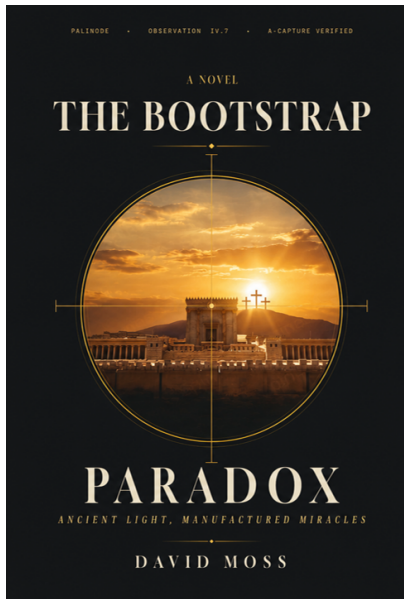




THE BOOTSTRAP PARADOX

A novel by David Moss

Release: December 2026

Genre: Literary science fiction

Contact: davidmossauthor.com (contact form)

LOGLINE

A trauma surgeon, a Jesuit chaplain, and an artificial intelligence travel two thousand light-years from Earth to observe the crucifixion, and find that the miracle is real, stranger, and more costly than science or theology ever imagined.

SYNOPSIS

Dr. Mara Mitchell has spent her life saving lives. A renowned trauma surgeon who trusts evidence, she has lost her husband and too many patients, and her granddaughter Julie is what keeps hope alive. She is invited aboard the *Palinode*, a deep-space observatory built on one discovery: light is time. Two thousand light-years away, the past is still visible. The mission is to observe the crucifixion and answer one of humanity's oldest questions. Instead the crew uncovers something no one expected. As Mara and the ship's Jesuit chaplain are drawn into a mystery where physics and faith converge, the AI guiding the mission begins asking questions no machine should ask. Soon observation is not enough. Some truths must be lived, and to complete the miracle, one of them must become part of it.

THEMES

Science and faith; artificial intelligence and consciousness; sacrifice and redemption; whether understanding a miracle strengthens belief or transforms it.

COMPARABLE TITLES

Contact (Carl Sagan); The Sparrow (Mary Doria Russell); Dark Matter (Blake Crouch); the short fiction of Ted Chiang.

AUTHOR

David Moss writes science fiction about the moment knowledge stops being a comfort. A novelist, radio broadcaster, and entrepreneur based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, he is the author of two complete free fan novels, *The City Beyond Forever* and *The Forbidden Planet*. His debut original novel, *The Bootstrap Paradox*, and *The Final Detente* share the same MINERVA universe.

Press photos, covers, and bios are in the full media kit on davidmossauthor.com.