



Terra and Imperium

Glynn Stewart

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Secrets both ancient and new.

Powers great and greater—

With Terra caught in the middle

Humanity's first colony is a project neither the Duchy of Terra nor the A!Tol Imperium can allow to fail. The planet Hope in the Alpha Centauri system has been lavished with resources and attention—but when an unknown alien force attacks the system, all of that is in danger.

An ancient alien artifact is the apparent target of the attack, an artifact older than known galactic civilization. Suddenly, the backwater colony of a second-rate power is the gathering point for a confrontation of the galaxy's greatest powers.

Duchess Annette Bond might be pregnant. She might be five light years away. She might have another galactic power on her doorstep demanding she surrender their rebels who've settled on Earth.

But she speaks for both Terra and the Imperium—and the galaxy will listen.

Terra and Imperium Details

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Author : Glynn Stewart

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From Reader Review Terra and Imperium for online ebook

Tony Hisgett says

I really enjoyed the previous book, right from the start it grabbed my attention and didn't let go. This book started in a similar fashion, but after the first few chapters I found my attention wandering and then, by half way through the book I was getting a little annoyed. It wasn't a bad book, but not what I hoped for.

The story started well and expanded quite quickly as more and more elements were added to the drama. However, this is what started to cause me problems, the plot just became so messy, it just seemed like the author was throwing things in willy-nilly. It's the sort of thing that you get with a failing TV series when the audience figures are beginning to fall, the scriptwriters just throw in everything they can think of in the vain hope something will keep the audience interested, whether it makes sense of not.

Eventually we get into a series of skirmishes, although these were interesting I didn't really enjoy the fight because the author just kept introducing new weapons and combatants, including long descriptions of their capabilities. At the end it just turned into a 'slugfest'.

I prefer my battles to be fought and won based on tactics, intelligence, intuition and the occasional touch of genius. Not who has the biggest weapons and especial not on mystery weapons that just appear from nowhere.

If possible I would have given 2.5 stars.

Frank Bertino says

Great Read

Action, political science and military science abound. I appreciate the examination of ins and outs of galactic politics and the maneuverings of the star ship navies. Duchess Bond is her usual surprising and forceful self but is in the background for most of the first part of the story. Secondary characters are further developed and take center stage for a while. A moral in the story is not to disrespect the envoy of the Empress. Will the Duchy of Terra rise in ascendancy in the Empire? I look forward to another book.

Jaaagger says

Pretty good

Good: Ships, combat, tech

Not great: Focused on one even that seemed kind of small given the last two books.

I like the advancement of technology the last two books had and I understand you can't always have big leaps forward but it seems like it was set up for that and then the book ended. Also there was a big question left un-answered. I think the next book might have more but this one seemed a bit lacking

Shane says

Four and a half stars. The Duchess Annette plays a strong but almost secondary role in this third book of the series. This actually works out well because it gives ample opportunity for other stars to shine. There are battles (actually just very large skirmishes) to keep the action fans satisfied. A great deal of the book actually takes time to develop the history and politics of this universe Stewart has created. He also makes time to more deeply develop several characters not the least of which is Ki!Tal.

Stewart already has plans for a fourth book. It will be interesting to see which direction he takes. This book completes an excellent trilogy (Book 1; Earth against the Imperium, Book 2; Earth enters as part of the Imperium and in Book 3; Earth becomes a vital member of the Imperium.) I won't turn my nose up at another book or three, but it will be hard to improve on this.

Jo (Mixed Book Bag) says

Life is still throwing Annett Bond curve balls. Seems that since she is pregnant with twins she could take it easy. Not so. The Core Worlds are after something on human's only colony and if something does not intervene that colony will be destroyed. A nice ending with a large cast of characters to this part of the series. But we have not seen the last of Annett and friends. A new trilogy is scheduled to start sometime this year (2018).

Leslie Baptiste says

Can't wait for the next book I read it from beginning to the end and one sitting

I enjoyed this book, I enjoyed all the supporting characters of the book. The only thing I did not like was not enough of the Duchess. Plenty of action suspense, I read it in one sitting. I cannot wait for the next one as far as I am concerned I had to wait too long for this one. I suggest anybody who likes this type of book read it.

Nancy says

In this third installment of the Duchy of Terra military science fiction series, Duchess Annette Bond faces her biggest battle yet. Not one enemy, but three all converge on the colony at Hope to steal an archeological find. Buried beneath the soil is an intact and still-powered spaceship from an ancient race. The thousands-year-old crew might be dead, but their technology is light-years ahead of everyone else. Can the Duchess and the Imperium she serves stave off the deadly approach of three superior races? Or will all she's worked for be wiped out in a blaze of terror? This action-packed story will keep you on the edge of your seat as you speed through the pages to see what will happen next. Even with the multiple viewpoints, you'll care about these characters and hope they find a peaceful resolution. Hopefully there will be more to come in this imaginative universe.

Dani says

Politically and technically, Stewart's Duchy-of-Terra galaxy has three layers. Earth is a new-comer to space. The 'Arm' polities have the resources of numerous systems, and have been in space for centuries. Earth was lucky (in retrospect) to be conquered by imperialists rather than slavers. The 'Core' polities have been in space for millennia. Luckily for the Arm, they have their own balance-of-power issues, and mostly leave the periphery to its own devices. In "Terra and Imperium" a McGuffin that everyone (including Core powers) wants is discovered on a human colony.

I've been enjoying the Duchy of Terra series. It mixes space opera with an awareness that sometimes life is complicated, the good guys can lose, and messy compromises happen.

It is hard to write military space opera that isn't dishonest. The genre pushes the author to stage space battles in which the heroes are massively outgunned - but win anyhow. In "Terra and Imperium", our plucky heroes are facing Core ships, and the balancing act becomes impossible. The Core ships have to do stupid things to keep the fighting from being one-sided.

Stephan says

A decent closure to the first trilogy. Overall one of the less bad military SF series I've read in the last few years.

John S Roth says

Fabulous!

Glynn Stewart is arguably one of the best science fiction writers of our time! This series, one of several actually, will capture the reader's attention and keep the reader enthralled right to the very end and get leave them hungry for more! I am DEFINITELY a fan!!

Andy Bundy says

On wow! Me Stewart never fails to delivera

It takes a lot to get me to review a book, and generally speaking even special offers or advanced copies won't do the job. However, I've just finished this 3rd instalment of what is currently a trilogy with little time taken for a break and despite the length and breadth of the universe that has been woven here, little has bored me.

Even with longer chunks of writing over the books, there is little time wasted on catching up readers as to who is whom, and I just love the effort that has gone into building then alien races.

Glynn Stewart has bought us a wide range range of fiction, from space opera, to supernatural police SWAT teams to who knows what else.

If you, like me, tend to shy away from the "earth invaded, one ship has to save the human race" type genre, this series should be given a try. It's well worth the effort!!!

Thanks, and being on more of this and ONSET. I can't wait.

Kirk Ingram says

Wonderful, wonderful, wonderful! This trilogy is a very easy read, yet still creates a rich and very realistic first encounter story with strong and interesting characters. Each book has a distinct storyline that compliments the others yet stands on its own without recycling. My only criticism is to the ebook conversion which has numerous words missing, nothing major but it does distract from the immersion.

Can't wait for the next trilogy in the same universe, Darkness Beyond, apparently coming sometime in 2018!

Larry says

While I just read #2 a short time ago, I immediately got lost in the (pretend) technology in this, the 3rd in The Duchy of Terra series. Unknown aliens attack an earth (Duchy) colony with higher tech than ever seen. There's a lot of discussion of space vessels classes and types and I'm not sure it added to the story. It was hard getting into it. I had to read the book very slowly. Actually, I had pushed this book up my "to read" list so that I would remember the alien races, their strengths and weaknesses, etc. In retrospect, I wish I had paid more attention to the space vessels. The author, Stewart, departed from what were his previously alien-centric stories to that of tactics and strategy. I had been looking forward to reading more concerning the transition of the earth to a Duchy and the addition of new alien forms to the earth.

The plot has four or five powers skirmishing and on the brink of war to control the remnants of an ancient – 50,000 year old – starship which pre-dated all known Terra and the Imperium's civilizations. (Remember the "2001: A Space Odyssey" discovery of the monolith?) Acquiring it would lead to unrivaled technology and power. There's the negotiations, politics and inevitable fleet engagement but all-in-all, I felt as if I was reading an update of a C. S. Forester's "Hornblower" naval battle. (Stewart isn't even close to the battles in David Drake's "Hammer's Slammers"). Too bad. I think Stewart should have continued to emphasize his interesting aliens and cultures and minimized the technological armaments.

The book was better than just OK, but it wasn't my favorite in the series by any means. I'll have to really consider if I will read the next book in the series.

Michelle Shaw says

An Excellent Conclusion

The danger of trilogies, or other multi book series is to end up writing sloppy endings which leave too many loose ends. That is not this book. It wraps up a modestly complex story neatly - if you don't wish to read the next books, you can do so without feeling like you're missing anything critical.

But ... it does set the stage for the future stories quite nicely.

Per Gunnar says

I pretty much read the three books in this trilogy back to back and I enjoyed them all very much. Having said that, to me, this third book was the weakest of the three.

The Terrans are consolidating their place as a member of the A!Tol imperium. They have their first colony, they are expanding their navy and as a hole they are starting to benefit from their greatly expanded technology base. All is well...until a mysterious new enemy decides to pay their colony a little unfriendly visit.

That is when the Terrans discover an ancient and extremely advanced artifact on their colony and all hell breaks loose. Said artifact are suddenly wanted by several of the "core powers". Powers more advanced than the A!Tol. To complicate matters one of these "core powers" already have their sights set on Earth since Bond gave refuge to a group of their rebels, or rather to the descendants of these rebels. Naturally these core powers are not taking no for an answer.

The story develops into a mixture of artefact research, galactic politics and fairly spectacular space battles. On the whole a very enjoyable read.

However there are a few things that made me appreciate this book slightly less than the other. The main reason is perhaps that Bond is no longer the central hero. She is pregnant and has a Duchy to run so she is perhaps not a background figure but certainly not the center figure any more.

The author is also repeating himself a bit too much. We understood that James was a descendant of the Duke of Wellington who fought Napoleon, British nobility bla bla, the first time it was written for instance. Also, I do not mind if a few characters in the book are homosexual but not that it becomes the norm nor that it is pointed out all the time.

Anyway, it was still a enjoyable book and a good ending of the trilogy. Well, at least I think it was meant as a trilogy but maybe more books are in the making.
