



The Armageddon Inheritance

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Colin MacIntyre, a NASA astronaut kidnapped by a starship impersonating Earth's moon, has just suppressed a fifty-thousand-year-old mutiny, but now he faces an even bigger challenge. By the author of Mutineers' Moon. Reissue.

The Armageddon Inheritance Details

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From Reader Review The Armageddon Inheritance for online ebook

Michael Cummings says

The second book in the Dahak trilogy picks up right where Mutineer's Moon left off. Earth faces attack from the Achuultani, while Colin is off looking for help and what happened to the Fourth Imperium. The book covers a lot of ground quickly as Weber almost rushes to get us to the point where we see some action. Without being a spoiler - yes, there are answers to most of the big questions from Book One.

I think my only complaint about this book was the lack of effort on Weber's part to deal with real universe physics. Not the complicated parts, like how warp missiles would function at a quantum entanglement level, but just the basics of: if ships are on opposite sides of a solar system (which is presumably at least a few light hours in width), how is it they see each other in real time?!? Sorry, I know this isn't something most folks care about, but ever since I read The Dread Empire's Fall series by Walter Jon Williams, this is the kind of thing I think about in epic space battles that make these kind of mistakes (detection based on hyper signal? sure! based on seeing the ship appear on the other side of the system instantly? Light doesn't work that way!!!)

But I digress, because despite that physics problem, the story is about the characters and the struggle, and as with the first book, it continues in good spirits here. Off to the third book!

Brad says

A solid three stars. This book is stronger than the previous book, Mutineers' Moon. Weber handles an alien species well making them interesting without making them human. He has some creative ideas about their background that is well thought out. There is plenty of action in this book. Weber provides different viewpoints to expand the battles but unfortunately, the different perspectives are too brief and erratic. Not so bad that I couldn't follow what was going on, but too quick to get immersed in a different viewpoint before moving on to the next one. Everything about this series so far feels a little thin compared to the later works by Weber I've read. Weber often gives too much detail and spends too long on characters and perspectives that slow his later books down unnecessarily. In contrast, both of these Mutineers stories lack the in depth detail and substantial multiple perspectives that I enjoy from Weber. Still good SF though.

Doc Opp says

I didn't realize this was part of a series when I got it, and thus began in the middle of the action. That didn't turn out to matter - Weber does a great job of catching the reader up so that I could completely follow what was going on.

The book reads much like Honor Harrington books. Sure there are different characters and different technology, but if I were to have picked it up without knowing who the author was, I'd have had a really good chance of guessing who the author was. This wasn't a negative for me, but if you like novelty in novels, then this may not be the book for you (Harrington is better as a series, so if you're choosing one, go for the Harrington series).

There were nice touches in this - the alien enemy has twelve fingers instead of ten, and thus their math system is all in base twelve, which affects their language, technology, cultural organization, etc. Weber is consistent in applying that logic, and it works. Similarly, he has clearly thought through the implications of the tech he created and world builds around it in interesting ways.

The biggest downside is a particular character who inexplicably speaks in archaic (i.e. Shakespearian jargon) and also is both whiny and overly emotional. I ended up skimming through every scene she was in, which made those parts more tolerable, but since she is a fairly major character, meant that I did more skimming than I'd like to do. I almost docked this a star for that character alone, but felt that was probably too harsh a reaction.

In the end, I'm glad I picked this up, as it was a pleasant read. But I wasn't so enthusiastic about it that I'd recommend it to anybody, unless they were looking specifically for a series similar to the Honor Harrington series.

Aqiul Colombowala says

Wow! Massive space battles, giant planetoids which are actually ships and an alien fleet that seems infinite. This is just what I was looking for!

Everything is bigger and more explode-y compared to book 1. Our new Emperor is trying his best to find the remnants of the 4th Empire without much luck while a massive armada moves slowly towards Earth to make new friendships. We get to see more of Brasheel and what his life is like with the Achuultani.

The escalation type of combat scenes get better with every battle. Colin and the crew are better at their new ships even in the face of colossal losses. The Achuultani side of the story was impressive and I would have loved to see more of that. Dahak is as lovable as ever and when (view spoiler)

The book was awesome and it deserves a 5/5. (view spoiler)

Thomas says

Terrific! My wife picked this up for me at the local high school used book sale and I finally got around to reading it.

After bad-mouthing David Weber's later work 'War of Honor' for being slow and long winded with dull characters, I find this earlier work a real treat. In it Weber reveals that under all that Patrick o'Brien Wannabe nonsense beats the heart of a true space ranger. The Armageddon Inheritance is a terrific Space opera in the true white hot coruscating sense of the word, with gripping detail, horrendous terrors, gigantic battle planets and implacable foes. This thing barrels along, never pausing for breath as it continually ratchets up the tension and the stakes.

Lots of good fun. I'm looking for the prequel - 'Mutineer's Moon'.

Space says

Sorry, George. I just couldn't do it. I tried, by golly. I just couldn't get through it. I finished the first in this trilogy, and got about a hundred pages away from finishing the second. But in the end, I just couldn't make it happen. Let me tell you why.

I had so many problems with this book that I find it hard to remember them all. First of all, the author introduced so many characters at once that I couldn't follow who was whom. And another sub-point to that: when you introduce that many characters, you tend to blow right over any attributes that might be important just trashing any hope of character development. You're too busy dropping new names to care about giving them any depth. You don't care, so I, therefore, do not either.

Secondly, he made large leaps in time. And I'm not talking about time travel. I would have actually liked that. But instead of a quick dot-dot-dot, "Six Months Later" or something, it just popped forward. So literally from one paragraph saying they had this long amount of time before something happened, to the next paragraph where it was happening, I was like, "Oh. Okay. So I guess that time has passed." He did this with a frequency that was unforgivable.

Thirdly, Mr. Weber expected us all to know what his acronyms stood for, and understand all his science. I'm okay with hard science. I'm like Bill Mothereffing Nye, doodz. But don't drop some big hi-tech device on me and expect me to know what it is, and how it works. Just give me a sentence or two.

Fourthly, I don't think it's necessary to delve into the minds of the Alchultaani. They're the bad guys. And so when he says, "Whatever-his-name-was sat on all four legs and both of his stomachs were in knots..." I got a bad taste in my mouth. I almost put the book down at that point. Onely, because I just don't really dig space warfare crap. Twoly, because dude, why do I need to know what he's thinking? He's the bad guy! Keep him a mystery! Let's tell it all from the perspective of the humans and give it a shroud of unknowing, like it would be in real life! We may never know why those aliens were hostile, and attacked us! Don't try to humanize them by giving me their POV. Just bad writing.

Fifthly, I had to invoke rule number 23, section 5, paragraph C-1, of my reading allowance rules, where it says there are just too many good books out there to spend time reading horse shit like this. (And there's another reason right there.) Yeah, he would do that very frequently. Several times throughout the books, someone would quote some rule or law or policy, referring to the page, chapter, subtext, paragraph, section, sector, blah blah like people actually remember that crap. Dude, just don't. Okay?

In closing, I wanted to finish this because it's the first book George has recommended to me. Sadly, it was part of a trilogy. Well, this doesn't bode well for George. But really, there are just too many tales out there, and even a bunch in my to-read collection on my reader for me to be wasting time reading something I just don't like. Bad writing, too many characters with less depth than the paper the words were printed on (and that's especially bad considering it was an ebook), and no feeling of connectedness. Just sourly disappointed.

Oh, and one more thing real fast... One of the human characters spoke in medieval tongue. Huh? "Thou hath not seen thy breasts ha'thy?" Huh? Why? What the effing eff. Why in... Where does... How... Just effing NO.

Writing:

Storyline:

Storytelling:

Total Score:

Wilco Roos says

Not 3 stars because the story is worse than the 1st book, it is the heavy use of the 'accent' though and thus that drives me off the wall, it is such an annoying factor that it distracts from the story. And then factor in that everyone else talks normal, so you read and then have to spell each word for a few sentences to understand what she is on about. What makes it even worse is that she is the intended partner of the main character, so there is no way to avoid it. A little example: "Aye," Jiltanith agreed, "yet to what end, my Colin? 'Tis little enow, when all's said, yet not even that little may we send home, sin Earth hath no hypercom."

Ah well, the book is interesting enough that I will wrestle through the lot, as long as she holds her mouth shut ;-)

Sic Transit Gloria says

Remember Colin from Mutineer's Moon? Well, he's now the governor of Earth and has to protect it from the advance of an alien species that wishes to destroy all other life. His only hope is to try to rally an Imperium...only to find that the nation has been completely dead for the past 45,000 years.

It almost seems as though Evan C. Currie's Odyssey novels are a perfect comparison for these books. Both are about a Captain of a powerful (but lone) starship who has to try and prevent alien hordes from wiping out Earth. That's where the similarities end.

The Odyssey novels are a masterpiece of action writing, filling much of the books with intense fighting. However, they still manage to sneak in plot movement and scientific explanations in a way that doesn't break the pacing. While this book certainly has great action in some scenes, these are rather rare. Most of the book reads like a the minutes of a committee, with the characters all conferring to each other about what they discovered while not in a meeting. Sadly, the actual action of discovering these things is often not shown. These long infodumps aren't short, either, as many can go chapters before finally ending.

On a side note, here: Giving Jiltanith an accent was a great idea. It made her unique, easily identifiable, and gave great depth to her personality. However, the Old English was absolutely painful to read. Normally, an entire book is written in Old English, letting my brain adapt. Not here.

Dan says

A very good read, better, even, than the first book.

Stephen says

4.5 stars. Fantastic military SCIFI. Excellent story, great characters and non-stop plot movement (i.e., NEVER BORING). Highly recommended!!

Emily says

Good bad guy. Exciting new things. Overall, I really liked it, but my criticisms remain the same as the first book - not enough character development and a bit too much violence for my tastes.

Kei says

Absolutely engaging.

And one of the few times where the travails of an artificial intelligence have brought tears.

Alex Shrugged says

"Armageddon Inheritance" by David Weber is the second book in the Dahak series. This was a reasonably good book and continues the "look and feel" of an older SciFi story.

Dahak is the name of a spaceship/computer entity. The main character is told that an invading force of aliens is headed our way and they take no prisoners.... absolutely no prisoners so Colin MacIntyre takes Dahak out to look for the Imperium to ask for help.

As usual for Weber the description of complex battles in space is excellent. David Weber fumbles the problems relativity issues that people would run into in space battles at near light speed. (At near light speed, you must guess where an opposing space ship will be in order to shoot them. You can't actually see them in any useful sense of the word and you can't use radar.) His characters acknowledge some of the issues but then ignore it. I thought Jack Campbell did a much better job of explaining this in his Lost Fleet series.

For those practicing modesty, the F-word is used about 8 times. As I recall, sex is implied but not described.

The third in the series is "Heirs of Empire". That book is an obvious stepping stone to the Safehold series I've recently read.

This series is contained in its entirety in the omnibus edition: "Empire from the Ashes"

_ says

The second installment of the Dahak Series is even better than the first one. The surprises are more surprising and the action is non-stop. There are several great space battles of EPIC proportions! There are plot twists that can be figured out with the clues provided, but not easily. The only dislikes that I still have are the fact that I can't seem to connect with the characters enough to feel the events and consequences they are experiencing. I don't know if it is due to the fast pace of the plot, or if they are just somewhat two dimensional. It's the difference between being shown something heroic or heartwarming so that you like the person doing it, and being told that they did something and that you should like them because of it... *sigh*

Anyway, the action-packedness (new word tm) was enough to overcome all that for me. The book was great. I thoroughly enjoyed this one, and give it 4 stars and the status of a Great Read!

Curtiss says

Emperor Colin MacIntyre faces catastrophic disappointment in his quest to learn what became of the Human Empire of 50,000 years past, of which his flagship Dahak turns out to be the last operable unit. He also learns that the Earth populated by the descendants of Dahak's original crew is the only inhabited planet remaining after an outbreak of a manufactured virus had spread throughout the known galaxy.

Worse Humanity faces extinction as an invading fleet of over 3 million alien spaceships is even now sweeping through this arm of the galaxy on a mission to eradicate all life. Colin the first has his work cut out for him.
