



Decision at Thunder Rift

William H. Keith Jr.

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Battletech is the exciting and innovative role-playing game of a future world that combines non-stop action with state-of-the-art technology. To claim the title of MechWarrior, all Grayson Death Carlyle has to do is capture a giant killing machine--a BattleMech--by himself. That is, if it doesn't kill him first.

Decision at Thunder Rift Details

Date : Published September 1st 1992 by Roc (first published 1986)

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Author : William H. Keith Jr.

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From Reader Review Decision at Thunder Rift for online ebook

Ned Leffingwell says

Decision at Thunder Rift takes place in the Battletech game universe, where soldiers fight wars in giant robots called Mechs. I heard about this book on a podcast in which the hosts are Battletech players. Battletech has a huge backstory and I appreciated this book in that it focused on a small corner of that universe. All of the action takes place on a backwater planet. The battles are small and personal. The politics of the Battletech universe made sense and did not overwhelm me. I would recommend this as someone's first Battletech novel.

David Bishop says

I have a hard time hating on this book, even if it's not very good. It doesn't claim to be great literature, and it could have been a lot worse in terms of sexism and colonialism. Big mechs get blown up real good. If that's what you're looking for, this will fill that role.

Cody says

I was enjoying the new PC game and was happy to see some of the old books available in epub for cheap. I might have read this one back in the day, but it felt fresh and fun and not dated at all. Recommended for any fans of Battletech!

Kynan says

Finished: 2017-10-07

Wow! This is (by internal chronology) book two of the BattleTech series, after *The Sword and the Dagger*. Most lists recommend skipping *The Sword and the Dagger*, for a variety of reasons, but mostly "because it's terrible". I recommend that you *do* read *Sword and the Dagger* first, because when you subsequently get to *Decision at Thunder Rift* you will be **TOTALLY BLOWN AWAY!**

First off, if you (like me) came to BattleTech looking for giant fighting robots then you're going to be a happy camper! We've got giant robots fighting giant robots, giant robots fighting hovercraft, giant robots fighting people, if there's something to be fought, you're going to find a giant robot fighting it! So that's nice.

With regard to the story, it's actually pretty good! We follow along in the path of Grayson Death Carlyle, protege (and progeny) of Durant Carlyle, the leader of the Carlyle's Commandos 'mech Lance. It's hard to say much about it without spoiling bits of the story so let's just say there's a plot, it gets kinda twisty and, although you generally know who is and isn't going to die, it's still a fun ride.

There's equal time given to both genders when it comes to rescuing from and crying in jail, which I found rather surprising, although I guess this was written in the late 80s and not the 50s/60s - the period from which I'm used to reading "old" sci-fi.

I don't have any complaints about this book! It's a bit action movie but sometimes that's what you're after! Strap in, suspend disbelief, have fun!

Drinkinwookie says

One star but add 4 stars to that review if you are 12 year old me. To be fair this book had some things to recommend it. The villains nefarious plot is well thought out, the climax is tactically interesting and juggles three inter-related battles deftly switching at just the right moment and an honest attempt is made at describing the alien planet's topography and climate in a science fiction-y way. What dooms the book is that the characters are drawn so shallowly that to call them 1 dimensional might do them too much credit. *sigh* But I suppose characters aren't really the point in a book about stompy robot death wars. This was the author's first book and he managed to parley it into a long career as a writer so there's that.

Greg says

Good fluff, average sci fi

A good book if you are a fan of the Battletech universe. Some poorly scanned pages makes reading confusing sometimes.

Duncanator says

this is probably about as good as you can expect for a battletech book. It's fun, but if you want something like this that's actually good, read planet of adventure by Jack Vance.

Xan says

Entrenida de principio a fin. Ahora toca buscar las otras dos novelas para completar la historia.

Dan says

I didn't go in to this expecting a masterpiece that changed the game, and made me think. I was looking for a fun licensed sci-fi book. And that's exactly what I got. If you like that kind of stuff you could do a lot worse. I'm a fan of Battletech and this scratched the itch I had so it gets three stars.

David says

A decently written tie-in novel that scratches one's itch for meaty combat between giant robots.

Steven D Keen says

Good book, gun read

First BattleTech book I ever read, and I enjoyed the story and character development. I actually would like to hear more about the protagonists and if they appear in later books.

Eldritch Automaton says

A fantastic Battletech and Military Science Fiction novel. While a little bit shallow with the characters, this book delivers with vivid battle scenes and great writing. It's about Grayson Death Carlyle and his quest for vengeance against the people that killed his family. He is left stranded on a strange planet as he pulls together a force of Mechwarriors to protect his new home from invaders, all the while struggling with an inner conflict of him choosing between his new family, and revenge. This is an excellent entry into the Battletech universe if you are looking to get into this franchise.

Morgan says

This review is specific to the digital Kindle version. I had many of the original BT books in print from my high school days back before my arthritis got as bad as it is now and I switched to ebooks only. The original print versions have been out of circulation for a long time, so when I started playing the newest computer game I did some digging and found that they added digital support for most of the older books under a Legends imprint. The novel itself stood up well to my recollection, but the proofreading/formatting took a big hit in this version. A huge number of missing periods, some typos like "m" instead of "in"... seems likely they created the digital versions using OCR or the like, without properly correcting for the errors arising from that conversion.

Jonathan says

Great story, plenty of action.

Alien says

Abgebrochen auf S. 150 von 400. Eigentlich viel besser als durch das alberne Cover und die mangahaften Zeichnungen zu erwarten war. Die politische Handlung ist erstaunlich gut und lebensnah. Die doch eher lachhafte Geschichte mit den Battle-Mechs störte mich aber. Außerdem ist das ganze doch recht actionlastig,

was mich langweilt. Military SF ist einfach nicht mein Lieblings-Sub-Genre
