

Author Interview With Deborah Dugan by **Itsy Bitsy Book Bits**

For those new to your work, please tell us a bit about yourself, your books and your genre/s

- I am a newly-published author of a science fiction/fantasy series called The Traveler. I've wanted to be an author since I was in grade school. I've continued to write over the years but didn't offer anything for publication until this year. The Traveler story is about handling "otherness" and acceptance in the face of significant barriers. The Traveler itself must learn to adapt and thrive in environments it has no way of anticipating.

What lessons have you learned as a writer?

- I've learned that my characters provide me with insights as often as they gain their own.

If you won the lottery what would you do with the money?

- First of all, pay off my house! Then I would spread a bunch of money throughout my family and extended family and friends and make sure everyone is in good shape. There are charitable causes and good works to do that are too numerous to list here.

In your everyday life how do you give back to the world?

- I try to live a compassionate life, recognizing that all humans have their burdens and sorrows. I try to be the best, most honorable being I can be, and to mentor others toward that same goal.

If your life was a song what song would it be and why?

- Amazing Grace, because of the gratitude, peace, and acceptance it conveys.

Name two authors you wish more people knew about

- Martha Wells and Julie Czerneda.

What are some of your hobbies?

- I like to read and watch baking competition shows.

When reading reviews, what is something you love to see written?

- I like to see whether the reviewer was intrigued and thoughtful, and whether they were entertained.

What are you currently working on?

- I am working on Book 3 of The Traveler series. I'm also working on outlines for a couple of other projects as well.

What books are currently in your to-read list?

- Anything about quantum mechanics.

What is your favorite book made into a movie/tv show?

- The Lord of the Rings trilogy.

You are filling out this interview as part of a tour with Itsy Bitsy Book Bits. What made you choose Itsy Bitsy Book Bits?

- I was provided with a very high recommendation from a colleague and thought the offered programs seemed pretty good.

What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

- I think most people would be surprised to hear I'm a published author.

Have you ever met a celebrity? Which celebrity would you like to meet?

- I haven't actually met a celebrity. I'd love to meet Peter Jackson.

Do you collect anything?

- I collect Depression and Carnival glass items, as well as various Wizard of Oz characters.

Would you change your ending to any story you've written and why?

- I changed the ending to *The Traveler*, Book 2, before sending it for publication. I felt that, while the original ending was good in terms of plot and writing, it didn't ring true for the characters.

When writing from the characters point of view, do you prefer to do so on an emotional level or just physical descriptions?

- I write from the basis of what the characters observe and feel. Physical descriptions are used to show how the characters define their current realities.

If you were offered a movie deal for just one of your books, which would you choose and why?

- I would choose *The Traveler*, Book 1. There are some chapters where the primary character is struggling to achieve its goals and the results are pretty entertaining. I could definitely see that being in a movie.