



Signus Prime

James Swallow , Juan Pascual Martínez Fernández (Translator)

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Desde los comienzos de la Gran Cruzada, Sanguinius, el angélico Primarch de la IX Legion, fue uno de los más leales y cercanos aliados de Horus. Pero los Blood Angels llevan mucho tiempo ocultando su naturaleza secreta al resto del Imperio, y cuando el Señor de la Guerra deja caer que su salvación podría encontrarse en las ruinas de un mundo conquistado, los hijos de Sanguinius caen en la trampa y se dirigen a él a toda prisa. Ahora, cuando se hace evidente la mano del traidor, los Blood Angels deben enfrentarse a los ejércitos del Chaos, surgidos del Warp, y a sus propios demonios personales, en las desoladas llanuras de Signus Prime.

Signus Prime Details

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From Reader Review Signus Prime for online ebook

Adam says

Cassiel was the first to speak. "Is it over now?"
Sanguinius spared him a look. He shook his head.

Oh how I wish it was over then.

I found this book incredibly hard to get into and enjoy and I had a few problems with it.

Firstly, it's just too long. In my opinion, the story could have been 100 pages shorter. The amount of setting description of each moment was too much.

Secondly, I thought the story was boring. The pace was too slow and I wasn't made to care about this legion. I found myself shouting at the book to hurry up

Thirdly, for super enhanced space marines, they are incredibly small minded and arrogant. DAEMONS! Of course they're daemons! It took until 450 pages for one of them to admit it.

This was not one of my favourites. A shame.

Dean Boulton says

This is without a doubt the dopest shit I have ever read. The Blood Angels are put to the ultimate test, as angels are thematically pitted against vile demons of the warp. I frequently grew spontaneous erections as battle scenes involving Sanguinius were portrayed, and wept tears of joy at depictions of his undying love for his sons. Many times I felt a warmth come over me as I imagined that I was a Bloof Angel and Dopeguinius was talking to me personally. I was travelling at the time of finishing this book, at a massive beach party... it was my birthday and despite the exotic locale, friends and drinks, finishing this book was the real highlight of my birthday. 5/5 stars

Keamy Loken says

In all blunt honesty I have not been a huge fan of James Swallow's other Horus Heresy novels, this book however reminded me. Black Library doesn't hire crappy writers for Horus Heresy (40k and fantasy I'm told there are some...but I'm not to expert there.)James Swallow took a stand beside my favorite writers in the series, (Graham McNeill, Dan Abnett and Aaron the guy who's last name I'm to lazy to look up and spell).

This book probably had the most flash backs of any heresy novel so far but it was so...perfect. It gave you amazing feel for the Blood Angels and there primarch unique and adorable personality. You really got to see Horus (pre-heresy and post-heresy)the change that had taken place in him and pre-heresy how close he and

Sanguinius where. Sanguinius trusted him with his darkest secret. The red thirst. Which everybody else knew all about because fanboys can't draw a Blood Angel without it drinking blood or having blood on his face, it would be too boring.

Nikaea was revisited again and once again we are all reminded, the Emperor is a retard for putting that into place.

I love how it brought in the low ranking space marines and made them just as cool as the high ranking if not more so.

Order of greatness in heresy novels: 1. Horus Rising, 2. Fear to Tread, 3. Thousand Sons and tying for 4. The First Heretic and Deliverance Lost.

I hope someone will understand this mess, at some point my head may clear a bit more and then I can actually write a review.

Sean McGovern says

This is the problem with a series - any series: usually, they aren't planned out at the start. This leads from whatever beginning (good, bad, otherwise) to most often a strong middle - and then the end could go either way. And God help you if you're dealing with a trilogy with an amazing second act.

"Warhammer 40,000: The Horus Heresy" isn't under the restraints of a trilogy. It now spans 18 novels (plus 3 more announced - and we're just reaching the end of the Second Act), 8 collections of novellas and short stories (with another 2 announced), 6 audio dramas (with another 2 announced), and four art books - with 14 authors and I don't know how many painters on the art books who have had 20 years to plot the entire thing out. Are all of the books good? Yes and no. Novel 8 ("Battle of the Abyss") is well written if you like Dan Brown - in other words, it's shit, but it's shit that keeps you turning the pages, as a suicide mission to destroy the largest starship ever created bumps along, the literary version of a jalopy. But the payoff for Novel 8 comes in Novel 17 ("Know No Fear: The Battle of Calth"), although never explicitly stated - if you think about that the starship Abyss could have done had it made it to Calth, you see that Novel 8, while bad, was worth reading.

And they do this all of the time. The opening of Novel 17 ("Deliverance Lost" follows the aftermath of an audio drama and a short story, both of which color the characters and fill in much of the dialog and drama. But those are all the aftermath of two other books (Novels 5 ["Fulgrim"] and 13 ["The First Heretic"]), which both dance through the opening four novels (isn't Non-Linear MetaNarrative FUN?!).

Now I told you that to give you this warning - I can't review the book properly without giving away the plots to other books. So forgive the following...

"Fear to Tread" is the first one that I think I have to say "read the others first" about. It makes it more enjoyable to know why the appearance of some characters aren't just cameos but threats. The doubts that the cast of this book have about character from other parts of the metaplot, the smirking "Oh, brother, you have no idea" moments, this book ties up a few loose ends, and follows others further.

It also allows a nice mirroring effect. If "A Thousand Sons" and "Prospero Burns" were the story of Ragnarok under the guise of "Frankenstein, or The Modern Prometheus" and "The Manchurian Candidate"

(both: IN SPPPPAAAAACCCCEEEEE), then "Fear to Tread" is a parallel to "False Gods" (Novel 2), and Milton's War in Heaven in "Paradise Lost" under the guise of...well...genetically altered post-human vampires...IN SPPPPAAAAACCCCEEEEE! But (unlike Milton - and I [surprisingly] mean this in a good way) the warfare and violence is not glamorized. As cool as it seems, as cool as it look mentally playing out, the characters must deal with their actions. Innocent people die by the score, and for some of the post-humans that fact is a burden they carry with them. [Fun fact - there are a few short stories dealing with people literally created for combat dealing with PTSD, and long passages of humans dealing with the effects of watching post-human soldiers in action in every book.]

Thematically, this is a book about secrets, repression of the self, and betrayal (well, they're all about betrayal - it's a civil war). All of the protagonists are holding back something from the others - in one case, the Primarch's (read: General) secret is the entire plot, while those of his soldiers' may prove to be the only way out. The air of distrust and fear runs thick, and makes the quieter moments just as tense as the action.

I recommend the book fully, on the condition that the others have been read as well. If not, ***.

James says

So, needless to say, I'm going to keep reading this unending series (I've come to terms with the fact that it never will). However, I definitely have my favorite installments (which tend to go over extremely well with me) and my let downs. Sadly, this chapter falls into the second category. I really was looking forward to this particular take on the Blood Angels (a personal favorite), and was sadly disappointed.

This books dragged like no other, for everything except the last 50-100 pages or so. It took me over an entire month to read it, as every time I picked it up, I fell asleep, or got bored to where I had to put it down. Nothing important really happened for the majority of the book, and though things were being set up for the end, it was a heck of a trip getting there. This book lives for its ending, which is always sad to me--like a person living to die, their life washing by in mediocrity and then flashing out with a bang. Sure it may stir some emotion at the end, but what about everything that happened before? Does all that suddnely go away? Still, the book wasn't exactly bad, just nothing really special.

Sanguinius, a character that SHOULD be really cool, kind of sucked it up. He was a little pathetic. It's so frustrating when you have a character that should be really cool and interesting, turns out to not deserve the supposed accolades.

There were some neat "revelations" as relevant to the overall 40k universe and story (again at the end of the book), but again, the rest of the book didn't really support itself.

But, as most of the books in this series tend to go over well with me, I guess I'll wait for the next one, and hope that its a better one.

Martin says

"Fear to Tread describes an operation by the forces of Chaos that is meant to turn Primarch Sanguinius and the 9th Space Marine Legion, the so-called Blood Angels, to their cause. To succeed, Chaos plans to take

advantage of a genetic flaw in Sanguinius' and the Legion's DNA. As the Heresy is getting under way, the outwardly still loyal Warmaster orders the entire 9th Legion and their unsuspecting Primarch to a remote star system. There they find themselves isolated and ambushed, fighting a new kind of war – against Chaos entities and daemons – designed by their opponents to trigger the Legion's flaw. The Chaotic plan almost succeeds; yet conflicting agendas among the anti-Imperial protagonists as well as the fortitude and unorthodox tactics of quick-to-adapt Blood Angels narrowly result in Imperial victory. In the meantime Horus' rebellion erupts openly and the Loyalists suffer catastrophic losses in the Dropsite Massacre (Book 5). Sanguinius and his Legion, now fully aware of the great betrayal and the reality of Chaos, race to the defence of Terra and the Emperor while buffeted by unprecedented navigational difficulties; it is hinted that these are related to the traitors' action at Calth (Book 19)."

Good solid Horus Heresy stuff by James Swallow.

Not as weak as 'Flight Of The Eisenstein' and not as great as 'Nemesis'. James Swallow's work is a bit hit and miss for me. Within this book there are some truly EPIC set pieces but there are also areas which I'd view as missed opportunities as well.

Kind of average if you compare it to some of the brilliant Heresy novels like 'Horus Rising', 'Fulgrim' or 'Prospero Burns' but is still a good page turning read.

With news that the whole back catalogue of the Horus Heresy is going to be re-released in glorious hard back I think I'll leave purchasing this book again for a while. Focus on the HH greats first.

Overall: Good but not great. Could have been greater.

Tim says

As I said to a friend of mine: "it's as awesome as Know No Fear, only with the infinitesimally cooler Blood Angels instead of Ultramarines".

In the first chapters of the book it already becomes clear that the Blood Angels' Black Rage is NOT, as lore implicitly led us to believe, a condition that only manifested in the Blood Angels after their Primarch died... it already existed before that. Which immediatly begs the question: what causes it... (hint: it's quite easy to imagine once you consider the chapter's name, spoiler: (view spoiler))

The plan of Horus and his infernal allies is to subject the chapter to an "obvious choice" to join the heresy, and for that the chapter is being sent to the Signus cluster which is under lockdown by the warp itself. To say that the described scenes of the taking over by the warp are scary, is the same euphemism as saying that the Emperor's Children are maybe a little self-obsessed...

As Know no Fear did with the Ultramarines, Fear to Tread really redefines the Blood Angels as a chapter, both strengths and weaknesses. The characters, the primarch, the Flaw in the chapter are beautifully organised into the grand scheme of the warhammer universe. And although there are some things you see coming, a lot of other elements really are new to the Big Story of the Horus Heresy. And we get to see who or what the Red Angel is, something that was already introduced in some artwork in 2005 (remember the group-picture of the heretics in the great artwork book) !

(I'm not going into the particularities of the story, as that would without any exception lead to more spoilers. Suffice to say that AwEsOmE should somehow be able been spelled with color letters and shining hues)

The story, my dear Horus Heresy fans, ends on a cliffhanger. No, the Blood Angels story is (mostly) at an end, but suddenly a big fucking plot-element is revealed... well, almost. There have been A LOT of hints to it in the previous books, but the end of Fear to Tread is where the hints stop, and the facts that Something Else is going on, something which was not yet known in the Lore, show clearly. The last sentence is going to end the Blood Angels story nicely, but open up a very very big cup of questions, begging to be answered in following stories.

Yes, I say this after (almost) every Horus Heresy book, but this one was again one of the best ever. Can't wait for the next... hell, if it's only titles and subjects I'll be happy !

Recommended, but read a few other Horus Heresy tomes first :)

Alexander Draganov says

In the end, I have to say that this was one very strong book. It would have benefited if it was shorter, but despite its lenght, it is worthy of your attention. Sanguinius is the best of all primarchs and only angels can truly fly, indeed.

Detailed review in Bulgarian here:

<http://citadelata.com/fear-to-tread-t...>

Tepintzin says

There are good Warhammer 40k books and bad Warhammer 40k books. This was a good one. The Horus Heresy novels recently have been poignant, if you can really use that word to describe this series, because you know that all of these stories about the Legions are moving inevitably towards Horus, Sanguinius and the Emperor all having their showdown at the Throne of Terra.

This is Sanguinius's novel. I liked it because the concept of the Blood Angels sounds like something designed to draw 16-year-old girls into the game: Space Marines who are vampires, and their Primarch had angel wings! This took the Flaw and made it into something out of Greek tragedy rather than Twilight. (I almost typed TrueBlood except that the day Space Marines start having sexy affairs with humans is the day I shove the Black Library editorial staff off a tall building.)

Miles Drake says

This would be a 5* book if the mystery and sinister terror that the first portion of the book conveyed remained throughout the story. When the Blood Angels were first arriving, all of the cosmos defying witchery they bore witness to was absolutely awesome. The mystery was tense, and horror was ripe.

But then, alas, it gets dispelled when the enemy is revealed and the book turns into a more typical combat trudge as is common in 40k, or 30k books, and I lost some interest. The ending was still engaging enough,

and it certainly paints a good image for Sanguinius' breaking his BFF status with Horus. I felt the Word Bearers present could have been a little more dynamic, rather than the stereotypical villains they typically are.

Eldrad Ulthran says

WOW...Wow...very good...ist just one of the best Wh40K `s so far and one of the best of the horus series....great...great Story and great Detail with very good characters

Justin Castro says

While I've read a majority of the current Horus Heresy novels and I am interested in Warhammer 40k's lore I feel as if the further I've delved into the world the more it breaks down and becomes harder to read. This book epitomized that in that it was actually painful trying to continue. It's been a running theme that the Adeptus Astartes and their primarchs are enormously incompetent, which has aggravated me to no end. Time and again the Astartes are so absolutely close minded as to be shockingly stupid, meanwhile they're vaunted for their "super intelligence" this is even worse when the primarchs do it. At this point I am not sure if it is a deliberate attempt by the authors to poke fun at the Astarte's supposedly superior intellect or if the authors themselves are actually this incompetent. Regardless this book in particular features for roughly 2/3 of the book the Astartes absolutely refusing to acknowledge warp spawn as warp spawn, despite the fact they have numerous former Librarians in their ranks. Meanwhile Sanguinius nearly kills a captain for daring to call the warp spawn warp spawn. Brilliant.

Abhinav says

You can find the full review over at The Founding Fields:

<https://shadowhawksshade.wordpress.co...>

Shadowhawk reviews the latest Horus Heresy novel, by New York Times Bestseller and long-time genre writer, James Swallow as he tackles the noble warriors of the Ninth Legiones Astartes, the Blood Angels.

“Fear To Tread is the definitive Blood Angels novel, and without a doubt the best Horus Heresy story yet told.” ~The Founding Fields

Blood Angels, Blood Angels, Blood Angels. They are tied at the moment alongside the White Scars and the Iron Warriors for the least amount of appearances in the Horus Heresy so far. The Khan and his sons are rumoured to be getting either a novel or a novella next year, while the sons of Olympia will be featuring in Graham McNeill's next, Angel Exterminatus, alongside the Emperor's Children and the novel may be coming out as soon as mid-Fall this year. But, the Blood Angels have been one of the three legions who we've seen in the Horus Heresy since the earliest days, for they had quite a decent appearance in Horus Rising, although under rather tragic circumstances. Since then, there has been precious little on them, and the wait for the Ninth Legion to get their own prominent story has been long overdue. What complicates matters is that they only have two major events of note as far as I can tell: Signus Prime, which marks the first fall of

Sanguinius, and the Siege of Terra with its terrible conclusion which leaves the legion without its father.

As you can tell, in an event as epic in scope as the Horus Heresy which defines the entire mythology of the Warhammer 40,000 setting and which is the greatest event in the in-setting history, expectations from the Blood Angels for their own novel are going to be quite high. Any author who writes them (and that novel) has a lot to live up to: the nobility of the Blood Angels, the terrible twin curses that the legion's descendants suffer from, the betrayals at Signus Prime, the epicness of the Siege of Terra and Sanguinius' role in it that people have been visualising in their minds for years now. Plus the fact that this is a New York Times Bestselling series now, with several entries on the list. Unlike any of the other Horus Heresy novels to date, except for Gav Thorpe's *Deliverance Lost* which deals with the Raven Guard, my expectations for Jim's latest outing were really high. I've been a fan of the Blood Angels ever since I first picked up *Deus Encarmine*, the first Blood Angels 40k novel, also by Jim. If there's any Blood Angels fiction out there, I've pretty much read it all, outside of some really old material.

Once I got done with *Fear To Tread*, I asked myself one question: Did Jim deliver on the inherent promise of the novel and was I wowed by the end of it? I got a rather simple answer: This novel is Heresy gold. There are a few things that I thought could have been more epic but that's a minor issue because the author has already raised the bar quite high on his own.

Where to begin really? The brotherly intimacy of Horus and Sanguinius and watching as the former betrays the latter? The gut-wrenching moment of Sanguinius' first fall to the Bloodthirster Ka'Bandha and the subsequent, but momentary, devolution of the legion? The coldness of the legion's descent into the madness of the Red Thirst, the more debilitating of its two genetic curses? The sacrifices made by some of the key characters of the novel? The breath-taking moments when Sanguinius stands together in the same room as Sanguinary Guard Commander Azkaellon and First Captain Raldoron? The Primarch's dedication to his sons and the legion? The moment when he realises that his most beloved brother, the one he trusted above all others, has betrayed him so deeply? The legion's horror at what it encounters in the Signus system? The clash between the Blood Angels and the daemonic armies of Ka'Bandha and Kyriss?

There's just too much in this novel that deserves praise and I'm not even sure that my review could even do it justice. Going into this review, one thing that persists in the back of my mind is how to justify to you, the reader of my review, that you need to get this book pronto. I'm a James Swallow fan, big time. I've read the majority of his work for Black Library and I've loved it, barring some issues with his second Horus Heresy novel *Nemesis* which caused me to put it down mid-way. I've listened to his Judge Dredd audios (published by Big Finish and principally voiced by the awesome Toby Longworth) and I've loved them. It is almost a given that if he puts anything out, I'm going to love it. Goes without saying that he's one of the best Black Library authors for me. But how to condense that down so I don't appear the "lovestruck" fanboi who can't see his favourite author do no wrong?

I don't know. All I can tell you is that if you loved Aaron Dembski-Bowden's *The First Heretic*, Graham McNeill's *The Outcast Dead*, Gav Thorpe's *Deliverance Lost*, Dan Abnett's *Know No Fear* and the recent Primarchs anthology, then you are going to love this too. Each of the prior books has consistently set a high standard for Horus Heresy novels, each is better than the last and that is saying something since they are all excellent.

Northrop Frye says

One of the better Horus Heresy era novels. Blood Angels vs Daemon. Primarch v Bloodthirster.

Dylan Murphy says

Oh man, I have always been a fan of Mr. Swallow's, especially his Blood Angels, but this novel left me speechless. Now that it has been a few hours, I can really put into words how and why I loved it.

Firstly, the variety of character within the Blood Angels was remarkable. From First Captain Ral. and Fifth Captain Amit, to Sargent Cessiel and his squad, and the dozens of Blood Angels I didn't mention, they all had their own unique character. Which was a blessing for the noble boys in Red.

I really liked how the Blood Angels were portrayed as well. They all had a kind of edge to them, each one different, but you could really tell that there was a darkness beneath all of that amazing skill and nobility. I think it would have been interesting to go more into the culture of the Blood Angels that WASN'T the twin curses (like in Swallows other BA works, they were talented painters or sculptors, etc.) but I think that the twin curses were as much the main characters of this novel as the Blood Angels Legion and the Angel himself. So I completely understand, and it definitely doesn't take away from the series, it's just something I would have liked to see.

And Sanguinius. The Angel. So much like his sons, but so much above them. Oh man, he was amazingly done. He was one of the primarchs that actually made me step back in awe, which certainly didn't happen with The Lion, or Dorn, or Rowboat. The Angel was just amazing. Getting to see Fulgrim worthy perfection, and then that perfection become the definition of wrath was awesome. I really hope we get to see more of the Blood Angels with Mr. Swallow at the helm!

*And it was a dream come true to see Amit during his glory days in the Blood Angels, before he founded the Flesh Tearers! I can't wait to see more of him!
