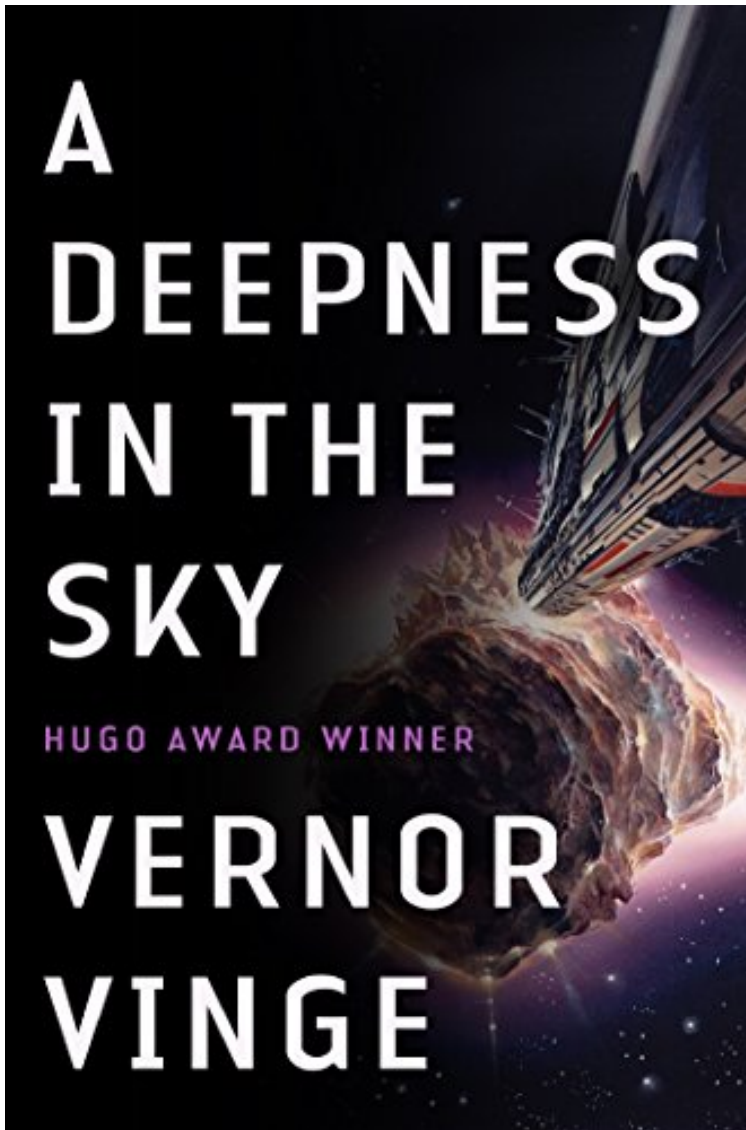


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A Deepness in the Sky



Par Vernor Vinge
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Description : Description du produitThis is science fiction on the grandest of scales - a cast of thousands set across hundreds of years and in the farthest reaches of Human Space. A prequel to his earlier novel A FIRE UPON THE DEEP, this new novel is epic in scope and a thoroughly riveting read. Ezr Vinh is a member of one of the largest and most powerful clans within the Qeng Ho - the Qeng Ho are a race apart, traders whose nation is space, whose very reason for living is finding the outposts of fallen civilisations, waiting for them to claw themselves back to a point where they are able to be of use and then taking them for all they are worth. But nicely. The Emergents have dragged themselves back from the brink of ruin, taking on board as much of Qeng Ho tradition as they need to make deals of their own. But their methods are brutal and ruthless. A DEEPNESS IN THE SKY is the story of Ezr Vinh and Thomas Nau, an Emergent Podmaster, and the compromises they have to make in order to survive at the limits of the universe as they sit in wait for the spider citizens of Arachna. Waiting for the new sun to wake Arachna to a new atomic age...

Presentation de l'auteur A Hugo award-winning Novel! Vinge is one of the best visionary writers of SF today. David Brin Thirty-Thousand years before A Fire Upon the Deep, humans stand on the verge of first contact with an alien race. Two human groups: the Qeng Ho, a culture of free traders, and the Emergents, a ruthless society based on the technological enslavement of minds. The group that opens trade with the aliens will reap unimaginable riches. But first, both groups must wait at the aliens' very doorstep for their strange star to relight and for their planet to reawaken, as it does every two hundred and fifty years. More than just a great science fiction adventure, A Deepness in the Sky is a universal drama of courage, self-discovery, and the redemptive power of love. Tor books by Vernor Vinge Realtime/Bobble Series The Peace War Marooned in Realtime Other Novels The Witling Tatja Grimm's World Rainbows End Collections Collected Stories of Vernor Vinge True Names At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied..com This hefty novel returns to the universe of Vernor Vinge's 1993 Hugo winner A Fire Upon the Deep--but 30,000 years earlier. The story has the same sense of epic vastness despite happening mostly in one isolated solar system. Here there's a world of intelligent spider creatures who traditionally hibernate through the "Deepest Darkness" of their strange variable sun's long "off" periods, when even the atmosphere freezes. Now, science offers them an alternative... Meanwhile, attracted by spider radio transmissions, two human starfleets come exploring--merchants hoping for customers and tyrants who want slaves. Their inevitable clash leaves both fleets crippled, with the power in the wrong hands, which leads to a long wait in space until the spiders develop exploitable technology. Over the years Vinge builds palpable tension through multiple storylines and characters. In the sky, hopes of rebellion against tyranny continue despite soothing lies, brutal repression, and a mental bondage that can convert people into literal tools. Down below, the engagingly sympathetic spiders have their own problems. In flashback, we see the grandiose ideals and ultimate betrayal of the merchant culture's founder, now among the human contingent and pretending to be a senile buffoon while plotting, plotting... Major revelations, ironies, and payoffs follow. A powerful story in the grandest SF tradition. --David Langford, .co.uk From Library Journal A war between two rival civilizations over trading rights to the planet Arachna results in the virtual enslavement of the Qeng Ho by the victorious Emergent culture. As the Spider-folk of Arachna evolve in their customary cyclical pattern, unaware of the threat that lies in their near future, a few Qeng Ho rebels work desperately to free themselves and save Arachna from conquest. This prequel to A Fire Upon the Deep (Tor, 1992) demonstrates Vinge's capacity for meticulously detailed culture-building and grand-scale sf drama. Recommended for most sf collections. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.