JAMES R.D. HILTON

AUTHOR BIO:

James R.D. Hilton is an insurance broker by day and a science fiction writer . . . also by day. Because he knows next to nothing about the real world, he writes about outer space. And aliens. And robots. And spaceships. He has fun doing it, and he thinks you'll have fun reading it.

Into the Known Universe: A Cosmic Love Story, Kinda is his debut novel, which he self-published through FriesenPress. His previous writing credits include several short stories published in Pulp Kings Magazine, where the Known Universe was born.

He smokes a pipe, likes cats, and has been known to venture outside on occasion. He lives somewhere in Alberta.

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BOOK SYNOPSIS:

Junior Reclamation Agent Stuart Bode is offered the promotion of his dreams in exchange for tracking down a stolen freighter and recovering its cargo. In an awkward twist, the cargo turns out to be Janna, his boss' runaway wife. She wants to see the stars. He just wants his stapler to stop disappearing.

Though their journey into the known universe is just beginning, it's shaping up to be one hell of a ride.

EXCERPT:

"In the diverse cultural mosaic that defined the known universe by the year 4,000,000, one of the few universally accepted beliefs that transcended race, culture, creed, and carbonic composition was this: space is pretty damn big."

BOOK AVAILABILITY:

- Print editions are available to order through Ingram (returnable) and over 50,000 booksellers worldwide, including the FriesenPress Bookstore, Amazon, Indigo, and Barnes & Noble.
- eBook edition is available through Kindle, Apple Books, Google Play, Nook, and Kobo.

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

- **How long have you been writing?**
  - *Ten years exactly! I started writing creatively at the suggestion of a mentor when I was attending Humber College, where I was pursuing writing for television (my lost dream).*
- **What was your first publishing success?**
  - *In 2018 I sold my first short story, "Space Toast," to Pulp Kings for $300, which I immediately spent on having my first rejection letter for the same story framed. It hangs above my desk to this day.*
- **What inspired you to write *Into the Known Universe*?**
  - *This book started as a four-part serial for Pulp Kings and gradually grew into a novel.*
- **Are all your stories in the same universe?**
  - *Yes! Since 2018, all my stories (so far) are set in the Known Universe. The crossover potential is limitless!*
- **What made you want to self-publish?**
  - *A mountain of rejection letters from literary agents! After four years, the writing was on the wall.*
- **What does your writing process look like?**
  - *First comes extensive outlining, then character profiles, followed finally by actual writing. A wise man once said, 80% of writing happens before you've written a word.*
- **What's your advice to new authors?**
  - *Don't write a book! Start with an easier, more manageable goal, like scaling Kilimanjaro. Or maybe try writing a short story first and see how you do.*
- **Who are your creative inspirations?**
  - *Gene Roddenberry, George Lucas, Steven Spielberg, Arthur C. Clarke, Terry Pratchett, and, of course, the late great Douglas Adams.*
- **Is there a sequel in the works?**
  - *Two sequels! This is the first in a trilogy. Beyond that, well . . . it's a big universe.*

REVIEWS:

- "Through outlandish scenarios and over-the-top characters ... the story mocks a variety of contemporary concerns, including capitalism, war, and technology. Profit and pride are allowed free rein to the detriment of everyone else, even those who go to the most extreme lengths to protect those very concepts. ... Reaching a jarring and grim conclusion, *Into the Known Universe* is a rollicking science fiction farce in which two human beings react in very different ways to the chance to break out of their socially prescribed cages."
  - *Forward* Clarion Review ★★★★

- Great Book! Funny, light-hearted and intelligently written, *Into the Known Universe* will certainly entertain you. Love of sci-fi is mandatory. Distain for capitalism is optional.
  - Amazon Review, Alex ★★★★★