



The New Springtime

Robert Silverberg

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[Second of 2 "New Springtime" novels.] The death-stars had come, and they had kept on coming for hundreds of thousands of years, falling upon the Earth, swept upon it by a vagrant star that had passed through the outer reaches of the solar system. They brought with them a time of unending darkness and cold. It was a thing that happened every twenty-six million years, and there was no turning it aside. But all that was done with now. At last the death-stars had ceased to fall, the sky had cleared of dust and cinders, the sun's warmth again was able to break through the clouds. The glaciers relinquished their hold on the land; the Long Winter ended; the New Springtime began. The world was born anew. Now each year was warmer than the last. The fair seasons of spring and summer, long lost from the world, came again with increasing power. And the People, having survived the dark time in their sealed cocoons, were spreading rapidly across the fertile land. But others were already there. The hijks, the somber cold-eyed insect-folk, had never retreated, even at the time of greatest chill. The world had fallen to them by default, and they had been its sole masters for seven hundred thousand years. They were not likely to share it gladly now. Locus Poll Award Nominee

The New Springtime Details

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Nova says

Not as good as the first book, but still quite a good read. It was very entertaining and I enjoyed getting to see the progression of the species as they forged ahead in the New Springtime. I am a little disappointed to find out though that this intended trilogy was never completed. Silverberg never wrote the third book. This leaves the series feeling somehow incomplete as if there was meant to be more, and in fact, I know there was. My husband and I, who read this book together, are actually looking for ways to contact the author to see if he ever intends on completing the trilogy, although, given his age and how long it's been since he wrote the first two, it's unlikely the final book will ever see the light of day. :(

Ardi says

At first, I thought I would hate this book thanks to the insect-people (was not a fan of Kafka's The Metamorphosis), but I ended up getting really into it. I think one of the reasons I like sci-fi/fantasy so much is that it's a genre that can deal with big issues like racism, discrimination, religion, philosophy, ethics, war, etc. without pointing any fingers at any real life person or issue. There is no cut and dry good vs. evil in this book. We have to delve into the journeys that each main character takes and decide for ourselves how we are going to react to things. This is a book that really makes you think.

Joel says

Good second book. The first was better, but this one answered lots of questions. I thought it was odd though that Bolderinthe's death was not described. It seemed like it had been in there, then got edited out. Something else odd is that on page 340 of the hardcover edition, there is a typo.

Alayne says

I always enjoy Robert Silverberg's novels and this one was no exception. A radically different take on Earth about 1,000,000 years hence after a series of catastrophes. Humanity no longer exists, neither do most of the other sentient races who shared the planet with them. There is a new race, The People, and an old race of insect creatures and this is the second book in a pair. I hadn't read the first one, At Winter's End, but found I didn't need to as Silverberg skillfully wove the relevant features into the story. Highly recommended.

Adam Heine says

The book was okay. The world was interesting, the characters interesting. I liked how who was good or bad was never as clearly defined as I thought. But for some reason, this book never grabbed me the way I wanted it to.

Charlie says

Some fine storytelling, and isn't that what it is all about.
