



Paradise

Craig Alanson

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While the crew of the starship Flying Dutchman have been trying assure hostile aliens do not have access to Earth, the UN Expeditionary Force has been trapped on the planet they nicknamed 'Paradise'. The Flying Dutchman is headed back out on another mission, and the UN wants the ship to find out the status of the humans on Paradise. But Colonel Joe Bishop warns that they might not like what they find, and they can't do anything about it without endangering Earth.

Paradise Details

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unknown says

Amazing reading romp...

This is a recommendation that you read the Expeditionary Force series...not just this book o k but all three. Alanson spins a fun realistic tale with great characters, plot and story. He has created my favorite AI ever...worth the read just to meet him. I can't wait for the next book.

Montzalee Wittmann says

Paradise

Expeditionary Force, Book 3

By: Craig Alanson

Narrated by: R.C. Bray

Series: Expeditionary Force, Book 3

This continues the great fun and adventures of Skippy and Joe as they travel the universe again. This time they are cleverly saving the people on Paradise. It is always a lot of crazy situations, lots of humor, and great banter between the team. Lots of action, adventure, and suspense thrown in there too. I truly love this series. Of course I have to listen to the series so I can hear RC Bray do the voices that really make the story POP!!! I enjoy it so much more with the narration. He is awesomeness! This is my favorite sci-fi soap opera series!!!

Gud.Spelar.Too says

Entertaining stories that desperately need an editor

I read the Author's three stories together, so my comments address all three. While the plots are clever, fresh and inventive, and the majority of characters engaging, there are so many mistakes and errors in the writing, that it significantly distracts from the story. Throughout the books passages and phrases commonly repeat themselves almost verbatim. There are a large number of spelling autocorrection mistakes, where the wrong word has been inserted, and even mistakes like confusing the gender of a character, or using different quantities of an item within the same paragraph. Ultimately I found it very distracting.

The stories also are not helped at all (IMO) by the ridiculous idea that a supremely advanced AI, meeting humans for the first time, decides to speak like an snotty human 11 year old boy. The specific interactions between the AI and the hero are so painful, I found myself skipping over the very predictable, and moronic passages that are supposed to be snappy banter. As the repeating pattern throughout the stories is an insurmountable problem, the AI can't resolve, AI mocks hero, hero has brainstorm solution that causes the AI to have a tantrum, AI performs a Deus Ex machina resoution that leads to the next insurmountable problem, the AI protagonist dialogue is throughout.

I think all of these criticisms would have been addressed if the stories had been reviewed and edited sufficiently, and the Author would have a even better story.

Lori says

Fun with a snarky AI.

Soukyan Blackwood says

All reviews in one place: Night Mode Reading

Skippy the Magnificent, the glorious sassy ass of an artificial intelligence created by an ancient, now long gone alien race, and Joe Bishop, continue their questing among the stars in search for answers, and, really, anything that could help Skippy find his own folk, and maybe help protect Earth doing so. While they're at it, Joe, with Skippy's help, does his best to try and help humans left on an alien planned they dubbed Paradise, which is now more of a jail if not a death trap.

In the meantime, humans on the said Paradise are just trying to survive. They're planting the crops and raising animals, seed stock they were given back in the day, when things were still going pretty well, and no one suspected it's the first and last shipment. They're trying to avoid conflicts too, which is very difficult, since humans already split in two camps: those who still support the warring alien race that got them into this mess; and those who understand the truth. On top of it, not even the locals wish to help them, in fear it'll be taken as opposing the overlords. Peace is, after all, a very fragile thing.

The book is a little dragged, I admit, and the whole make-a-plan and break-a-plan got repetitive, since after a third such break you're already conditioned to expect it not go accordingly. But the banter, and even the making of those plans, were amusing to read and/or listen to. I can give it a solid 4 out of 5, and be sure, I'll grab the fourth one sometime soon.

George Price says

I have read the entire series and thoroughly enjoyed it. I am a sucker for books who's theme is based around improbable heros.

Steven Carranza says

These books just keep getting better and better! Can't wait for the next one.

Eric says

Book 3 continues the antics of Joe, Skippy and The Merry Band of Pirates like the previous two books. R. C. Bray also continues with his excellent character portrayals and storytelling.

After saving earth again in Book 2, *The Fly Dutchman* is back in earth orbit. Joe is called on the carpet for his judgment calls during the last mission. Much discussion and argument ensues until a new mission is developed. One of mission parameters is find out the status of the earth troops stranded Paradise. Since Joe and company are traveling in an advanced alien technology space carrier, the mission must be accomplished without revealing their existence in the process. The consequence would endanger all of humanity. This causes all sorts of complications but nothing that Joe and his smart-assed beer can AI Skippy can't handle.

Meanwhile, back on Paradise, the situation is not good for the humans stranded there. The Ruhar can't continue to protect the planet and are negotiating to turn the planet over to the Kristang. This means certain death for the humans.

This is an entertaining story with a little more depth and action than Book 2. Even though the elements are different, I found character interactions getting repetitious.

The science fiction aspects of the story make for a great read. I will be continuing with the series.

Fred Nielson says

Could have been so much better.

I read a lot. I read a lot of science fiction. I read a lot of military science fiction. A cursory glance at my Kindle library supplies adequate proof. I also write quite a bit. I know that avid readers usually have very active imaginations and actually picture what they are reading in their mind's eye. On the rare occasion when I read a piece of fiction that eventually becomes a movie I always marvel at how differently the director imagined the story than I did.

Author Craig Alanson has constructed a marvelous galaxy peopled (dare I use that expression) with dozens of species from scattered points in the galaxy. His story is imaginative and original to some degree. But when I picture the story in my mind, as I read it, the images are cartoons. Nothing wrong with that. I enjoy animated sci/fi just as much as any other form of the genre. I probably do this because most of the imagined aliens encountered are compared to earth creatures by the author. We have aliens who are described as cat like, rodent like, insect like, lizard like, little green martian like and half machine like, amiable super computers or even disembodied super aliens. I love it.

The technology used to overcome the great distances and time is way beyond me but is explained in reasonable enough terms. All in all a well developed scenario. I wish that it had been better written.

When I read a well written book I experience a connection that is something like watching a movie and the written words are the narrative that supports my imagination's vision. I hope that is recognized by dedicated, nearly addicted readers. Therein lies my big problem with this author, generally, and this trilogy specifically.

I did read all three of the books in this trilogy. I enjoyed them a lot. But it could have been so much better. I can best describe reading author Alanson's books as similar to taking a bike tour through a very scenic location but doing so while riding along a dried up creek bed. The view is spectacular but you are constantly being distracted because the bike is constantly being bucked and tipped by the rocky surface of the creek bed.

Mr. Alanson's books cannot be described as polished. The trail the story path follows is strewn with hundreds of grammatical errors and typos. It causes one's attention to stumble and have to back track to be

sure that what the author is trying to convey is the same as what you glean from his words. A shame really. Even one good read by a good editor could have cleaned up so much of these mistakes and made for a much more enjoyable read. At least the author made good use of 'spell check'. There are not many misspellings, thank the stars.

Normally, because of the lack of attention to detail, I would only award three stars to this effort. But, since I thoroughly enjoyed the story for the most part and a lot of imagination went into its telling and the Kindle price was reasonable, I begrudgingly gave it four stars.

Mr. Alanson you are a very entertaining writer. As I have suggested to other writers, 'all you need is a good editor'.

David says

Best beer can ever!

shaun holmes says

Wicked sense of humor

I couldn't put this or the previous 2 books down and I can't wait to read the next installment all I can do is go Skippy lol

Anthony Doyle says

So, not a trilogy. I thought this would be the last in the series but nope. The ending is a set up for the next installment. I hope the 4th one has some new elements because this one just seemed more of the same: Skippy the Magnificent being an abrasive ass who can manipulate space-time but just can't fully grasp humans, Joe the dumb grunt coming up with amazing ideas to get them out of trouble, and the Merry Band of Pirates overcoming long odds to outsmart and defeat far more advanced aliens. A fun story but Alanson may be riding this horse too far.

CB says

I am sooooooobssessed with this series!!!!!! I wish there were 100 more hours of traveling the galaxy with Colonel Joe, Skippy, and the merry band of pirates to listen to right now!! Also I wish that RC Bray narrated ALL science fiction books, he is clearly the best. Well actually if he could just narrate all books that would be fine by me as well. I hope Craig Alanson keeps cranking these stories out and that Audible continues to provide them! Will definitely reread again and again!

05/22/17 - OMG. Releasing on Audible in 9 hours!!! Yaaaaayyyyyy!!!!

Arnis says

<https://poseidons99.wordpress.com/201...>

Doug says

Great story. With typos (sic)

Really good story and points of interest. The typos don't bother me a lot but does require a pause or to go back over a sentence and that's disruptive to the flow.
