



Earth 2.0: Prison Planet

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No longer is he Major Alexander Khan of the galactic-arm-ranging Internal Movement Control. Now he is Alexander Khan, criminal. Banished to Prison Planet in 2442 by Earth Central Government—the ECG—he has been teleported naked into a blizzard to die, punishment for Distribution of Contraband Technology, Conspiracy to Destroy Harmony, Failure to Condemn Wrong Views, and Failure to Initiate Positive Statements. —And for the one other crime that would have gotten him sentenced all by itself. Officially a secret, Prison Planet persists in whispers. Earth-like, it has no native intelligent life, but harbors three million transportees, tech-suppression satellites, and a surface that ECG hasn't checked in three hundred years of dropping prisoners there. Khan's commando training kicks in as he learns to survive on the dangerous but beautiful new planet. But survival is only the beginning. He must find a way back to Earth to avenge his father's death, overturn the ECG, and take down Nathan Fox, the ECG Director who ordered his father's murder. Khan meets the four groups that have developed on Prison Planet, and gets help in attaining his goals from unexpected sources. He frees a fief's slaves from its lords, escapes Maneaters, and transforms the world of the Techs on the journey to his ultimate mission: bringing freedom to his people. The price of failure is the death of those he loves on his new home planet: Earth 2.0.

Earth 2.0: Prison Planet Details

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From Reader Review Earth 2.0: Prison Planet for online ebook

Lucky says

Earth 2.0 is somewhat formulaic and has one of the those protagonists who is so superior to everyone else that the victory in everything is pretty much assured, all things that might tend to put me off. But the author somehow manages to make it work. This is an engaging tale of derring do and revenge, of good versus evil (even if the evil has thoroughly understandable motives.)

I think what makes this work is the authors ability to paint with the written word. He is skilled writer who takes the reader on a vivid and compelling journey. As I wrote above, Major Khan is somewhat of a superman, stronger, faster, and smarter than everyone else. This could make him rather shallow and one-dimensional. However, he seems real and fleshed out. Perhaps it is his awkwardness around women that gives him that sense of humanity.

Copy editing is good throughout, but content editing could have been better. Someone should have caught, for example, that Farsi is spoken in Iran, not Afghanistan, that a fake mustache and tinted glasses would not fool modern facial recognition software, much less that 300 years in the future, and that either the current war in Afghanistan or WWII could be 300 years ago, but not both of them.

Over all, though, the details in the book are pretty amazing. The author goes into great depth on a number of varied subjects, from physics to biology to engineering. These details support the story instead of being obstructions, as sometimes happens.

I did have problems with three aspect of the storyline. One was in the action. I could not see how men armed with primitive weapons could fight modern, armored soldiers and have the outcome as described in the book. The author tried to explain it, but I couldn't buy it. On a biological side, local fauna on Prison Planet interbred with earth fauna to create new species. On earth, very few species can interbreed, and almost all offspring cannot reproduce, so I doubt that animals from two different planets could interbreed. As a corollary to that, I couldn't buy the alien sex--humans don't breed with bonobos, the closest animal to man, and if they did, there could be no offspring, so why would humans and aliens have sex except in space operas and pulp science fiction?. Finally, I just couldn't see the end result with the government back on earth. The actions taken by Major Khan could not, in my opinion, create the results that they did.

Regardless of those issues, this was still a good tale and a good read. This is an aggressive effort, and the author delivers.

Naveen Thakur says

Sounds interesting and promising. i will definitely read it when it is available.

Iron Will says

Johnson's general anonymity as an author is temporary at best. Herbert, Clarke, Saurez, Huxley,

Bradbury....all unique in their own right, had better make room for a new voice with a fresh perspective. Strong storylines or good research are the haul marks of many good authors but seldom does an author bring both to bear. Fresh. Different. Well-thought. Unexpected!
