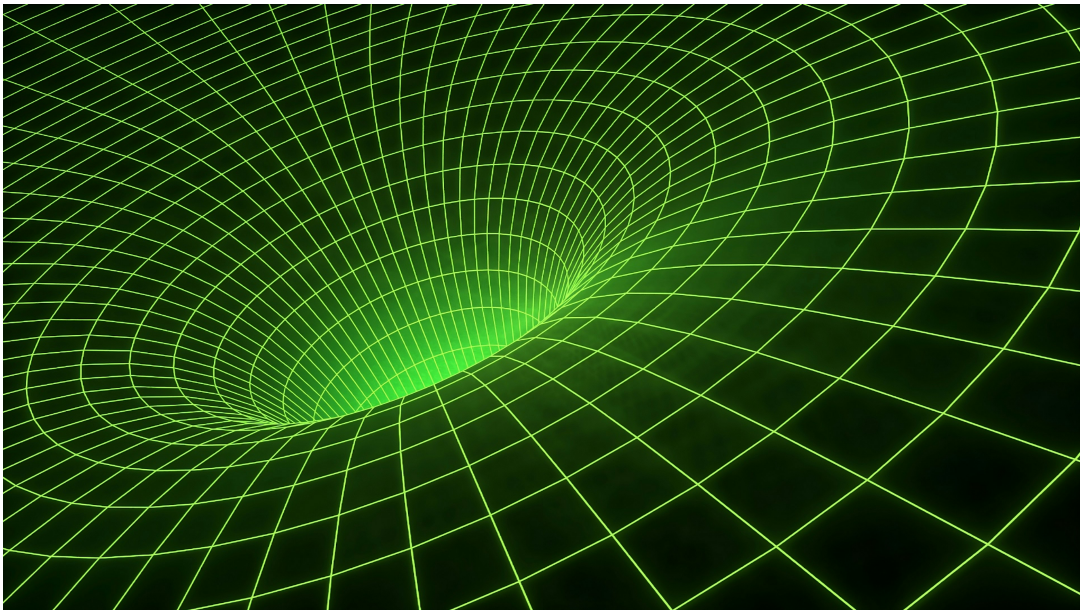


Rodney Jensen Books

Newsletter: Feb 2024

Hi, as you've probably already guessed I have been a fan of sci-fi and speculative fiction for a very long time. In this newsletter I will share thoughts and issues which commonly arise in this genre. Here I turn to a practical issue of cold reality - *the immensity of our cosmos*.



Is visiting the stars simply a science fiction trope, or a possibility reliant on future technology we cannot conceive of in 2024?

For many writers of science fiction, the unimaginable size of the universe is put aside as a future problem to be solved for traversing space and visiting other stars. Our nearest star Proxima Centauri is over four light years distant from Earth and according to Google sources would take over 6,000 years to reach using our current rocket technology.

Some research has explored the use of “sails” attached to a rocket that will accelerate it to much faster velocities than achievable by rocket engines. The sails rely on the impact of photons from the sun, but it

still doesn't seem to be a practical option for exploring even our nearest star.

Similarly, suspended animation via cryogenics has been posited by some film makers and writers to overcome the time obstacle.

If you are old enough to recall, 'Star Trek' the famous spacecraft of that series could *boldly go* to other parts of the universe by invoking a 'warp drive'.

In his novel 'Contact', Carl Sagan imagined a civilisation far advanced from ours, sending a message to Earth containing the blueprint for a machine that promised to transport its passengers from earth to somewhere else in the universe. In the film version of the book, a single passenger, played by Jodie Foster, travelled through a series of worm holes and would meet a convincing projection of her deceased father on a beach in some far-off planet. It seemed a means of communication that the aliens used to convince her of their good intentions.

Her journey back to Earth was anticlimactic when she found herself still suited-up inside her transporter having no apparent time-lapse despite her extraordinary experience along her lengthy outward journey in subjective space time.

The concept of a **wormhole transporter**, as alluded to by Sagan, is unproven although recent research has provided some evidence that wormholes could exist.

If you're interested to pursue these thoughts further, click below to read a fascinating article:

["Astrophysicist Chris McGinty believes the theory could make faster-than-light travel possible..."](#)

For me, Carl Sagan's worm hole transporter has the greatest promise, if we can only get help from an omniscient/ beneficent/ advanced alien civilisation to help us build such technology!

Free Short Story

Follow the link to my website menu to download the short story '**The Little Match Girl**' which is sourced from my anthology '**Tales for**

the Time Traveller' published on Amazon. The story is a futuristic take on a story of the same title by Hans Christian Anderson.

www.rodnejensenbooks.com

RODNEY JENSEN

SYDNEY Australia

Illustration by Johnson Martin on
Unsplash

If you no longer wish to receive my newsletters click below.

[Unsubscribe](#)

