



Shiva Descending

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The first strikes destroyed Cleveland, Tunis, and parts of Alaska, Canada, and Australia. That was barely the beginning.

The swarm—a cloud of meteors and asteroids 50,000 miles across—was coming. Hundred of missiles put Earth under siege, forcing the world in a panicked hell of anarchy and catastrophe. Riots and orgies rampaged in the rubble. And worse waited.

Because at the swarm's heart was Shiva—a 30 billion-ton comet set to hit earth with the force of 250,000 H-bombs. The impact would turn seas into vapor and mountains into dust. Pray, scream, get drunk, or run amok—but no one could escape it. No one could survive it.

And no one could stop it.

Shiva Descending Details

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Author : Gregory Benford , William Rotsler

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From Reader Review Shiva Descending for online ebook

reherrma says

4.8 |Bespprechung folgt !

Sheila says

A novel about a giant asteroid on path to hit and destroy the earth, and the astronauts who are sent up to try to stop it. I wonder if this is where they got the idea for the movie Armageddon, though this story is a bit different than that movie.

Tabatha says

I thought this book was a bit slow to start and it actually took me a lot longer to read than most other books. What I like about apocalyptic novels is how people deal with the situation. I thought this one was probably pretty realistic with it's bleak view of a planet gone crazy. I would have liked to hear more about it. Anyway, slow or not, it flew once Alpha and Omega were on their mission.

Zora says

Long before the movies *Armageddon* and *Deep Impact*, and in the same year as the paradigm-shifting Alvarez paper in *Nature*, there was this book about a giant asteroid headed toward earth.

A boring treatment of the topic, with far too many talking-heads scenes. Most of what we know about protests, mass hysteria, wild orgies in the streets, as people in the novel understand the world will end, is only described in boring meetings, wherein bureaucrats tell each other it's happening out there. Tunguska-sized rocks hit the planet dozens of times, but we only get about a page of that action. Indeed, most of the conflict in the novel isn't about fighting the asteroid; it's about political jockeying for position, petty infighting in NASA and the White House and, briefly, in the Kremlin. Only the last 90 pages are what I expected the whole book to be about. Set, for its day, in the near future it missed predicting several advances, including the fall of the USSR, the internet, computing power advances, and what would happen with the space program. As pebbles hit the spacecraft, "*Ping! Boing!*" is repeated a dozen times, and I thought, boy, I'm glad those days are over in novel-writing, because that gets very old very fast.

Paul Doyle says

3.5 stars.

While I'm not normally a fan of apocalypse fiction, this one was pretty good. Mr. Benford got a little too deep in the details, and had a few too many characters (about 20-30 pages could have been cut) so the story

bogged down in places and I had to rethink who some of the characters were.
Had it been a little tighter, I would have gone 4 stars.

Rita says

Not that great, but it's apocalyptic.....

Bookbrow says

Half decent ending, a lot of filler and very much a dated feel about it.
