MASTER STORYTELLER" - *The Christian Science monitor*

"BRILLIANT... A FIRST-CLASS ADVENTURE." - *Sacramento Bee*

"Lyrical seductive, good for the soul . . . As tireless proponent of man's rational, intellectual heritage, Sagan is without peer." - *Oakland Tribune*

"Mindboggling." - *Fort Worth News Tribune*

"Provocative and often very funny." - *Detroit Free Press*

"Irresistible." - *Seattle Times-Post Intelligencer*

Truly gripping." - *Arkansas Gazette*

"AN ABUNDANCE OF RICHES." - *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*

"A SPELLBINDER . . . STORYTELLING GENIUS ABOUNDING... YOU CAN'T PUT CONTACT DOWN." - *Cincinnati Inquirer*

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- [Metacrawler Search for 'Contact' movie sites](#) - An official 'Contact' movie site is bound to show up soon. When it does, please add it to this links section. <12/16/96 [#2](#)>

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School of Applied Science-Princeton University, verifies Dreaming Precognition, emphatically...

-- Todd De Laurence (nytimesreporter@mailexcite.com) 11/29/97 (#1)

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