



# The Dark Star War

*Chris Kennedy*

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The war with the Shaitans continues, and Lieutenant Commander Shawn ‘Calvin’ Hobbs has stayed behind to help the reptilian Sssselipsssiss race fight the Shaitans while his ship, the TSS Vella Gulf, has gone for aid. Formerly enemies, Calvin now finds himself supporting the Sssselipsssiss in their war against the Shaitans in a “must-win” situation. If the Sssselipsssiss fall, Terra is next!

Able to operate in two universes and armed with unavoidable time-based weapons, the Shaitans have proven unstoppable. Although Calvin has experience fighting the Shaitans, the Sssselipsssiss are down to their last three planets, and Calvin’s assistance may very well be too little, too late.

The only ship with any success against the Shaitans is the Vella Gulf, which can jump to the Shaitans’ universe and fight them on their own turf. But time is short; will the crew of the Vella Gulf be able to find the mysterious “Dark Star” system of the Shaitans and stop them before they destroy Terra?

Faced with an implacable foe, the Terrans have been forced into an alliance where the enemy of their enemy might be their friend...or might not. The crew of the Vella Gulf will have to choose their allies wisely as the stakes are the highest possible—only one race will survive the Dark Star War!

## **The Dark Star War Details**

Date : Published July 8th 2016 by Chris Kennedy Publishing

ISBN : 9781942936183

Author : Chris Kennedy

Format : Paperback 406 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Media Tie In, Star Wars, Military Science Fiction

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## From Reader Review The Dark Star War for online ebook

### Michael Wood says

#### Worthy Conclusion to Second Theogony-Codex Regius Trilogy

A worthy conclusion to the second trilogy taking place in at least two universes invented by author Chris Kennedy. But, our heroes live on, and they may have woken the devil himself (sort of). I expect another trilogy, since Kennedy seems to like that system of writing. I expect it will be even more exciting...

Our primary hero, after fighting/allying with alien races that share aspects of the earth's mythologies, seems to have hit the jackpot in his last encounter. Of course, depending on whose story is to be believed, he just MAY be Zeus reincarnated. Calvin doesn't believe that he is a hero of mythology reincarnated, but lots of other races seem to think he is some sort of classic hero. He doesn't even believe that he is a hero. Seems pretty obvious to the reader...

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: both series and this volume.

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### James Schneller says

#### Outstanding

Once again mr kennedy is a great writer, am just glad the next book in the series is out. Keep up the great writing, when am finished with this series i so hope you will have something waiting for me to absorb. Thanks for the great read.

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### J.R. Handley says

#### Summary:

First, let me say that none of what I'll say in this section couldn't be found on the back copy of the novel. Heck, I cribbed this summary from the back and then I add my own twist! I wanted to provide a spoiler free review, so here goes nothing! This novel completes The Codex Regius Trilogy, and oh what a doozy! It was an epic ending for Lieutenant Commander Shawn "Calvin" Hobbs and the crew of the TSS Vella Gulf. He's saved Seattle, traveled to the stars, saved a few heirs to various interplanetary royal houses and forged new alliances with alien races. He even managed to find a girlfriend, though with universes to save, who has time for dating?

The war with the Shaitans continued, and Lieutenant Commander Hobbs has stayed behind to help the reptilian Ssselipsssiss race fight the Shaitans while his ship, the TSS Vella Gulf, has gone for aid. Formerly enemies, Calvin now finds himself supporting the Ssselipsssiss in their war against the Shaitans in a "must-win" situation. If the Ssselipsssiss fall, Terra is next! Able to operate in two universes and armed with unavoidable time-based weapons, the Shaitans have proven unstoppable. Although Calvin has experience fighting the Shaitans, the Ssselipsssiss are down to their last three planets, and Calvin's assistance may very well be too little, too late. The only ship with any success against the Shaitans is the Vella Gulf, which can jump to the Shaitans' universe and fight them on their own turf. But time is short; will the crew of the Vella Gulf be able to find the mysterious "Dark Star" system of the Shaitans and stop them before they destroy Terra? Faced with an implacable foe, the Terrans have been forced into an alliance where the enemy of their

enemy might be their friend...or might not. The crew of the Vella Gulf will have to choose their allies wisely as the stakes are the highest possible—only one race will survive the Dark Star War!

#### Characters:

In this novel, we get more in depth with Shawn Hobbs, with of the rest of the original characters in the series given secondary status. As many of the original secondary characters die gruesome and bloody deaths, we meet new and interesting people for Chris Kennedy to kill. This novel didn't lose any of the characters that were awesome in the previous books in this universe, except by natural attrition, nor did Chris Kennedy sacrifice what made Occupied Seattle Duology, The Theogony Trilogy, and now The Codex Regius Trilogy awesome. Calvin Hobbs was a flushed out, three-dimensional character that I thought was a lot of fun. He's so flushed out at this point, maybe we should advance him to four-dimensional! I still felt like I could relate to him as a person, and was someone I would want to hang out with. At this point, I was a little worried at his mental health as he doesn't seem to react to the extreme losses that routinely occur around him, but I think this was done intentionally to keep the universe feeling fun. Seriously, this is my eighth book with Calvin and I still want to read more of his adventures! It's sad to think that there's no more books left, and that I must wait for the author to write the next series. While we see most of the story through Hobb's eyes, there was still plenty of red shirts and glorious death! The author, Chris Kennedy, calls them secondary characters but he kills so many of them off that they might as well be red shirts. Here's a summary of the main character.

Shawn "Calvin" Hobbs: He is a fighter pilot for the US Navy who becomes an instant war hero/celebrity once he got shot down during the opening salvo of the Sino America War. He built on that as he led several successful ground assaults, aerial missions and various other death defying combat roles in the mission of the Republic of Terra. By now, the battles he was involved with during the Sino American War seem like child's play. He's fought the blood thirsty Drakul's who want to eat him and managed not to get killed by flying snakes who wanted to sacrifice him to their gods. He's fought giant Jotun, lizard looking Efreet, and so many other aliens that you'll lose count of all the blood and gore he's had to wipe off his boots! In the strange world he finds himself, he must constantly adapt as old allies become enemies and enemies become allies. We do get to see Calvin bond with one special former enemy, a Ssselipssiss captain. Together, the face down an unbeatable foe and walk away from the experience. He's basically become the space opera version of Machiavelli, but with more charm!

Overall, I will give these characters 5 out of 5 Grenades and can't wait to see where the author takes this character throughout this new series!

#### Plot:

Like most of the military fiction I love to read, this was an action-packed novel. The story is set in the universe after Earth got involved in the war between the Jotun and the Aesir. They've aided their feline allies in stemming the tide of the Ssselipssiss advance and met them at the parlay table. These former foe ask for aide against a mutual enemy as humanity is again confronted with the fact that the world is a dangerous place. Again, the premise for the series was interesting and the set-up was well executed. We watch the crew of the TSS Vella Gulf embarking on a mission deep behind enemy lines, with the odds stacked against them. I'd honestly asked myself a few times how the ship even managed to stay in one piece, but they're a hearty lot! I would love to give some examples, but you should just buy the series and find out for yourself! I really loved the premise of this plot, and more importantly I enjoyed how he executed it. The pacing was excellent and there was never a slow moment. I couldn't ask for anything more; excellent premise, perfect execution and wonderful pacing! I again give Chris 5 out of 5 Grenades!

#### World Building:

This is the final book in The Codex Regius Trilogy, and I'm still hooked on this universe! I'm sad that it's over until the author writes the next series in this universe. \*Hint, hint Chris Kennedy.\* I'm thrilled to be back into this universe that I love so much for this final cruise on the good ship lollipop. Like in the previous trilogy, this novel had a very flushed out world. It was consistent, made sense and sucked you in. I loved the way he handled inserting new aliens into the world, and letting them become part of the larger world. I

liked that these new species, planets and technology made sense and it didn't feel like they were added just to have shiny things. Overall, the world building was well done and I was sold on the way it happened. It felt believable and the characters fit within the universe Chris created. It was a fun ride, that made me wanna suit up...which is the goal of action/adventure authors! It didn't take itself too seriously, which allowed you to focus on the fun which is why I read in the first place. I wouldn't mind the warrior package that the space marines get with their implants either, hear they take off a few pounds! Even after 8 books I still give the world building 6 out of 5 Grenades.

#### Description:

Like the previous book, this novel was chalk full of visualization, and you could definitely imagine yourself in this world. The only scenes that were confusing and difficult to envision were the color schemes in the alternate/parallel universe. I believe this was my color blindness getting in the way, so I'm giving that part a pass. Also, like the previous novels, he balanced the explanation of the various military minutia with the need to move a story along. This book didn't have a single place where I couldn't picture the scenery and the equipment, which added to world that felt tangible and I enjoyed it. The author's description of his universe was so evocative that I began imagining alternative tactics that the author didn't use. It was a little bit distracting, but it's a sign of an amazingly built universe. I didn't find any issues with the descriptions, except for the previously mentioned color issue. The world he created evoked visceral emotions, heck I wanted to get my implants and join up again after this novel! As an author, Chris Kennedy was still lite on the details of what the various characters looked like but by now I just didn't care. I wanted the action, the adventure and the PEW PEW! Overall, I give Chris 5 out of 5 grenades in this category.

#### Narration Quality:

Like the previous novels, this audiobook was excellently executed. The narrator, Craig Good, did an amazing job narrating this book. He didn't bore you, or make you zone out because of his monotone. His performance didn't feel robotic, like a machine was reading the novel too me. Instead, it felt like a friend was sitting with me reading an amazing story that he couldn't put down. This time the way Craig did the voices of the various characters had grown on me and kept me engaged throughout the periods I was listening to this book. He must be growing on me? And in case you notice that my review of his performance has been similar for his last seven books, it's because he provides a steady and consistent performance. Overall, I give him a 5 out of 5 grenades for his performance.

#### Overall:

I really loved this book, though I did end up hiding a closet to read it when I should've been writing my next novel. With this book, I listened to about a quarter of it via the audiobook and read the rest in eBook form. The transition between the two was seamless and I couldn't fault the production quality of the book or audio narration. Like with all the rest of Chris Kennedy's books, I wanted more and was sad when the good times ended. But don't be sad – stop your crying! Chris Kennedy is already working on the next trilogy. However, do feel free to tell him to hurry up – times a wastin! Now, back to this trilogy, like the previous trilogy, the covers in this one were amazingly invocative. I like how Chris Kennedy made the trilogies covers work together. I'll post an image after the review so you can check it out! The military culture shown in this book was spot on, even the ground combat. I feel like the author missed some chances to get creative with the tactics which had me screaming, but in this book, it wasn't as distracting so I didn't take off for it. Such a detailed portrayal of the tactics is rare, especially when coming from a sailor. Seriously, the author weaponized the awesome power of the PEW PEW for this gripping conclusion to The Codex Regius Trilogy! He wove the action in such a compelling way that you could almost forget that has become the standard for this awesome author! Basically, Chris had me hooked from the beginning, and kept it going throughout the whole novel. This is a book I would happily recommend, and an author I will definitely read again. Heck, I would even recommend that you buy the novel! But hey, it's easy to spend someone else's money! I give this novel, hell the whole series, 5 out of 5 grenades!

## **John says**

### **What a ride**

If you have read the other books in both of the series then you definitely need to read this one, and true to form, Chris continues the action, I love the character development of the characters and the description of the battles

I look forward to reading more of his writing

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