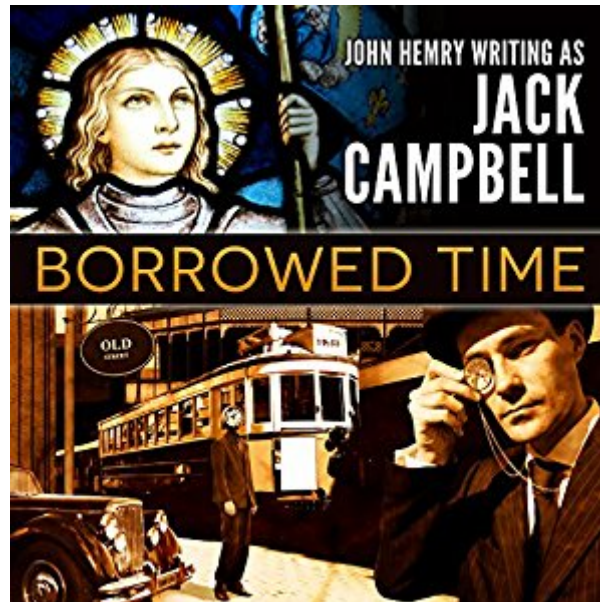




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Borrowed Time



Synopsis

New York Times best-selling author Jack Campbell takes listeners on an incredible journey through time in this collection of seven stories. The centerpiece of *Borrowed Time* is "Betty Knox and Dictionary Jones in the Mystery of the Missing Teenage Anachronisms". When you've traveled through time and are stuck in the body of your 15-year-old self, it isn't the best time to have some other time travelers looking to kill you. Especially when the person who's supposed to be keeping an eye out for the bad guys is stuck in his own 15-year-old body. In four interlinked short stories, temporal interventionists Tom and Pam meet cute, then work together to solve some of history's greatest mysteries. And in "Joan", Kate is a time-traveling researcher who's gotten a little too close to Joan of Arc both in time and emotionally. With no distance, scientific or otherwise, what will happen when she has a chance to rescue Joan from being burnt at the stake? Our journey through time concludes with "Crow's Feat", where a skeptical writer goes back to Elizabethan England to discover the true author of Shakespeare's plays.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Not Campbell's best work, but it can be entertaining. This is probably the only book by Campbell that I never finished--historical intervention and its infinite convolutions is only interesting for a little while. The rest of Campbell's books are GREAT, but this one was a little lackluster. However, it doesn't detract from his other work (or from him).

Borrowed Time was everything I had been hoping for - more stories from a great author. These short stories are built around a common theme - time travel - and what the decent, ethical thing to do is in any given situation. And what has to be done when your current situation doesn't fit any of the neat pigeonholes beloved of by bureaucrats. The possibility of emigrating up-time is covered here, as well as the trouble you can get into by trying to rescue famous historical figures. I recommend this to all sci-fi readers, and any John G Hemry / Jack Campbell fan who does not already have it. I enjoyed every story.

This is a good collection of Campbell's short stories around the intriguing theme of "Temporal Interventions" and the idea that the events of history are constantly being altered by activists from the future. The pace is brisk and stories well-written, avoiding technical jargon that can make science fiction obtuse. The work suffers because the stories are resolved abruptly - just when the reader is beginning to make connections and play detective, Campbell resolves the action and it's on to the next story. Further, for a Kindle work it was over priced - perhaps two dollars more than it should cost at the time I purchased it. I would have no complaints if this work was three dollars or less. I hope that Campbell develops these themes and characters into a longer work.

always a good read

Some of the most interesting short stories I've read that deal with time travel. Very interesting perspectives and connections. I particularly like the story on Joan of Arc and how a love-sick modern changed history and learned that the real world is not the same as history.

Hemry/Campbell's take on Temporal Interventionists and how they might interact with one another in the past, which carried through a series of stories, was also unique. And his portrayal of Shakespeare as a frustrated "mid-list" writer was a unique solution to a historical question.

Interesting stories.

This series of stories about time travel, and the problems it might cause, are long enough to be interesting and to allow you to orient yourself to the parameters of the science, but so long that they have time to drag or bore. Overall, exciting and readable while still staying in reasonable/understandable universe. I really liked the Shakespeare story and the things it had to say about really looking at the information available without allowing your own prejudices to obscure the facts.

Borrowed Time holds multiple visions of what time-travel could make possible. John Hemry's take on time-travel is original in its content and imaginative in its applications. I enjoyed bouncing through time with his "Time-Travel Interventionists," as much as I did reliving the perils of being stuck in one's fifteen year-old body. It was a great read, and just what I had been missing in this genre.

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