

## **VISITOR: Author's Discussion**

### Blurb:

Professor Douglas Keller meets extraterrestrial Aldrea, a beautiful Quenterian scientist stranded on Earth, while hiking in the Adirondack Mountains. Hunted by the FBI and a warring faction of Aldrea's people called the Radicals, she turns to Doug for help. Doug is no hero, but after Aldrea used her telepathic abilities to heal him from a lethal wound, a psychic bond formed between them that opened their minds to each other in ways Doug cannot understand and Aldrea cannot explain. In a nightmarish turn for the worst, Doug, Aldrea, and the FBI agents find themselves very far from Earth in the middle of a violent galactic coup engineered by the ruthless Radical leader, Veera, who aspires to dominate the galaxy. They must defeat Veera before Earth is enslaved—or destroyed. Out of their league and out of time, only the bond between Doug and Aldrea might prevent disaster, if they can figure out how to use it to defeat Veera before it's too late.

### Notes:

VISITOR is a space opera style science-fiction story with average person protagonists. Doug is just a physics professor swept up in a chain of events where the fate of the Earth falls into his hands. He's a smart guy, but the Quenterians are technologically advanced far past his achievements.

Aldrea may be Quenterian, but knows as much about their science as you or I would know how to build an airplane. We get in one, and it flies. In short, she's about as average for her people as Doug is for a human.

VISITOR borrows romantic elements from *Romeo or Juliet*, or for a more modern twist, *West Side Story*, in that Doug and Aldrea belong to different worlds (literally and figuratively), and their peers cannot understand or accept how these two connected.

I introduce a new element, the telepathic bond that joins their minds in ways we might not relate to unless we're talking about an old married couple who no longer need to speak to understand what the other is thinking or wanting. Even then, do they really know the other's every thought and emotion in real time? In VISITOR Doug and Aldrea do, but there are still fumbles as Doug's "human" nobility supersedes Quenterian dogma that lifemates face every crisis together, even if it means death.

The underlying theme within VISITOR is the future depends on our ability to overcome the obstacles of hate and violence. If we learn to accept each other for who we are and unite, we will surge forward in peace and prosperity.

Although I scratched the surface of the scientific and social aspects of the Quenterian culture, there is a great deal more to tell, and somewhere in the future a sequel will delve deeper as the two races move forward together with growing friction. Humans must deal with not being the dominant race in the galaxy, begging for crumbs of superior technology, while Quenterians struggle to accept humans as equals. In the middle are Doug and Aldrea, the living example of what is possible between their races, who are struggling to overcome disparities that even the deepest telepathic bond cannot mitigate.

Do I personally believe humanity can overcome our darker nature and thrive? You may call me an optimist, but I do, and I hope that VISITOR and stories like it not only entertain, but open our eyes toward a brighter future.

Wayne Meyers  
July 31, 2016