



An Empire Asunder

Evan Currie

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The coup that won traitor General Corian the Scourwind throne has been overturned, but his ongoing rebellion has left the empire divided. Lydia's birthright regained, she adjusts to her role as empress at war, while Brennan begins training as an elite Cadreman soldier. With tensions rising between the empire and the Alliance, this momentary lull seems to portend a gathering storm...

The royal twins aren't the only ones sensing peace may not last. Searching for a vanished supply shipment vital to her own mission of vengeance against Corian, former Cadrewoman turned pirate Mira Delsol makes a shocking discovery about the theft. As both Mira and Brennan follow similar clues to the fate of the stolen supplies, their trajectories converge. Now Mira will embark on a perilous attempt to infiltrate the heart of the enemy camp, while Brennan's path will also lead him across Alliance lines, and into a lethal confrontation with the Alliance air fleet. But will either of their efforts be enough to keep Corian from executing his plan to bring the empire to its knees once again?

An Empire Asunder Details

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Ronny says

3.5*

This is a quite fast and tight read, happening over a relatively short amount of time and people. So in some ways, less happens than in book 1 (and I'd have preferred tbh, if this whole civil war arch was more of a side-plot and more time was spent on the world backstory and exploration, because these seem pretty interesting, even if not as surprising as the author might have planned it to be).

Daniyal says

Suffers from the ism that the second book in a trilogy does. I wish to see more of Mira Delsol and the Cadre, not the Scourwind.

Darcee Kraus says

I won this novel in the goodread's giveaway! It was a little hard to get in to the story line because I never read the first book in the series but I thoroughly enjoyed the book and will look for the rest of the series. I would definitely recommend.

Sara says

Fantastic

I loved both this and the first book. I need more Scourwind please! When is the next one coming out?!?!?!?!?

S.J. Higbee says

An Empire Asunder more or less picks up where the first book left off and I easily slipped back into this entertaining world once more. The main characters in the first book continue to be swept up into the action, although this particular storyline mostly featured the protagonists Brennan, Lydia's twin and trainee elite soldier, and Mira Desol, one of the elite soldiers known as Cadre turned privateer.

All the ingredients to make this military science fiction adventure an engrossing, pleasurable read are there – plenty of pace, a strong storyline that raises the stakes for both sides in this war for control of the Empire and foot-to-the-floor action including a major set-piece battle. As for the antagonist, General Corian, I've learnt a bit more about his motives in this current slice of the adventure, but that raises more questions than it answers – and I'm still not exactly sure where this world is set, although I have some theories. Given that Currie is clearly an experienced and very capable writer, I'm prepared to go with the flow regarding that

dangling plotline, because I shall certainly be getting hold of the next book in the series.

Those unanswered questions keep tugging at my brain and I find myself regularly thinking about this world and the characters in it – which given that I’m spectacularly busy right now, means this series has managed to burrow under my skin. If your taste runs to either epic fantasy and you’d like to try a science fiction take on the genre, or you enjoy a cracking military science fiction adventure with a different feel, then this series comes highly recommended. Though I would advise that you start with the first book, Heirs of Empire, as this is too good a series to compromise by starting in the wrong place.

The fact that this arc was provided by the publisher via NetGalley has not affected my honest opinion of An Empire Asunder.

9/10

Lee Parker says

I received a copy of this for free through Goodreads First Reads

Considering I don't usually like Sci-fi, I really enjoyed this. Mainly because the characters were so interesting. There was a lot of humor, maybe unintentional, but still there. Overall a pretty good sci-fi story.

Michael Bush says

A Chaos Enhanced World of Quantum Entanglement

As the story continues it stands on firm ground or I should say in clear sky's of Quantum sails where ships war as they strive to bring the traitorous General to heel. And this time Corian has gone too far. Character building at its finest!

“I don’t suppose we’re going to take them out of the sky before you head over?” Gaston asked, a resigned smile on his face.

“When have I ever done things the easy way, Gas?” Mira laughed lightly. He didn’t laugh, but his smile grew a little less rueful and a little more genuine at her words. “I wonder what life would be like without an action junkie for a captain?” “Wouldn’t want your life to be boring, now would we?”

“I could live with boring.” Mira chuckled. “You have lived with boring, Gas. Now look where you are.”

Sarah says

I liked this second book in the series even more than the first. We really get to see a lot of Brennan’s character as he puts his piloting skills to good use. Both twins seem to mature quite a bit as they take on their new roles, though I wonder why the only surviving heir to the throne would be allowed to take on dangerous missions. The book ends with plenty of action and unfinished business, especially on the part of Mira Delsol. I can’t wait to read the next one.

Michael Wood says

Another Excellent Dynastic Military Space Opera From Currie

The remaining two heirs to the imperial throne get a chance to square off with the empire's best general, now gone rogue after his first two coup attempts failed. There is a hint of some serious threat from beyond the Southern Kingdom, but, at this point, the threat is just the glimmer of a rationale for the general's betrayal. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AS BOTH AN INDIVIDUAL BOOK AND AS A SERIES!!

Adie says

slow start strong finish

Jen says

3.5 stars

An Empire Asunder continues the battle between General Corian and the Scourwind heirs and their supporters.

The back story on General Corian's original attempt at a coup remains a blank, and although he sees his rebellion as an effort to save the Empire, the threat that motivates Corian is still unclear. And he is a bit obsessive. Obviously, if he must destroy thousands of lives and entire cities to save the Empire...the end justifies the means, and he is just the man for the job.

Lydia, as the older twin and heir to the throne, has assumed her role as empress, and Brennan trains for the cadre. However, Corian and his allies are not finished yet. There are traitors embedded everywhere who intend to do their best to see Corian succeed. The Empire is, indeed, split asunder.

Former cadrewoman Mira Delsol has unfinished business with Corian, but as usual things go awry, and Brennan is left to warn the Empire--if he can escape in time to do it.

Like Heirs of Empire, An Empire Asunder is fun and suspenseful. The characters have continued to develop, but they are still the archetypal roles typical of this kind of good/vs evil format. While Lydia has a very small role in this one, I expect the next book will give her more attention. It is Mira Delsol and Brennan, however, who keep the action going.

Scifi-lite but lively and entertaining.

Read in Sept.; blog review scheduled for

NetGalley/47 North

Space Opera. Nov. 15, 2016. Print length: 334 pages.

Daniel Millard says

The second entry in Currie's new Scourwind saga is another helping of dramatic civil war between the renegade General Courian and those loyal to the Scourwind dynasty. It doesn't offer a great deal of character or world development, but focuses instead on delivering as much action and story progress as possible in a short package.

Aerial combat continues to be the main order of the day, as well as the somewhat superhuman antics of the Imperial cadremen and women (and ex-cadre). Much of the book is told from Brennan Scourwind's point of view, as well as Mira del Sol, who continues to be a likable, competent, and just-slightly-unhinged protagonist.

The conclusion of "An Empire Asunder" leaves the reader in considerably more suspense and wonder than book one after a dramatic move by Courian. I'm bothered somewhat by a whole lot of unexplained technology and logistics (how did Courian obtain so much imperanium, and why is he so deadset on killing off the Scourwinds if what he allegedly wants is a united, intact Empire to stand against an external threat), but I'm willing to chalk it up to Currie being deliberately vague for the time being in order to keep the books moving at a swift pace.

Ian says

Im really enjoying this series. The author is great at slowly doling out plot devices even as the rest of the story unfolds.

Henriette says

If you liked the first one, you are going to like the second one. Because, let's face it, they are pretty much the same. Mira is still a thorn in Corian's side, the twins still show great potential and Corian is still submitting his empire to a civil war, because he believes that to be the only way to save it from an ominous outside threat.

I wished that Currie had elaborated a little on his world building (apparently pieces of the Earth have been cut out and turned into space stations), alas he doesn't even mention it in passing as he did in the first book. Or provided more details about that imminent threat (if I had to guess, I would say that the empire is about to be invaded by one the other space stations). Even George R.R. Martin, the master of procrastination, mentioned the ice zombies at the beginning of the first book. But as this is only the second book in the series and they are way more to the point, I am not annoyed yet and await the next volume with anticipation.

Of course, if Currie writes ten books in a row that show this kind of sameness without any real progression in the overall storyline, I might get a little miffed and feel the same kind of disenchantment as with epic fantasy these days. One should never start a series/book, if one doesn't know how to finish it. In my case, an endless succession of filler books doesn't keep my attention, but only pisses me off.

Kelley says

An Empire Asunder by Evan Currie is the second book in the Scourwind Legacy series and a fantastic follow up to Heirs of Empire. The traitorous General Corian is back once again, as are fledgling Empress Lydia and Brennan, now a cadreman-in-training. The Empire is in more perilous straits than ever before. With Mira Desol and the prototype Barr class ship missing in action, both the Empire and the Alliance are in an all out race to build similar ships to bring against one another. Though there seems to be an uneasy truce, all of that is shattered and the upcoming storm may be too much for the Empire to bear.

Will the Empire survive? Will Desol, Brennan, and Lydia be able to save the Empire before it is too late? If you enjoyed Heirs of Empire, you will adore An Empire Asunder. I had a hard time placing the book down and am already waiting impatiently for the next book in the series. What Currie does so well in this book is crafting amazing characters and immersive plot lines. I recommend this book highly with five stars and hope the next book comes out soon!

I received this book for free from the publisher through NetGalley in exchange for my honest review.
