



The Dark Foundations

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"The Dark Foundations" continues the epic story begun in "The Shadow and Night." Far beyond the tranquility of the Assembly worlds, Nezhuala, Lord-Emperor of the Dominion, is preparing a merciless and crushing attack on Farholme as a prelude to an onslaught on the Assembly. Back on Farholme, Commander Merral D'Avanos recovers from his wounds after the battle at Fallambet where the intruders were destroyed. Yet even as Merral dreams of a return to peace, he receives a warning of imminent war on a massive scale he cannot ignore. Amid the urgent preparations for battle, Merral and his friends realize the inadequacy of their defenses. Then, with weeks to spare before the predicted eve of war, Merral receives an offer of assistance from the strangest of sources. But can it be trusted? As the wave of war finally crashes over Farholme, Merral must find the answer to other questions in the heat of battle: Can Farholme survive the growing internal strains? Who will pay the price for victory? Will his own weaknesses undo both him and his world?

The Dark Foundations Details

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From Reader Review The Dark Foundations for online ebook

Laura says

Very much a series on spiritual warfare!

Matt Bianco says

I know this as book two in the Lamb Among the Stars trilogy, since books one and two were eventually combined into book one.

In this book, Merrall finds that his planet, Farholme, has been contacted by humans from below space, from the Dominion. They are seeking to establish an alliance with Farholme, and Merrall is part of the team that negotiates with them while trying to determine if their offer is trustworthy or demands war.

In this book, character development really takes off. The characters, who remain essentially good or evil in book one, start combatting evil in their own lives that really adds depth and complexity to them. You begin to see what types of temptations are more threatening to some characters while less so to others, and vice versa. You also start finding yourself loving and hating characters, or feeling ambivalent to some. All of the same positives from book one continue into book two.

Chris Walley, who apparently is a Christian geologist living in Wales and attending a Baptist Church there, is a really good writer. His insight into humans is remarkable for someone who plays with rocks all day. Quite impressive.

Melinda says

Enjoyed this book just as much as the first one. I do have a few little things that annoyed me. 1 - Vero's anecdotes. Like all the phrases from the past...that he got wrong. I mean can't the man speak without sticking in one of those sayings? 2- Vero's stuttering. No offense to anyone with a stutter. But he didn't have it to begin with. Why couldn't the author just let it go? There was no real point to him having a stutter. 3 - How Merral never confronts anyone with his suspicions. He always keeps things to himself. It will just be written in italics. And lastly 4- Merral is a little slow lol. Ok..but I did really like it! Honestly! I was like *gasp* on last pg. Can't wait to read last book.

Carissa Norris says

I liked The Dark Foundations better than The Power of Night. I have found with this series that in each book I am pretty bored at the beginning, but then they really pick up about half way through and then I can't put them down. I am enjoying following the character's stories.

I struggle with the theology of the books at times because making perfect people seems forced and

unrealistic, thus, I still find it hard to identify with the characters. It also seems that the author places heavy blame for sin on external forces. These people would be great if evil hadn't come back, but sin isn't external, it is internal. The author at times doesn't seem to agree with himself, arguing for an external influence and internal guilt. Maybe it would be better if he made clear external TEMPTATION and internal sin.

Merral is my favorite character and the main character. He's entirely likable and I always root for him. But I also find him very naive and obtuse. There are things he should figure out quickly and he doesn't. It annoys me how many times the reader can see something coming a mile away before the characters and then it is thrown out like, "Oh, you didn't know this was going to happen," but I did. Still, I am enjoying the books and will read the last one. I haven't regretted reading them.

Sara Diane says

The third in the series, this one continues the story of Farholme, the world cut off from the Assembly and now under attack from the Dominion. I had a bit more trouble getting through this one. More and more, Walley shows that he lacks a basic understanding of human nature--his story hinges on this universe that has been "kept" from evil, but he seems to forget that evil is inside each and every human being. The only way the Assembly would work is by prohibiting free will, and since God GAVE us free will, it just doesn't fly. Because of this "protection" from evil, Walley's Assembly characters are overly naive and lacking a depth that a character who has encountered both good and evil has.

I got very annoyed at the main character, Merrel, because he seemed to get more and more dense--he doesn't learn his lessons, he doesn't grow. At least in this one some of the other characters stepped up to play a more rounded game. However, a lot of the characters in this one also lack depth--the annoying ones are just annoying, the evil ones are just evil. It's hard to relate to such flat characters.

Yes, I'll read the last book, but more because I still want to see who ends up with who, and if Vero ever gets back home.

C.J. Darlington says

Even better than the first book, this one reminds of a science fiction version of Lord of the Rings. At times the pace was slow, but this adds a layer of depth missing in many shorter works. I love how the spiritual aspects are so relevant to us in this day, even though the novel takes place thousands of years into the future. Can't wait for book three, which I promptly ordered after turning the last page of The Dark Foundations.

Valerie Jackson says

This is one of the best what-if Christian fiction series ever. I can't stop reading it.

Watching a society deteriorate from a sinless state to one that slowly develops signs of selfishness and self-absorption is fascinating. Behavior which we consider normal is shown for what it really is. Yet this problem isn't even the primary plot, it's just a symptom of what the protagonists are battling both in their society and within themselves.

Chris Walley's science background helps flesh out the worlds he has created. One more book to go.

John says

Walley really took the series to a new level with the second volume. The story advances by leaps and bounds and it is apparent that he's a more mature writer.

The adventure doesn't let up and the suspense builds and leaves you eager for the finale.

If you enjoyed the first volume, you'll surely love this one. Highly recommended!

Josiah says

Plot: A

Writing: D

Vocabulary: B

Rating: PG13 (demonic attacks, monsters, battles, betrayal, disintegrating relationships)

Level: Intermediate

Message:

Ann Thomas says

This is part 3 of the Lamb Among the Stars series, an amazingly-conceived world where there was no crime, until an insidious evil crept in. Here we meet the bad guys, who are a bit over the top, and there is a huge, seemingly impossible battle for the planet of Farholm. The spiritual struggle is very well portrayed. They are now racing to Earth for the final battle - and I have to wait for another book!

Megan Lane says

Being a bit generous with the rating because that ending was on point. Wow.

This book has taken me an absurdly long time to read.

Mark A Powell says

The saga continues with our first glimpse of Earth and a peek into the Dominion. This trilogy remains a compelling look at evil and its often subtle effects on humanity. It also remains a first-rate science fiction work, avoiding the tediousness that at times plagued the first book. As the middle of a trilogy, it lacks closure, but is highly entertaining (and riveting). It's told so well that I am disappointed there's only one book left.

Roger A Larson says**Great Story and even better Theology**

Emphasis on how important it is to follow God's leading and being obedient in every thing. God is truly in control and is faithful even we are not.

William Inniss says

Outstanding new genre of Christian SciFi

Chris Griffith says

Sin continues to encroach upon the inhabitants of planet Farholme. Courage and honor are tested. Battles, battles, and more battles with robot attack dogs called "Krallen", a demonic "balrog" type figure called a "Bazilarch" and a variety of other evil characters - 13,000 years in the future with a cliff hanger at the end. I plan to eventually read the third and final installment called The Infinite Day but not just yet.
