

SPECULATIVE FICTION REVIEW by Stephanie Young

TITLE *Old Twentieth*
AUTHOR Joe Haldeman
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Joe Haldeman is one of those writers who manages to write books with totally different themes and characters and make them all interesting. After reading three or four of his books I can say that I would never hesitate to pick one up.

In this story a virus weapon wiped out all but a few million people worldwide decades ago and slowly the population has grown to a number and technological level that is ready to send a ship out to another star, *Beta Hydrii*. But instead of a generation ship the travelers on this voyage are immortal thanks to a process developed after the virus release.

To amuse the passengers and crew on the millennia long journey a virtual time machine is on board, and as the title suggests the twentieth century is the most popular destination. Everything is fine except some subtle anomalies start showing up in the VR and then someone dies while in VR. Things get very interesting then and the ending is definitely unexpected, neither Janice or I saw it coming.

The book is a quick read and I promise you will enjoy it.

I give it 4.0 rings of Saturn.