



Mutineers' Moon

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For Lt. Commander Colin MacIntyre, it began as a routine training flight over the Moon. For Dahak, a self-aware Imperial battleship, it began millennia ago when that powerful artificial intelligence underwent a mutiny in the face of the enemy. The mutiny was never resolved--Dahak was forced to maroon not just the mutineers but the entire crew on prehistoric Earth.

Dahak has been helplessly waiting as the descendants of the loyal crew regressed while the mutineers maintained control of technology that kept them alive as the millennia passed. But now Dahak's sensors indicate that the enemy that devastated the Imperium so long ago has returned--and Earth is in their path. For the sake of the planet, Dahak must mobilize its defenses. And that it cannot do until the mutineers are put down. So Dahak has picked Colin MacIntyre to be its new captain. Now MacIntyre must mobilize humanity to destroy the mutineers once and for all--or Earth will become a cinder in the path of galactic conquest.

Mutineers' Moon Details

Date : Published October 1991 by Baen Publishing Enterprises (first published 1991)

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Author : David Weber

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From Reader Review Mutineers' Moon for online ebook

Scott Holstad says

A very early Weber book showcasing solid military sci fi & a talent that would develop into a gigantic strength as an author in the near future. Recommended.

Michael Cummings says

I started reading this during the recent onset of rainy weather here in Virginia, starting with the hurricane last month. There's is something in my brain, a trigger, that associates cool, rainy weather with the trifecta of Saturday evenings, comic books, and pulpy science fiction/fantasy. It doesn't get much pulpier than Weber's Mutineer's Moon, book 1 of the Dahak trilogy. (I'm actually reading the omnibus edition, but thought it would be more fair to list the books individually as I finished them.)

Its a little startling to realize that this book is just shy of twenty years old - the politics and climate of international affairs in the book, while a bit simplistic in some ways, still manage to resonate as being right on cue for modern day to near future Earth. You know, except for the fact that the moon is really a giant, orbiting alien space craft set to look like a moon when the proto-human population on the ship faced a mutiny. Except for that, of course.

I called it pulpy, and I'll stand by that - don't pick this book (or series) up if you are looking for deep discussions on human nature, highly correct science and scientific conjecture, or really deep, introspective science fiction. This is big explosions and quick action scenes that don't necessarily always make sense in retrospect, but that work nicely in the context of the fast paced story that Weber has written.

If you've read the kind of books I review high, especially in the science fiction category, and agree with me, then this is probably a good fit. Its eye candy for the brain, in all the brain rotting sweetness our mother's used to warn us about. And keep an eye on the moon, because there might be something up there keeping an eye on us, too.

Stephen says

4.5 to 5.0 stars. Superb military SF with excellent world-building and above average character development. Dahak is a truly memorable character. Highly Recommended!!!

Nathan says

This is an absolute favorite of mine. The concept is incredible and while some parts of the plot are a little predictable, there are just moments where everything works perfectly. Highly recommended

JC says

The concept that an ancient race of humans came to earth in a huge moon-sized space ship, had a mutiny, and the Terran race was descended from them is a very interesting what if. David Weber is very detailed, yet, I found myself caught up in the story. And this was the second time reading it!

Jakub says

Oh dear. Veeery cringeworthy material.

Okay, if you like naive science fiction, that is in fact an action novel, peppered with words like 'grav gun' and 'orbital missiles', go for it. Otherwise, save your time. I give it that I have finished the book, and I was remotely interested how things will work out in the end. But the whole story is fully of naive moments, unbelievable plot turns and very cliché scenes. Earthman teaching aliens poker? You bet. Marine names for different types of spaceships? Yup. US Army ads? You bet. Characters flat as tinfoil sheet? But of course. The last straw was the annoying trope of "alien that speaks old English". Annoying.

In other words: good for a laugh, but don't treat this seriously. Can be harmful, if overdosed.

Donald says

David Weber has some terrific ideas. This book is no exception. The premise is very entertaining, but the story had many ebbs and flows.

The first half moves quickly. Then it starts to drag with new characters, new settings, and too much information too quickly. However, the end speeds up and I finished the book.

Enjoy.

Don

Mick says

Not Weber's best, I think but still a good read. I think it is a great setup for a good series, but the first one didn't hook me all that much. Good hard sci-fi story but not what I have come to expect of Weber. I will continue with the next book in the future when I can find it, but I'm not seeking it out.

Travis Starnes says

This book has many things to like about it. Weber definitely steps outside of his comfort zone for sections of this title, and while not all of it works, I was glad to see him stretch his limits a bit.

The first thing that catches my attention is the use of genetically altered humans fighting among normal people. In a way, it is incredibly reminiscent of Sterling's 'Draka' series, especially the final book in that series. Weber manages to write these characters in a way that they seem superhuman but not out of the bounds of reality.

The characters are all very well written. This is one of the few titles that Weber steps back from his white hat / black hat problem and gives everyone, good guys and bad guys, shades of gray. There is some decent, if not ground breaking, character progression with most of the major characters, which is also nice to see. The only character that feels flat for me was Dahak. His transfer from machine to self-aware never really felt believable for me, as he was acting self-aware from the beginning. The only change was Weber telling us he became self-aware.

The story is very interesting and well-constructed. It is paced well with no overly-slow parts and the action not all shoved together. I like the high tech mixed with today's world concept, so most books of this ilk get a plus from me.

<http://homeofreading.com/mutineers-moon/>

J says

This is my second Weber read (the first being "On Basilisk Station.") I liked it. The characters were good and the action was good, but... Weber uses a lot of characters in this book, with a lot of POV shifts. I had a hard time keeping track of who was who (and on which side of the book's central conflict) sometimes. Partly this was down to the epub's formatting (POV shifts that would be marked with a wider break between paragraphs in print form look like any other paragraph break when it comes to epub if you don't plan for it.) Partly it was that I was only reading a few pages a night before bed. It got a little hard to track from time to time.

Overall, though, the setup is great. The characters are good - Colin is a classic military sci-fi hero, and I wish his AI partner Dahak had had more "screen time" in this book. I was not a big fan of Jiltanith's stilted speech patterns, but the character itself was good. The main villain, Anu, was okay, but I felt like he was never really more than a sketch.

Anyway, I'm not going to jump right into the next book, but I definitely will get to them. Next up I'm trying some other Baen authors (Eric Flint, for a start.)

Debrac2014 says

Good premise! The Moon is a spaceship and aliens live among us!

Yves says

Picked this up at a Thrift store with the other volumes as well and it delivered a good, solid space ? opera story, covering human history and that "ancient enemy" concept that would serve so well in future omnibus stories.

Catburglar says

Genre: science fiction, space opera.

Chapter 1 is essentially a prologue.

The writing style is good but not great.

The story is enjoyable but: some sentences are unnecessarily complicated; some sentences are ambiguous; some sentences and paragraphs make little logical sense; unnecessary capitalization, ellipses, and quotation marks; awkward sentence structure; fancy tag lines.

Jean Corbel says

The idea behind the whole plot is great, the story is well paced.

The 4stars are pretty generous, as characters are very caricatural.

But it was a nice read, not unforgettable and certainly absolutely first degree... Rest of the brain is not so bad, isit?

Jesse says

This is a pleasant romp in the style of older Weber books. A good and even mix of grand space opera, characters, intrigue and battles (both ground and space) lend to a delightful story that reaches back in the history of Earth and postulates an interesting fictional future. There is occasional handwavium, but for the most part it's kept under control and doesn't damage the story. Recommended.

Empress says

A solid action packed military fiction but this part is NOT a space-opera. Yes, the first two chapters happen around earth, but the moon is the furthest point of flight. The rest of the book is happening on Earth. I don't know why I found the last chapters 20 to 23 very emotional. Might be the weather since sentences like "Osir had come full circle at last" made me tear up.

Dan says

A very good series, unique concepts, believable plot, likable characters.

Selena Lang says

I read this years ago and really liked it. when I came across it again recently I decided to give it another read.

This is still a great book. Recommend it to anyone who like sci-fi or David Weber.

Dirk Grobbelaar says

This reminded me, in no small part, of some of the old SF novels I'd read, such as *This Island Earth* and *Slan*. I'm not sure whether this is coincidental, or by the author's design. Anyway, if you're looking to read a military SF novel similar to Weber's work in the *Starfire* universe or the *Honor Harrington* series, this might not be your thing. There is lots of action to be found here, but it is of a very, *very* different vintage. Does this mean this book was a disappointment? No, indeed not, although my favourite sequence takes part in the first half of the book (It concerns Colin's first contact and subsequent visit with *Dahak*) which means the book peaked early for me and then coasted to its conclusion.

Some of the concepts introduced here are really cool, such as *Dahak* himself (itself?) and the imperial weaponry and gadgets. I can't help but feel that this represents a bit of self indulgence on the author's part. Like another reviewer mentions, this could indeed be seen as a superhero tale, with the protagonist's transformation from Joe Everyman to semi-immortal Imperial super soldier. The dream of every geeky inclined boy, no? *Mutineer's Moon* puts a novel spin on the 'aliens among us' theme and I quite enjoyed it. I don't want to elaborate too much on *Dahak* - it's not really spoiler territory but it will take away from the gosh-wow experience if the reader is overly knowledgeable beforehand. On the other hand, that also means you shouldn't be reading synopses regarding this book (or the back cover) either.

So, what's it all about? Our guy goes from, well, not quite zero (he's an astronaut after all) to hero in rather interesting fashion and is then tasked with saving not only Earth, but also the Imperium, from destruction. But first, he has to sort out a mutiny that's been going on for 50,000 odd years. Interest piqued yet? Now, this novel mostly deals with the 'sorting out the mutiny' bit, leaving the rest for another book. It's a military SF novel, but the action is all Earth bound. Insurgence and infiltration, urban warfare, spectacular aerial dogfights - this is the kind of thing you'll find here. The catch? These guys do **not** play around when it comes to armaments and implants and the destruction they wreak is rather remarkable.

As the war between the different Imperials and their respective 'Terra born' factions escalates, there is enough collateral damage, in-fighting and intrigue to keep the pages turning at a fairly rapid pace. What I probably like most about this novel, is the promise of things to come, because let's face it, this is only the beginning...

Mutineer's Moon is the first in a trilogy and things can only get bigger and better from here. There is also an omnibus edition titled *Empire From the Ashes*.

Kathryn says

I am not usually a military SF reader, but I quite liked this book. Excellent alien origins mythology and great action that kept me turning pages. The love story was totally predictable... irritatingly so, but luckily it was a subplot and didn't take up too much "screen time". *Dahak*, the ship, is the best character. I would have preferred more of the book to be written from his (its?) perspective.
