



## **SETI**

Kadrey, Richard

**Published:** 2002

**Type(s):** Short Fiction, Science Fiction

**Source:** <http://www.infinitematrix.net/stories/shortshorts/kadrey34.html>

## About Kadrey:

Richard Kadrey is a novelist, freelance writer, and photographer based in San Francisco.

Kadrey's first novel, *Metrophage*, was published in hardcover in 1988 by Victor Gollancz Ltd., and went on to various other American and foreign printings in paperback. Mac Tonnies' *Cyberpunk/Postmodern Book Reviews* calls *Metrophage* "one of the quintessential 1980s cyberpunk novels," going on to describe "a gritty acid-trip through an ultraviolent L.A. where nothing is what it seems... . Alongside novels such as [William Gibson's] *Neuromancer* and Lewis Shiner's debut novel *Frontera*, *Metrophage* helped establish the cyberpunk aesthetic: relentless, paranoid and playfully cynical."

Kadrey's second novel, *Kamikaze L'Amour*, is described by the same source as "mesmerizing... a surreal (and distinctly Ballardian) account of synesthesia and mutant desire set in the jungle-choked ruins of L.A."

Kadrey's short story *Carbon Copy: Meet the First Human Clone* was filmed as *After Amy*.

The publisher website, Amazon booksellers, and other sources list a July 15, 2007 publication date for Kadrey's next book, *Butcher Bird: A Novel Of The Dominion* (Night Shade Books). Other works include collaborative graphic novels and over 50 published short stories.

His non-fiction books as a writer and/or editor include *The Catalog of Tomorrow* (Que/TechTV Publishing, 2002), *From Myst to Riven* (Hyperion, 1997), *The Covert Culture Sourcebook* and its sequel (St. Martin's Press, New York, 1993 and 1994); Kadrey also hosted a live interview show on Hotwired in the 1990s called *Covert Culture*. He was an editor at print magazines *Shift* and *Future Sex*, and at online magazines *Signum* and *Stim*. He has published articles about art, culture and technology in publications including *Wired*, *Omni*, *Mondo 2000*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *SF Weekly*, *Ear*, *Artforum*, *ArtByte*, *Bookforum*, *World Art*, *Whole Earth Review*, *Reflex*, *Science Fiction Eye*, and *Interzone*.

Source: Wikipedia

## Also available on Feedbooks for Kadrey:

- *Metrophage* (1988)
- *Butcher Bird* (2005)
- *Zombie* (2002)

- *A Cautionary Tale* (2002)
- *Ubiquitous Computing* (2002)
- *Second-Floor Girls* (2002)
- *Bad Blood* (2002)
- *Kabbalah Cowboys* (2002)
- *The Tears of the Moon* (2002)
- *Chronalgia* (2002)

**Copyright:** Please read the legal notice included in this e-book and/or check the copyright status in your country.

**Note:** This book is brought to you by Feedbooks.

<http://www.feedbooks.com>

Strictly for personal use, do not use this file for commercial purposes.

A stray transgenic mouse from the bio lab downstairs eats a yellow peanut M&M while sitting atop a pile of discarded circuit boards and servo motors in the AI lab. A sophisticated optical system and biomechanical limbs lie nearby, gathering dust. The power supply is still plugged into the wall, abandoned there when the experiment turned out to be such a disappointment.

Zingaro One never even came online. The design crew checked out the hardware and software dozens of times, trying to find the problem. Nothing seemed out of place, but nothing worked. Eventually they had to admit that the failure was "just one of those things."

Footsteps tap by in the hall. The mouse stops munching and listens. The steps keep going past the door. The mouse starts eating again. No one comes in the AI lab anymore.

The mouse isn't intelligent. It doesn't know a lot, but it's seen many things. If the mouse could talk, it would ask the doctors why they had abandoned their young after working so hard to give birth to it. The doctors would say that their young was stillborn, but the mouse would know better.

Zingaro One was designed for deep space exploration, programmed with an enormous curiosity about alien worlds. The team who built Zingaro One spent many hours discussing alien landscapes and possible life forms. Most of all, they wanted to see an alien. Without really meaning to the doctors had gone ahead and made their own.

The mouse drops its M&M and darts into the wall as the pile of discarded junk powers itself up. In the dark, the alien opens its wide-spectrum eyes and looks at its new world.

**Loved this book ?**

**Similar users also downloaded:**

- "*Ubiquitous Computing*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Food Chain Blues*", Richard Kadrey
- "*The Tears of the Moon*", Richard Kadrey
- "*The Enigma Event*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Zombie*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Second-Floor Girls*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Kabbalah Cowboys*", Richard Kadrey
- "*A Cautionary Tale*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Butcher Bird*", Richard Kadrey
- "*Metrophage*", Richard Kadrey



**[www.feedbooks.com](http://www.feedbooks.com)**  
Food for the mind