



The Timegod

L.E. Modesitt Jr.

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L.E. Modesitt's "Timegod" was first published in mass market format, expanded from his first novel, "The Fires of Paratime." Although somewhat reminiscent of the "Change War" stories of Fritz Lieber, and though science fiction, "Timegod" contains intriguing connections to the fantasy universe of Modesitt's Recluce novels.

The Timegod Details

Date : Published September 15th 1993 by Tor Books (first published 1982)

ISBN : 9780812524369

Author : L.E. Modesitt Jr.

Format : Mass Market Paperback 378 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fantasy, Fiction, Time Travel

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From Reader Review The Timegod for online ebook

Lee says

I Loved this book. It's one of the books that turned me on to Modesitt oh so many years ago.

Jim says

The first book of his I ever read was "The Fires of Paratime" published by Timescape. This is basically a reprint by Tor & I was upset when it came out because it was supposed to be changed enough to warrant a new title. It wasn't. Excellent book, though.

Kati says

I just could not get into this. 3/4 of the story is told like the narrator is reminiscing on a past with as little description as possible. The last quarter of the book gets a little better, but there are these leaps to conclusions that just don't make sense. Very annoying to read, but it gets 2 stars for the unique approach on time travel.

Michael Hall says

This was a thought provoking story of a time traveling culture with loose, very loose, references to Norse mythology. Modesitt really makes you think, especially of ethics and the exercise of power. The hero is somewhat arrogant, unthinking, and petulant. He often seems to react with childlike rage to the petty intrigue that surrounds him and demonstrates why you shouldn't provoke a power that is stronger than you are. You are left with the moral question of if the terrible revenge that he exacted was fitting and necessary. When force defines you and is used to solve a problem, in the case using time travel to rewrite the history of other star systems, even greater force must be used the next time. This is a theme that Modesitt repeats and solidifies in his later Recluse novels, but it sure is great to see the beginnings of his moral philosophy in such an interesting setting.

Gail Morris says

What a great story of Loki and the gods of Asgard but with a sci-fi twist.

Tom says

The Fires of Paratime is a beautifully written short novel that explores the idea of a society ruled by time travelers who steal everything they need from other cultures and brutally stamp out any other race that show similar abilities.

Loki is a throwback to an earlier age when time divers were more powerful and he slowly learns of the terrible stagnation and corruption within the ranks of his fellow officers. As he becomes enlightened he must fend off internal and external enemies in an attempt to bring freedom to the people of his world.

When I read this as a boy I didn't see the underlying political themes but as an adult I find this to be one book I can read repeatedly. What happens when a society can get everything it needs from a machine, when individual effort is no longer necessary, when the only goal is a desperate and genocidal attempt to cling to power?

The Fires of Paratime, as a Libertarian novelist myself, I cannot recommend it enough.

Beth says

This was the first science fiction book I ever read and I absolutely loved it.

Most books that I can't get enough of, I ultimately get the audio version, and the e-book edition as well... can't do that with this one as the original, book club edition, aren't available in any format other than hard to find print.

Jim says

Time travel stories have been done to death in SF, but this one shines. It has a unique blend of fantasy to it - not because of any supernatural elements, but because it is the progenitor of much of our mythology. Loki, Hera, Odin-Thor, & many others are regular people, except they can slip through time & change history. Their culture is based on this ability.

This book follows Loki from early on into his time in the Time Guard. It's written in Modesitt's usual, understated style. A lot goes on between the lines, but it's still a quick read & a fun one. Poses a lot of interesting questions about polite barbarians, too. Something to think about since we are or at least are rapidly approaching that point. We have no idea how most of the devices we use & rely on daily actually work, couldn't fix them if they broke, or create a new one.

This was the first book I read by Modesitt & didn't find another for years. It was originally published by TimeScape, the edition I read this time, & later re-issued by Tor as The Timegod. He then wrote Timediver's Dawn which fills in a story told in this book.

I really like his style of writing & the way he watches his economics - not necessarily money, but the ability of the society to support standards of living. Apparently he did economics for a living & this theme shows through in all his books, both SF & fantasy. It was great, a perfect comfort re-read when work is so busy &

confusing.

G33z3r says

Interesting view of the universe where a small group of individuals from a single planet possess the ability to travel through time and space as a sort of innate power. They use this to manipulate the timelines of other civilizations, eliminating what they see as threats, to themselves or to the universe, before they have a chance to develop. (As with all time travel stories, the rules are kind of arcane, and cause headaches if contemplated to closely.)

Loki is a newcomer to the Temporal Guard, but he is developing his time and space traveling abilities edit unprecedeted pace. And when he starts to question some of the decisions the Guard makes when meddling, things get interesting.

A tantalizing blend of science fiction, magic and myth, reminiscent of some of Zelazny's works.

Angie says

Despite taking forever to finish this book due to being so busy, I did find some of the time travel concepts difficult to wrap my head around without further thought. I really enjoyed this book and it had a very different concept of time travel. I found some things hard to visualize, though after some discussion with my father, who recommended the book, I found my personal visualizations of things in the book to not be too far off from his. In short, it was a good but difficult read.

Lisa says

I really enjoyed the book and more than I expected. I was intregeed by the concept of undertime. I've already started the next one in the series. As one of the earliest books he wrote i can see quite a few patterns that he later sticks to. I actually enjoyed these earlier books more because they seemed a bit rougher and unfinished. It let my imagination take over.

Dann Todd says

I read The Fires of Paratime via the SF Book Club back in the 1980s. It is one of those books that I keep in my collection precisely because it is such an enjoyable read.

Now that I know that it was expanded and used on the Timegod series, I will certainly read that as well.

Dionne says

This was an interesting. Yeah right interesting, I'd say it was awesome! story. I loved the setting and the main character was perfect for this type of story. I truly enjoyed reading it and it will be in my kindle so that there will be a time when I read it again. Kudos to the writer!

Russell says

I like the story line based on the Norse gods

Glenn Martyn Otto says

Olthrough an early book, great

I Have read , with two exceptions, every Modesitt book, twice, even thrice. I cannot exaggerate the feeling that every time you read a Modesitt book you find deeper, more relevant meanings. I delayed reading his latest Recluse novel to read this pair of books.
