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A King's Ship (Empire Rising Book 2)



Synopsis

The war with China is over. But for Captain James Somerville there is a task still unfinished. Former Politburo Intelligence Minister Chang has evaded capture and escaped from Chinese space. Declared a war criminal by the UN and British law courts, James is given the Royal Space Navy's newest exploration cruiser and sent after Chang. His chase will threaten to stir up old rivalries and take him to the edge of explored space. What he will discover there will radically reshape humanity's position in the galaxy and throw him into a series of desperate battles. Alone and outnumbered he will come to realize what it really takes to command a King's Ship. A King's Ship is the second book in the Empire Rising military science fiction series that follows the career of Captain James Somerville as he takes command of HMS Endeavour.

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Customer Reviews

I like this book a LOT. Holmes is getting better, and is adding kernels of the Mystery to come. In many ways this book reminds me of C.S. Forester's Hornblower, just in space. In that duty is above all, he is a good tactician, and it's epic. And ships. And marines. I liked that Somerville went on from one thing to another, and kept following his gut. Spoilers: Only 4 stars because some of it was a bit

improbable as another reviewer stated, and I think Somerville himself needs to be developed a bit more deeply. His pain at losing Christine is simplistic and should not be used anymore. I am glad he was not promoted yet to another ship yet (even though Hornblower got promoted every book), let him get more experienced before getting say a heavy cruiser. I would love to see more command interaction between him and the crew - i.e. what makes him a good commander. I also missed Lightfoot. Please get more collaboration between the two. I liked Holmes careful attention to tactics and what is and is not possible under the physics allowed in the book - this should be further developed to keep this in the sci-fie world. Also, more technological surprises are in order! Bottom line - a great read, I can't wait for the next one.

This series keeps getting better and better. A must read for scifi-space opera fans. Doesn't drown you in technical terms. Lots of ship to ship actions. A suggestion: A rough "spacial map" delineating the borders would be a good addition.

A King's Ship picks up a week after the events related in the Void War and sees Captain Lord James Somerville, Duke of Beaufort sent on a mission to capture Chang (a former Chinese Intelligence Officer) who is wanted for war-crimes committed during the Void War. I found A King's Ship just as exciting as the Void War and jammed packed with action, adventure, exploration, first contact, mutiny and great battle sequences - all of which I really like in my sci-fi books. James goes from strength to strength and has left any lingering notions that he is a coward well behind him - A King's Ship sees him doing his duty, even when his ship and crew face long odds against a large alien warforce. I am now totally wishing the next book was out right now so I can continue to read more of James' and his crew's adventures and to find out what happens next in the Empire Rising series :)

Second volume in an excellent new military science fiction series. The characters are multi-dimensional with their share of flaws. The human politics are believable and derive from the present day. The author gives the alien races in the plot very human motivations, but this is necessary to understanding the plot. The rank structure of the Royal Space Navy in this and the preceding volume is taken from the Royal Navy of the 19th century and not the RN of today, but who's to say what changes might occur in the next couple of centuries.

This book is no where near as good as the last book. Unfortunately this book shows why so many

space operas are so one dimensional. At first its really great, they are dealing with human governments that have put colonies in space. All the human governments are very multidimensional, the author is clearly trying to take what the cultures of current countries and expound on what might happen if they got ftl and started colonizing the stars. Really neat. Then he introduced two races and they were totally and completely one dimensional. The aliens really killed the book. I am not saying its a bad book. I finished it and enjoyed it, but it clearly went from a very complex human governments (india, china, britian, france, canada) to two totally one dimensional aliens. And worse yet I think that the authors plan is to make the human race one dimensional.

Excellent continuation of the empire rising story. This book and author keep me wanting more. I can't wait to see where the next book takes place.

This is just as well written as Davids first. His artistic word paint a picture that will completely draw you in from the first line. You may sit or lay down to read and find when you look up to see the time that hours have slipped by. I know I did. If you haven't read the first book "The Void War" please read it first, though you can enjoy this one without the first it makes for more understanding of the characters in this one. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. Hopefully the 3rd book from Empire Rising will be out in December.

I find it refreshing to get a good military sci-fi book written from the perspective of a nation other than america. I am American but I still find it cool. The action is spaced out with political intrigue in between. The plot is well thought out and the book flows very nicely. I found a few editing mistakes but not many. The book is well written. I will be anticipating the next book in this series.

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