



Insurrection

David Weber , Steve White

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In the end, the only political systems that seem to work are those based on freedom. The Inner World leaders of the Terran Federation seem to have forgotten this simple truth. After fighting the Khanate—with the Fringe Worlds to supply the raw material and the fighting men—the Inner Worlds found it hard to give up the powers they had seized during the war. So they decided not to—rather than allow the rapidly expanding Fringe Worlds representation in the Federation, they are inviting the Khanate in, to keep the colonial upstarts in their place. The Fringers have only one answer to that:

Insurrection Details

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Author : David Weber , Steve White

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Genre : Science Fiction, Space, Space Opera, Fiction

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From Reader Review Insurrection for online ebook

Dregj says

The starfire universe is brought vividly to life in this book. The terran federation having long exploited and bullied its fringe colony worlds finds itself at the tipping point with the fringe's population exceeding the core corporate controlled worlds, they finally believe they can have a fair share of the vote in the federation assembly and not be constantly railroaded by old terra politicians in the pay of the fat cats .Unfortunately ,the old guard seek to move the goal posts again denying the fringe a say in their future. After bitter disputes on the assembly floor, the fringe's spokes person is assassinated, by agents in the core worlds pay. The distant worlds declare their independence from the terran federation and make ready for the war they know is coming.

What should be a walk over for the mighty terran navy quickly descends into a civil war when the fringe crew members serving aboard there ships mutiny...

A very good sci fi war book

As with all weber books the story mostly focuses on space combat (both strategic and personal) ,political intrigue and covers the conflict from both sides. The books clips along nicely making you care for the characters and their struggle .He brilliantly describes the fleet movements and the incredible death toll of such large scale slaughter, stripping away the glamour of war but none of the drama.

The only bug is after half the book describing the conflict from both sides and generally being sympathetic to the fringers the book suddenly switches to a terran admiral and spends a good portion of the remainder describing his Romance?????.We're then supposed to cheer when he defeats "our heroes" etc???

Despite this gripe the ending is inspiring ,classic and hopeful stuff
the best weber book I've read yet

Mark says

Insurrection

Author: David Weber and Steve White

Publisher: Baen Books

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REVIEW MAY CONTAIN SPOILERS

Summary:

The wars with the Khanate had shifted the balance of power. The Corporate Worlds used the Fringe and Rim Worlds to supply the raw material and the fighting men. Once the guns fell silent, the Corporate Worlds didn't want to give back the power that they had amassed over the Fringers. They limited the governmental representation of the frontiers and the fringes with the assistance of the Heart Worlds. Forced by blood and to protect their homeworlds, the Fringers are going to take a stand.

Genre:

Fiction

Military

Science fiction
Space opera
War

Why this book:

Starfire. Love the game. Loved the books. This is a re-read for me.

Favorite Character:

Ladislaw Skjorning of Beaufort is a great character. Well rounded. Fierce. 3 dimensional.

Least Favorite Character:

Character I Most Identified With:

Admiral / Governor General Trevayne. I understand his character. But he's on the wrong side of this war having sided with the Federation out of duty despite what the government of the Federation did that triggered the eventual rebellion and the formation of the Republic, even with the huge manpain reason that the Republic gave him by their attack on the Galloway's World shipyards and reservation.

The Feel:

Great science fiction.

Favorite Scene:

When Ladislaw challenges Oskar Dieter of New Zurich to a duel of honor after Dieter insults the leader of the Beaufort delegation at the Beaufort embassy/consulate. And Dieter shows his true colors and wusses out.

Fiona's swan song tragedy is well done. As is Ladislaw's challenge before the Chamber of Worlds when he tells them all that he knows it was an assassination plot orchestrated from that very chamber.

The scene where Ladislaw meets Dame Penelope MacTaggart, Fiona's mother and leader of the MacTaggart Clan, at the spaceport on his return to Beaufort. It choked me up. Very well written.

When Rear Admiral Li Han stood down the pirates and destroyed them.

The Battle of Zapata is incredible military space opera sci fi.

Pacing:

The pace of this novel is great.

Casting call:

Ladislaw Skjorning would need to be a big guy to reflect his being from a high gravity world. Maybe Hafthor Julius Bjornsson. He was awesome as the Mountain on Game of Thrones. Not sure if he has the acting chops. Brando or Anthony Hopkins could invest Ladislaw with the necessary gravitas, but neither was a big enough man to do the character justice. Of course, one of them is dead and the other is too old for the role. Chris Hemsworth could do it.

Billy Bob Thornton as Oskar Dieter.

Admiral / Governor General Ian Trevayne would be great portrayed by Michael Fassbender.

Danny Trejo as Sergei Ortega.

Last Page Sound:

That's just good stuff.

Author Assessment:

I love David Weber and Steve White's work in the Starfire series. David Weber is an awesome writer. He does military sci fi better than anyone.

Knee Jerk Reaction:

instant classic, real classic, real genre classic, really good book, glad I read it, it's alright, meh!, why did I read this, not as good as I was lead to believe

Disposition of Book:

Paperback...keeper.

Would recommend to:

friends, family, kids, colleagues, everyone, genre fans, no one

Errata:

The sublight space flight of this universe with the warp points/wormholes for extra system travel is a great gimmick.

Randy Smith says

To be perfectly honest I kind a got bored with this book and never finished it I only read a little more than halfway. It kept jumping from one character to another I really couldn't sympathize with very many of the characters. I felt like I was reading a history book rather than a science-fiction novel. I'm sure this book probably had a good ending it was just too difficult for me to get all the way to it. I only gave this book one star but not because of the quality of the writing which is actually pretty good but because of the quality of the storyline. I felt that it did not draw me in like most books do. I felt that the author was throwing too many details at me all at once jumping around plus I never give more than one star to a book I never finished.

Troy G says

Two things make insurrection great.

- 1) The mechanics of the Starfire universe.
- 2) People come into conflict because they have conflicting goals and values, but are still equally respectable and honorable.

The key detail of the Starfire universe is that fixed warp points connect star systems. Most occupied systems have 1 or 2 warp points. By structuring the map in this way, it creates defensible choke points. All other travel is sub-light. This adds a twist to Military Sci Fi. It adds a chain of communication, and chain of supply to the equation in a way that much Sci Fi neglects.

There are focus characters on two of the 3 sides in this conflict. These characters get roughly equal treatment. None of them are angels or demons. There is a lot of moral ambiguity.

These things combine to make an incredible book. One of the most memorable I've ever read. One that I will return to in the future. One that I will use as a yardstick to judge all other Science Fiction I read.

Kathy Davie says

I think this series occurs hundreds of years before Honor Harrington and normally I would be very annoyed about having read this out of chronological order...but...the HH series grabs one by the heart and this series does not. I'm more interested in continuing to read this Starfire series simply to learn how it leads to the political situation in HH's time.

Yes, I do think it's part of HH's [earlier] universe as the same bureaucracies are mentioned as well as the same general military procedures and ship layouts. It does mention the initial use of grav weapons which development will be curious to follow.

It was rather nerve wracking to read at times if only due to Weber's habit of killing off characters I come to admire. And Weber does have that habit of making characters on both sides of war admirable.

Dan says

Don't get me wrong, I love pretty much anything Weber writes and can re-read them any number of times, but a couple of plot elements in this book made it very hard to swallow. From my review on amazon:

I liked it, overall. I tend to get annoyed when there are plot holes that are not explained or require complete idiocy on someone's part. The ones (related) that irritated me were wrt the two Republican attacks on Zephraim. In the first one, the Republic has found a brand-new warp point closed at the Zephraim end. This means they can put a whole fleet in, bypassing the Gateway warp point defenses. Do they do that? Nah, instead they make a conventional attack at the Gateway, to draw Trevayne's mobile forces there with the intent of attacking them from behind with a massive fighter strike from the 5 cloaked carriers that sneaked in via the new warp point. They are detected by a wildly unlikely chance and destroyed by Trevayne's monitors, dooming the attack. That never made any sense to me - why not sneak your entire fleet in the back door, and have the carriers sneak up on the mobile force in planetary orbit, launching a surprise attack while they have their shields and drives down? The OWPs at the Gateway are meaningless, and the remaining mobile forces (guarding the Gateway warp point) are not adequate to retake the planet. Even more annoying though, is that *somehow* the Rim forces discovered the location of the closed warp point, so they could mine it, and etc. This is the ONLY way they had any chance of stopping the second attack, which was massive (my recollection is that 20+ Republican SDs and a good half dozen carriers were destroyed or

crippled penetrating the defenses there.) There is no plausible way the Rim discovers this warp point without a major, major screw-up on the part of the Republic. Without both of those fiascos, the Republic seizes Zephraim, and the rest of the book never happens. Fooey...

Trey says

meh

The book didn't get really great for me until the final section detailing the last major battle.

I am still really, really confused about the order of these books. It seems like Insurrection follows Crusade since I think the weapons they were upgrading in this book were originally developed in Crusade? Also, Crusade never mentions (or I glossed over) the civil war that occurs in this book.

Weber jumps all over the place in this book. It's a single book that spans the course of 6 years. A battle could end and the next page picks up 9 months later. This would be fine if he maybe started each chapter with X Years Since (Event at beginning of book) but there isn't much of that at all. This is necessary if you want to make a single book span 6 years but I thought it probably could have been handled better.

Don't look for a whole lot in the way of character development either. With a wide range of characters and relatively little time spent with them on a day-to-day basis you probably won't get too attached.

Weber's space combat is another thing I always seem to have a problem with. It just doesn't jive well. I see no real role for a deep space fighter, there's no way they are going to catch up to much of anything and then they either just break the laws of physics by effortlessly reducing speed for the attack runs or Weber just glosses over the technical stuff because he wants space fighters damn it! I guess I can't really blame him too much because realistic space combat is usually pretty boring. I just wish he had left out the space fighters.

really the only thing I actually enjoyed about this book was the final battle. Would have probably taken me another few days to finish it if I hadn't found another book I wanted to read.

Sean Hillman says

It is an interesting book, politically very relevant at times. And a bit more intimate than the other books in the series.

Alex Shrugged says

Insurrection is book 1 of the Starfire series. I own it. I liked it. I didn't love it. It is obviously the American Revolution IN SPACE! The writing is good. It gets into space battles but not as detailed as David Weber usually gets. It gets into issues on holding together a far flung empire. The ending leaves room for a sequel but no cliffhanger. The major issues are resolved (mostly).

For those who care, there is some profanity in the book. It uses the F-word a couple of times and the Sh-word

many more times. It is all in context because terrible things are happening. There is premarital sex involved but not described. (The couple actually intends to marry so it really is "premarital".)

I would read this book again and I intend to read the next book in the series... Crusade.

Clay says

Not much too this at all. Civil war breaks out between the Inner Worlds and the Fringe Worlds within the Federation. Some space battles happen, new weapons are developed, a final push through to reunite two separate groups, and then the book is over. Barely anything memorable at all.

Jon says

It's amazing to see the start of a civil war in a way that could come out of today's news. The Sci-Fi part of this is that it's a representative government across the galaxy. The authors obviously read many of the documents that the Founders of the US read. A government must have the consent of the governed.

Combine that with great space battles and stories about real people, and you get a really good book!

John somers says

The first book published in the series but the fourth in the chronology and for me the weakest of them. Still has great space combat descriptions and interesting technological developments during the story but I didn't like main characters as much as those in the other books and hated the ending while not really liking the whole fringe world rebellion storyline in the first place. Also the attack through a closed warp point idea which was also used in In Death Ground and The Shiva Option doesn't seem very likely in this book, set as it is during a civil war where both sides have perfect understanding of one another's warp chains and seem very unlikely to discover new hidden points so quickly. Still this isn't a bad book, I just don't feel it's up to the same standard as the rest of the series. Definitely worth a read if you're a fan of Weber

M Hamed says

i have read six of David Weber books ,and i can confidently say he doesn't write for entertainment as you might expect from military space opera specialist. the man writes for himself and for the sake of writing. in general terms ,the audience for the genre don't care for either politics or drama,just innovative technology and fleet action .but romance ,politics and feminist ideals has there own writers and COVERS

that being said ,the politics in this were not as bloated as Honor series,one of my favorite admirals yet was born .
and most importantly it wasn't 1000 goddam pages

William Griffin says

I thought the story was good, however I had some difficulty following who was who in some cases, this may be due to some similarity on how I pronounce or mispronounce certain names in my head rather than any errors (punctuated by listening to it on Audio-books on YouTube). This added to the fog of battle when reading certain portions of the book, which added to the flavor of the book. I enjoy the Honor Harrington books series by David Weber and this had a similar flavor in some respects, I also noted some similarity on some names, to the point that I wondered if this was the same verse, however some events and species and names of things were different and I can't see them changing that much in the time change but it made me wonder if the book started out as some sort of a prelude to the Honor Harrington Series.

For those thinking of reading it, if you enjoy political intrigue, redemption, or military formation or civil war intrigue then read this book. If you disliked any of these but not all of them... read this book twice!

Per Gunnar says

A good space opera novel where David Weber have not yet fallen into the never ending talk, talk, talk mode as he has in some of his later work. Sure there's a bunch of political bullshitting in this one as well but it is sufficiently laced with real (space ship) action to make it bearable.

I would have liked for the big bad extra stupid main political bullshitter to get a bit more punishment that just to commit suicide but you cannot have everything I guess.

Although it claims to be part of the "Starfire series" it's a book which has a clear start and end. No cliffhangers. On the whole it's a book well worth reading.
