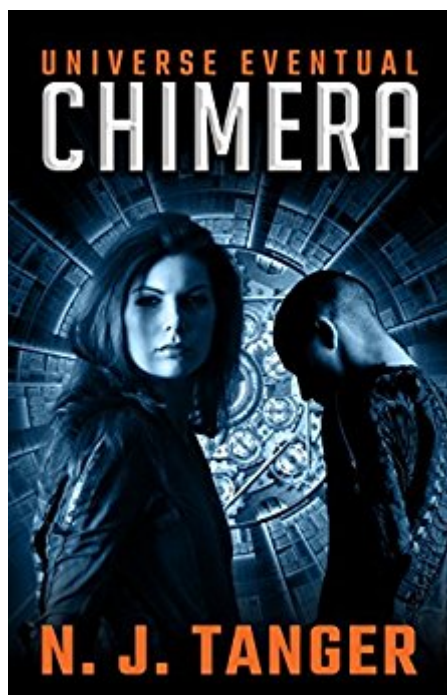


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# Chimera (Universe Eventual Book 1)



## Synopsis

The fate of Earth's first colony rests on the shoulders of a pair of misfits: Theo Puck, a rogue hacker with a gift for speaking to machines, and Selena Samuelson, a brash but talented pilot with a dark secret in her past. Earth went silent over a decade ago. No contact, no resupply. If something doesn't change, the colony will go extinct. The only way to restore communication with Earth is the ancient colony ship Chimera. Two centuries of disrepair have taken their toll on her--the shipboard AI that allows travel between distant stars is lost in unending sleep. She must be woken and the ship rebuilt for a desperate return journey to Earth. The mandate to repair and crew the Chimera seems like a game to Theo--one he isn't invited to play. Angry at having been overlooked, Theo hacks his name onto the list of those selected to crew the Chimera, a decision he soon regrets. A brutal murder changes everything: Theo must make it to the Chimera or his family will suffer terribly consequences. Piloting an ore trawler is the only life Selena has ever known until an industrial accident strands her aboard the Hydra, the orbital station responsible for rebuilding the Chimera. A chance encounter with her AI suggests Selena might have a far larger role to play in saving the colony than she--or anyone else--ever imagined. Theo and Selena's futures become intertwined as they carve out places for themselves in the crew that will navigate the Chimera back to Earth. However, behind the scenes, a brilliant sociopath has set events in motion that could not only destroy their lives, but doom their colony as well.

**PRAISE FOR CHIMERA:** 2015 Reader's Favorite Silver Medal Winner for Young Adult Science Fiction. "This book grabbed me by the spine and yanked me through its pages in just a few fast days!"--Michael Pugh, Goodreads Review "The plot was engaging, the characters were interesting, and the book a refreshing read. I didn't want to put it down. Now I am looking forward to reading the next book!"--Jessie Davenport, Goodreads Review "Verified" Reviews: "Reminiscent of Orson Scott Card's early work, especially *Treason* and *Ender's Game*, the storytelling has been well crafted - inviting the reader into a new world that is fresh and deep yet utterly recognizable." "It's so tough to put down, and while categorized as YA, adult science fiction readers are missing out if they don't give it a read. Looking forward to the next installment!" "Loved it! Great read, ready for the next book." "... a strong sense of both plotting and character development." "To put it short and sweet: loved it, loved it, loved it!! The characters were engaging, the story itself imaginable. I can't wait for more!" "Chimera was an exciting, riveting, well written science fiction story that I could barely tear myself away from." "Can't wait for more. I am amazed beyond words."

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** I attempted to write a science fiction novel that would appeal to a wide variety of readers in the vein of *Ender's Game* or Heinlein's juveniles such as *Starship Troopers*. Though Chimera features young protagonists, most adult readers report enjoying

the book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A nice young-adult space opera (I wouldn't call it Sci-Fi) with believable, relatable main characters. The story starts slowly, so be patient. It starts rushing a bit past the middle of the book when things get hot. This is not necessary a flaw--not every story can be fast paced, and not every story needs the reader to end up panting by page 3. I liked the character Selena the most. Theo is believable, but sometimes he falls short of my expectancy. By the end of the book he starts learning and growing, but I suspect his real growth will take place later in the trilogy, so as readers we have to be patient with this character's evolution. So far I recommend it. You'll spend a nice time reading this book and will enjoy the plot. Don't expect a heavy Sci-Fi thing. It is not. It's more like the Star Wars universe with technology that sounds awesome but lacks scientific explanation. An explanation that is not

needed, so you won't miss the scientific part. The premise is an interesting one: a big, greedy, bankrupt corporation is punished by sending all its employees and executives to a far away moon to work almost as slaves (mining ecomire, a break-through fuel) until the corporation's debts are paid. It takes several generations to pay the debt. When it is almost paid, contact with Earth is broken. Because the moon is incapable of producing enough food, the colony's days are counted unless somebody returns to Earth. A crew of gifted teenagers is selected to board the Chimera, the spaceship in which the first settlers travelled several generations ago, and that nobody knows how to pilot. Interesting, isn't it? Go head and enjoy this good reading! Kiss, Gacela

Chimera impressed me. I dove into this story after being pulled in from the very beginning, but I wasn't expecting to enjoy it as much as I did since Tanger was a complete unknown to me. I really liked this story. It has some of the familiar elements we love in a science fiction tale featuring teen characters (though I believe it isn't targeted necessarily just to the YA market.) There's the guy with the sketchy past, and the brash girl pilot, plus a nasty bully who isn't as he first seems. Tanger excels at world building and gives us just enough scientific details (I have no idea if they are accurate though) to add credibility while making sure it doesn't bog down the narrative. There were a few times when I put the book down just because it wasn't absolutely gripping me on each page, but it was still enough for me to keep reading, and I'm glad I did. Book 1 scratched the surface on these characters and story, and I am keen for Book 2! A few swear words, but nothing too graphic.

A surprisingly good YA entry with believably behaving characters and an interesting plot. Bit light on the Space Opera side but worth checking out. Our characters live on effectively a penal colony, which is running out of high tech resources since shipments from earth stopped without any warning. So begins the big project of checking what is wrong on the Homeworld. Four different protagonists each with different motivations create a very interesting dynamic and a good setup for the follow up book. Which brings us to the big flaw of this offering. Standalone it ends with no finale or resolution. I mean seriously the ship did not even launch for Earth... come on... There is not even a serious cliffhanger, just a pause... to be continued next time.

Chimera is a futuristic sci-fi fantasy and the first book in the Universe Eventual series. Taking place entirely on and within orbit of another world, the main characters are all competing to be selected to travel to Earth to find out why the supply ships suddenly stopped approximately fifteen years earlier. The candidates are all teenagers as the younger generation are the only ones with enough genetic

drift to wake and crew the Chimera (the ship that carried them to the new colony several generations prior). Add into the mix a murderer on the loose and the fact that before long the colony will run out of supplies and the stakes rise ever higher. Will they be able to wake the ship in time to save everyone they hold dear? I got this book on some time ago as I love my sci-fi and space opera books dearly (I blame Star Wars). While at first the book seemed a little piecemeal as it frequently switched point of view, it did eventually come together. Once it did, I have to say I was rather impressed with the story. Seemingly unconnected parts of the plot ended up fitting together like a jigsaw puzzle. The character development was quite good; I'm still trying to make up my mind about Marcus. I'm hoping that more information comes to light regarding his past in the next book which is definitely on my agenda for the near future. All in all this was a good book with a very deeply involved storyline. Sci-fi fans should definitely give this one a try!

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