



The Human Factor

Joshua Dalzelle

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Captain Jason Burke is a man apart, and not just because he's the only of his kind for thousands of lightyears in any direction. The changes to his body and to his genetic code have made him faster, stronger, more able to survive in his dangerous occupation ... but they've also ensured that he'll never truly fit in with others of his species. He always assumed he would live and die with his crew and never lay eyes on another human again, he was wrong.

The mercenary captain learns through back channel information that Earth may be in danger and, worse, that he may have been a contributing factor. He now faces the choice of ignoring the problem and allowing his own species to fight their own battles, or returning to help and risk making the situation worse. Can he just sit idly by while his species faces such a dire threat?

The Human Factor Details

Date : Published March 29th 2016

ISBN :

Author : Joshua Dalzelle

Format : Kindle Edition 250 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Space, Space Opera, Aliens, War, Military Fiction

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From Reader Review The Human Factor for online ebook

Lucas Ellison says

Not sure why but this book didn't work as well for me. Maybe because all the new characters it felt less like the usual Omega Force story. Felt like a book trying to lay groundwork for future stories perhaps and as a result it's story suffered. It just didn't have the action of the previous stories, I never came to like any of the new characters, and there wasn't any comic relief at all. I recall many times in previous books causing me to laugh out loud.

Still looking forward to another Omega Force adventure though. Hoping for a return to form next book.

Ian O'Neill says

A very welcome change of Storyline

A shakeup for the Phoenix crew.
Different pov's for a different views of Jason.
Easily the best of the new story arc., continuing on from book 7.

Noodle TheNaughtyNightOwl says

9/10: *Fantastic, left me wanting more.*

"You don't know this man, Chancellor," Kellea said. "It's like he's distilled and concentrated chaos. If something can go wrong it will go wrong if he's involved."

This is getting so good now. I am completely invested in the story, the world, and the characters.

I love Crusher and Kage.

"Right is right," Kage replied loftily. "The truth doesn't care if we're in the middle of a battle." "I think I may kill you once this is over," Crusher said to Kage conversationally.

I love Jason.

"God, we suck at this sometimes."

But most of all I love Lucky.

It is disheartening to see two people who care about each other so much pretend that they do not.

Jason says Twingo is his best friend, but Lucky is his most loyal.

I know what the author has planned for the next book (having read book one of the spin-off series before starting this origin series) and I'm not looking forward to it. I've been dreading it since I got to know Lucky.

So, putting my big girl panties on, I'll dive on into book 9 immediately and see exactly what Dalzelle has in store for us.

Deanna says

Major changes

Love, love, love this series. I think this is the best volume yet, although it still needs those before it. This volume contained many changes and new elements and characters to help fill many more volumes for a very long time. I can see so many new directions for stories. I hope they will be written. As long as they are, I will keep buying them. Please, Joshua Dalzelle, space opera (I hope that term is suitable to you) author extraordinaire, keep them coming.

Ryan Ohashi says

Strange homecoming...The feeling

Finally! A good reason for Jason to come home...in true defense of his home planet (not the revenge). I really liked this book as it had new players. And the reality that not everyone is out there who is looking "in your best interest." This book shows the Capitan's honest caring of his crew. Yes they get on each other's nerves and bicker but when the sh*t his the fan and there is no way out, the self sacrifice to protect, especially his team that is his real family is true and honest.

It is this, the Omega Force members, their teasing, arguing, fighting, the epitome of family that I love so much about this series. But when things turn serious all of that gets pushed into the background so that they can protect each other, with their lives. And isn't this what family is?

As a professional chef, my co-workers, it is similar. We tease each other, play small gags on each other, we bicker and grumble, but when the job needs to get done, all that gets pushed away, and you do the job as a professional. They are my extended family (in Hawaiian it is called hanai, Ha-nai). And these books are just like my co-worker family!

I cannot wait for the next book or five! I may even have to go back and re-read the whole series while I wait...! Such enjoyable books!!!

Jim says

Another very good book in an overall great series. We're back again with Captain Jason Burke, commanding the Phoenix gunship and the Omega Force. Well, he does command the Phoenix, but not so much the Omega Force. Yeah, they all do what he tells them, but they are a little disrespectful while doing it and do complain a lot. Jason, for his part, lets them get away with it, but I don't really know what he can do about it. Especially that the team has just gotten back together. This book does show different parts of Jason Burke as a human, a very enhanced human and how he's changed from what he once was. Some of that change is good, very good, but other times, his change seems be leading towards his ultimate doom. Luckily he's got one huge best friend in Lucky, the huge battlebot.

It seems that Earth has been busy and not necessarily in a good way. They have managed to colonize another planet which happens to be the domain of another intelligent species who could on a whim wipe out the humans without much trouble. Instead, they make a contract with the humans to help them along with their technology in exchange for the parts from the original downed starship that Jason destroyed in his first return to Earth. Unfortunately, the administrator of this new Earth colony, named Terranovus is a full fledged megalomaniac and has diverted this new tech into building her own personal starship armada. She plans to rule the Earth at some point, but first she has a vendetta against Jason Burke. She wants him dead.

A mercenary team of ex-military special forces types is hired and sent out into the void to find Jason and end him. Little do they realize how unprepared and incapable humans are against the vast unknown galaxy. Jason has to find these guys and try to educate them on how things really are in the rest of the galaxy and while doing so, attempt to make sure they don't get hurt! Then there is also the problem with the aliens that have contracted with Terranovus hiring their own bounty hunter who is very, very capable of ending Jason Burke.

So, as you can read, there are going to be all sorts of fun and games in this book. It might not turn out so well for Earth since the aliens who are involved are highly intelligent if not the bravest of aliens and they want Earth for themselves. Jason has also been branded a bad guy since his last visit to Earth since everyone blames him for the aliens coming there in the first place and tearing the place up trying to chase him down. This is a very interesting book in that the author made an attempt to show Jason Burke through the point of view of other characters. Sometimes he comes off as slightly bizarre, definitely dangerous and extremely violent for little reason.

Jason has to find someone willing to help defend the Earth or he might not have a home to ever return to. And, that gets him to wondering if Earth is still his home or does he even have one? Now that the Omega Force is permanently based at S'Tora, does he really need to be involved in Earth's affairs? What if he just leaves them to their own defense? That's probably not going to turn out too well for humans at their current minimal level of technology.

There will be more books in the series and I look forward to that very much. This is a really good space quasi-military science fiction series. Just what I like. The next book, "Omega Force: Revolution" should be out soon, I hope!

Michael says

Before you start this book, please realize it is the eighth title in the series: you will need to read the previous books in the series in order to understand the back story and the characters.

Without having a spoiler, if you enjoyed the previous books in the series you should like this one, also; this time the tale goes back to Earth and situations with humans. I read this in connection with my Kindle Unlimited subscription vs. the normal price of \$3.99, and I believe I received more than \$3.99 worth of entertainment value out of it: if you have enjoyed the other books of the series I am confident you will like this one, also.

Robert Konka says

Different

A little subdued by Jason Burke standards but enough action and a good story line to keep it interesting and thoughtful.

David P. Duffy says

Yet Another In The Series - Simplistic and Just OK

“Omega Force: The Human Factor (OF8),” is another in the lightweight, simplistic series, that does entertain in a lowbrow way.

Don't get this reader wrong, as the books, including this one, are entertaining. It is that the entertainment value is very middle of the road - no great highs, no great lows. There are a few chuckles, some action, and a pedestrian story line. Over and over again.

“Omega Force: The Human Factor (OF8),” is recommended and was fully read via Kindle Unlimited.

Mahari says

Loved the new direction

I'm mad at myself for finishing this in one day, but this new entry into the series was hard to put down. I absolutely love this series and cannot wait for future entries. Loved the new characters and the emergence of humanity into the galactic geopolitical world and am quite interested to read on how they handle themselves. Please keep writing on Omega Force Mr Dalzelle, it certainly is a much needed escape that I enjoy fully.

Charles says

Dallying with all those wen starting to catch up

Women trouble causing Jason to consider retirement. But event on earth make it difficult. I can't figured out the need for a certain item picked up from Area 51.

Craig Dean says

With the human factor, humanity is thrust on to the galactic stage. Dalzelle, like his protagonist, has a very pessimistic view of our species - certainly in the collective - and that shines through. Nonetheless, their is redemption and individual examples of morality; none of which leaves you feeling we're deserving of much more than a quick and painless extinction.

It was a good plot, but the darkness diminishes one of the few strengths of the series - it's hard to rate this as a 'pleasant distraction'. That is balanced by an ever improving confidence in the author's grasp of story and tension.

Thomas James says

Roller-Coaster Ride

Buckle up because here we go - ready or not! Our ride won't lack for twists, turns, thrills, chills, ups and downs. Where it ends nobody knows.

Jim Kratzok says

Another good one.

Book 8 in the series and it's still a pleasure to read of Captain Jason Burke and the crew of the Phoenix. This book was a bit different in that Earth is back in the picture and is in trouble but no one on Earth knows it. Suffice it to say, Jason and crew manage to greatly improve the situation by the end of the book. There is also a cliffhanger that's a real doozie! I can't wait to see how that turns out.

Jason says

After the events of 'Redemption' the crew has pulled back together, and Omega Force is back to 'help' the Galaxy.

This time though, they will be running from their home base on S'Tora.

There is a bit of fun start to this book, that I will not spoil, but needless to say, it is very well done, and Dalzelle obviously had a lot of fun writing it. It shows just how clever he is with his character skills, his humour and his descriptions of fight scenes.

The main core of this story revolves around the Human Sector. Without giving too many spoilers away, Jason learns that he is the target of a kill squad – From Earth! – and this sets some interesting things in motion.

He discovers that Earth has made the move to Space, have an Ally with Ulterior motives, they are in Danger, and they have no clue of how bad it is. Of course everyone on Earth still despises him for not handing over the Tech that he has and launching them decades or centuries into the future. There are multiple players, some trying to kill him, some trying to help him, some trying to take over the Earth, some wanting the crashed Traveller craft left on Earth by the failed Deetz invasion.

This is a really fascinating book – it looks very deeply into Jason Burke and his inner struggle over his lost humanity, his guilt over leaving Earth, as well as his regrets over past decisions from missions. It also looks at a lot of different aspects of Humanity, from the truly ugly side of selfish greed and power and any cost, to heroism and selfless acts committed purely for the good of others. Dalzelle does a magnificent job of writing these different aspects and concepts, allowing us to fully immerse ourselves in both the Omega Force Universe but the large range of Characters in this particular episode.

This is one of the best books in the Omega Force series as it not only has all the usual elements, action, humour, thrills, but it really gives us a good insight into Jason Burke, as well as some of the other characters, such as Lucky and the relationship between the two of them.

The only bad thing about this book is that I have run out of Dalzelle books to read, and now have to wait for the next release...

