



Trono de mundo anillo

Larry Niven , Carlos Morales (Translator)

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**“ESTE LIBRO ES LA CLAVE DEL UNIVERSO DE MUNDO ANILLO.
SU TECNOLOGÍA ESTÁ MARAVILLOSAMENTE PULIDA Y
SUS PERSONAJES MUY BIEN DIBUJADOS”**

«Presenta algunas escenas que están entre lo más grandioso que Niven ha imaginado nunca»—*SF Reviews*

“Sé que es un sacrilegio, pero en muchos momentos me gusta más esta secuela que la novela original”—*Washington Times*

“Solo Larry Niven ha logrado unir ciencia e imaginación en una idea tan fascinante como Mundo Anillo”—*Booklist*

«Niven aún figura cerca de lo más alto en el campo de la ciencia ficción» —*Publishers Weekly*

«La más enérgica serie de historia futura jamás escrita» —*The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*

«Un hábitat espacial colosal» —*Kirkus Review*

Sinopsis: La atención de Luis Wu es requerida una vez más en el sorprendente mundo circular. El humano deberá superar nuevos retos y solventar numerosos problemas técnicos para garantizar la supervivencia de la humanidad. Mientras unas naves espaciales están destruyendo Mundo Anillo, hordas de vampiros crecen y asesinan a su antojo. Por otro lado, los Protectores de cada raza luchan entre sí. Cada vez parece más claro que Mundo Anillo necesita un Protector para él solo. Pero, ¿quién se sentará en el trono del Mundo Anillo?

Trono de mundo anillo Details

Date : Published November 21st 2011 by La Factoría de Ideas (first published June 3rd 1996)

ISBN :

Author : Larry Niven , Carlos Morales (Translator)

Format : Kindle Edition 352 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fiction, Science Fiction Fantasy

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From Reader Review Trono de mundo anillo for online ebook

Harvey says

Rishathra. Endless rishathra. I'm over it Larry! Write about something else.

Very disappointing.

Ric says

(2013 was turning into a stale year for SF. That summer, I really needed the solace of good, hard SF to escape, if just fleetingly, some harsh realities, same reality having given me long days and nights to read and listen. So, without really making a decision to do so but compelled by circumstances, I started a re-read of the Ringworld series. The publication history of the series was such that one book came out every ten years, on average. And so each book read provided a reflection of a decade of life, the places and friends, the situations and milestones when each book was read. Fiction, particularly the science fiction of the Ringworld books, it turned out, was nothing more than dressed-up reality. I never left the Ringworld.)

The Ringworld Throne is quite a departure from the space-spanning, technology-making energy of the first two books. Niven spends the first half of the book exploring the various hominids that have evolved on the artificial surface of the Ringworld. Not boring, just different, and maybe just a bit too much rishathra. The story is set 11 years after The Ringworld Engineers. The final half of the book sees the action pick up as Louis Wu and his fellow travelers deal with the Ringworld engineers.

An interesting narrative problem: how to present the actions of species who are smarter than humans? The simplest way is to just be inscrutable or indecipherable on the principle that they are much smarter than us so we cannot hope to understand their actions and motivations. As a reader this is annoying since it seems to give the writer license to withhold explanations until the end. We are not dumb, just, perhaps, slower. Niven addresses the matter in his typically empirical way; offline, he develops the response of the Pak, presents the aspects of it that may be apparent to the slower mind, then dares the reader to catch up or keep up. Makes for a more entertaining, if challenging, read. This makes up for the lackluster first half of the book.

Also typical Niven is the deliberate way in which he ties up the various threads of the narrative for resolution. As with the two previous books, he does not seem to be setting up for a sequel (although he does write one 8 years later).

This is the weakest of the Ringworld books so far. However, it does provide a further development of the Ringworld story and justifies the scary nature of the Pak. Niven builds many of the aspects of the Fleet of Worlds Ringworld prequel series from elements presented here.

After examining my feelings about the book, I'm changing my rating of this book to 3 stars.

Marin says

Though a big fan of Niven's works, I have never been a big fan of the Ringworld series. The setup is so enormous, so many possible stories arise, that it feels the author is (unsuccessfully) trying to tell them all. The Ringworld Throne is the most painful proof of that (so far). Several different plots run along completely unrelated to each other, right until the last couple of chapters. Not only are these plots very boring as they stand all alone, but they also try to wear down the poor reader who's trying to Sherlock them all together. Nobody likes a figuring out a nice mystery more than me, but a mystery requires clues and a fighting chance for the reader to piece them all together. This book gives no such thing.

What it does instead, it gives us a couple of genius characters that piece together a story out of thin air. There is simply no way they could figure all that out - simply because the possible solutions are (nearly) endless. Sticking to 1 or 2 interlocked plots and giving more space to character development would make it a much more pleasant reading experience.

Another problem that was already surfacing in The Ringworld Engineers is that author keeps trying to patch up this unrealistic world. Somebody notes that Ringworld would be unstable in real world - bam! - author inserts thrusters etc. I guess the goal was to make "Known Space" a viable future (as opposed to "the galaxy far far away"), but it just starts looking more and more like a house of cards.

And while I could even get over the patchy nature of the Ringworld, there's the famous rishathra to give the final blow (no pun intended). While it might have been an interesting (if not very convincing) possible side-effect of such a world, it has become a central plot theme for this book. Which makes it feel like it was written by a horny teenager. Larry, please next time just pretend you never wrote about it in the first place - or start fresh on the other side of the Ringworld where locals still haven't heard about it.

Should I even give Ringworld's Children a try?

Katherine says

I was excited to find this book, because I hoped Niven had something new to say about the Ringworld. Well, he didn't. In fact, I almost gave up after the first hundred pages or so, because I found it so deathly dull.

The first half of the book deals with a whole slew of characters, most of whom never appear again, hunting vampires. I'm not sure what this was supposed to accomplish in terms of plot structure. It was, frankly, boring and seemed to serve no purpose other than to let Niven mention the practice of inter-species sex on every page.

The second half of the book dealt with Louis Wu a kzin named Acolyte (who was a son of Chmee) and the Hindmost serving a protector bent on taking over the world. This involved quite a lot of Louis essentially watching the main action on television and interpreting it for the protector, and I didn't find it interesting, or even see much of a point. The big ending took the form of a Deus ex Machina, which left quite a lot of questions unanswered.

Frankly, I think Niven should have stopped a Ringworld Engineers.

Graham Crawford says

Everyone says this book is rubbish, and it really is. The last third is stupidly complicated - a pea and shell trick with teleporters that goes on for so long the author loses the peas and the plot.

The first half is really a short story with side characters that has been stretched out to fill a novel. I could almost cope with a soft porn alien vampire novella (True Blood in space!) - almost. Except it's the same sex over and over again. And it's relentlessly male heterosexual wish fulfillment - (lightly)bearded women and furries are as transgressive as we get. All that angst over a monogamous couple enjoying group sex. Seriously - Did Larry Niven bug out at a 1970s sex party and decide to (try to) write a book about it.

Mars says

The downhill trend of the series continues. In and of itself, it's a fairly acceptable book, but it's worse than Engineers (book 2). Action jumps around, the whole vampire hunter thing to which half the book is devoted leads essentially nowhere, a crew of 4 (which is easy to keep track of) plus no-more-than-2-at-a-time auxilliary characters is gone, replaced by dozens of characters, many of them with 6-syllable names, most of those entirely unpronounceable...

Random junk words are introduced, which would work except something like "stet" doesn't appear to be properly defined (or I missed the only place where it is?), and which actually has 3 DIFFERENT meanings, and is used in every other sentence in parts of the book. (had to go to the dictionary at the end to look it up - it means either "leave it alone", "exactly right", or "no change". Actual usage seems to be syntactically equivalent to "shit" half the time.

Jona Cannon says

Luis Wu is self-marooned on ringworld, and seems to be thought of as a wizard or a god depending on how primitive the education of the species you talk to. He is not through punishing himself for saving 95% of the people of ringworld by sacrificing the other 5%. Can a god find redemption for his sins?

I'd heard from other fans that this was the least favorite of this series, and I agree. It was hard to follow, and not a great story. It kinda felt to me like Niven just wanted to bang out another book, with no passion for the thread of the story. But there is one more book to go, so hopefully this is the low point.

Jacob says

The entire first half the book is completely unnecessary and the whole book is incredibly hard to follow (a problem I had all previous books too). Niven doesn't have a great talent for clearly describing environments his characters are in. I found myself reading and re-reading and re-re-reading things over and over again. He seems to contradict himself in his imagery often and that causes my imagination to come to an aggravating

halt.

The first half of the book barely involves the main characters for the previous book. It introduces about 15 new characters that have long forgettable names and you get about 3 chapters to learn about them all. The book does come with a glossary in the back of the book with all the new characters and their species. This glossary is entirely necessary if you want to have any iota of what's going on throughout this half of the book. In fact, I started to keep a separate bookmark back there so I could flip to it quicker. (SPOILER) And even when some of them die, it still felt like I was reading about them for the first time (/SPOILER). The first half comes to a boring and lame conclusion and then you finally get to the real interesting story....

You learn a lot about the protectors in this book which to me, is very exciting. You barely got to know anything about them in the last book which disappointed me greatly. Despite the protectors having enormous brains, Louis still outsmarts them almost every time. There's a lot of fights between protectors but they are described so badly that it's not until the fight is over and several paragraphs later do I know the outcome. I wish R.A. Salvatore would write a Ringworld book. He's amazing at writing fighting scenes.

Not a great review but I don't feel like writing more.

S James Bysouth says

3 Stars, just. Ringworld Thr—sigh—rone.

In Ringworld Throne we are kept guessing up until the last chapter. But, where in other books the guessing is about Whodunnit or Who's going to win, this guessing is more "what the hell is going on!?".

It is an extremely confusing plot to follow. Larry replaces what would otherwise be telling reveals with . . . ellipsis'. He thinks it is clever and suspenseful. It is actually annoying. And confusing.

The first half of the book deals with a war against seemingly unstoppable hominids. It is laborious and complicated. It feels out of place in a science fiction novel and is incongruous with the rest of the Ringworld series. Every chapter following the hominids is boring, whereas every chapter with Louis we get a glimmer of hope the story is about to get better, only return to the Hominids with an exasperated sigh.

The second half is about Louis being subjected and trying to outsmart a being a million times more intelligent than himself. These two stories, obliquely, meet up at the end. We pass 335 pages wondering why we're bothering to read about 30 different types of hominid, only to figure out with 5 pages to go what Louis was doing this whole time. It is not satisfying. The genius of the original Ringworld was watching Louis solve problems with his brand of wisdom. Instead, this cleverness was kept secret. Not a good move.

In the final chapters, at the climax, Louis Wu is not involved in the action. There is no narration; just primal thoughts from Louis's point of view as he watches the action via what is essentially a hidden-camera security system. Niven set up a gripping war between (PROTECTORS!) powerful, hyper-intelligent beings, only to destroy his good work by confining the action to television monitors.

Niven has had a vision. One in which I am not privy to. Due to his lack of narration, it is difficult to

understand what exactly I am supposed to be seeing and found myself wondering what Niven had envisioned, and if his vision was anything like what I got. I think not.

Niven's sometimes awesome prose style does not work in this book. It is a fast-paced, hectic, intriguing style. But, the subject-matter of this book does not fit with it. Narration is good, Larry.

With all its faults, it is still a great read. Protectors are incredible. I would like to read more about protectors. Perhaps if Niven had devoted 50% rather than 10% of the book to the Protector war, this might have been a 4 star+ read. Instead, it barely eclipsed 3.

On to *Ringworld's Children*.

ASIDE: My favourite parts were Louis negotiating contract terms with the Hindmost and Bram. And when Louis admits to a being who could kill him instantly, "I have judged you unfit to rule".

Ben Babcock says

Once upon a time, a science-fiction author wrote a novel about a Big Dumb object. It would go on to win the trifecta: the Hugo, Nebula, and Locus awards for best novel, not to mention become *the* iconic novel about Big Dumb Objects. It is now, essentially, a classic.

Fans with engineering degrees from MIT decided to crunch the numbers and ask difficult questions about how this Big Dumb Object could actually work the way the author said it works. Because **that's what fans do**. However, the author decided to address these questions by writing a sequel. He included several retcons and focused a great deal on recreational sex conducted between hominids of different species for the purposes of trade negotiations (*rishathra*). Although it received nominations for the Hugo and the Nebula, this sequel did not win any awards.

Still the author was not satisfied! He wrote a third book in the series, introducing still more retcons and still more rishathra. He continued tweaking and modifying both the story and the physics underlying it, not recognizing all the while that, in this relentless pursuit of perfection, he was cheapening something that had once been great.

That's pretty much the story of the *Ringworld* trilogy, which is now a tetralogy. Although I won't rule out the possibility that I'll read *Ringworld's Children*, nothing could be further from my mind at this moment. *The Ringworld Throne* so thoroughly turned me off both the series and Larry Niven's writing in general that I am in no mood to pick up yet another sequel.

At first, this book was so uninteresting that I had to force myself to read it. For the first hundred or so pages, I seriously entertained the notion of setting it aside. However, I've only abandoned four books since joining Goodreads 3 years ago, and I did not want this to be number five. So I persevered, and while I don't regret the decision (I think it might have haunted me otherwise), this book was far from satisfying.

Seriously, what is it with Niven and rishathra? Dude, I get it: you like talking about hominids having sex. Most of the first part of *The Ringworld Throne* consists of people from various Ringworld species—Machine People, Grass Giants, Red herders, etc.—leading an expedition to wipe out some vampires. (Vampires, in

Niven's world, are sub-sentient hominids who release pheromones that cause other hominids to have sex with them while they drink their victims' blood.) Among the expedition is Valavirgillin, one of the people Louis Wu met and befriended during *The Ringworld Engineers*. In between discussing tactics for killing vampires, Valavirgillin and her allies have rishathra and talk about rishathra endlessly.

It all feels rather pointless, especially because I thought I was getting another book about Louis Wu and Chmeee. Louis does play a larger role as the story progresses, but we don't see Chmeee after the prologue. We meet his son, Acolyte, who is endearing after the Kzinti fashion but otherwise essentially another set piece for Niven's increasingly-bizarre chess game among Louis, the Hindmost, and his Protector-Anagonist-of-the-Week.

The original *Ringworld* fascinated because it was, well, *original*. The concept was new, and Niven had assembled an eclectic ensemble of humans and aliens to explore the Ringworld and get into trouble. And it had a textbook example of the sense of wonder that good science-fiction novels, especially those with Big Dumb Objects, can evoke. Niven, if nothing else, is great at discussing scale, and the Ringworld can make one feel small and insignificant.

Even *The Ringworld Engineers* had its strong points. Niven upgraded the Ringworld's backstory, positing a new species as the engineers and giving Louis a truly enormous problem to solve. Though he is successful in the end, he does so at (he thinks) a terrible price. And so when *The Ringworld Throne* opens, we see a tired Louis Wu ready to retreat into his autumn years. He is going to strike off across the Ringworld alone, without any boosterspice to keep him young, determined to age and die normally. This story alone would be intriguing, but Niven does not leave well enough alone and insists on including the parallel story of Valavirgillin's Vampire Slayers.

In addition to the unnecessary emphasis on rishathra, this storyline feels so out of place in a science-fiction novel. Yes, there are various non-human species, but most of the technology is medieval or just barely industrial, and the threat is just *vampires*. If the book had been published last year, we might be able to accuse Niven of riding the vampire craze set off by those novels you've all heard about. As it is, I have trouble understanding the *point* to this entire storyline. And I don't know if it's just because the story failed to entice me whatsoever, but I had a very difficult time following the order of events and keeping track of who was who. There were times when I just skimmed the pages until I reached a chapter with Louis Wu and read from there.

Unfortunately, Louis' story doesn't make much more sense. He enters into some sort of contractual arrangement with *yet another* Protector, and they then engage in a test of wills/minds, jockeying for superiority while the Hindmost whines about stepping discs. Although more nominally science-fictional than Valavirgillin's story, this plot also fails to pass the "Make Me Care" test. The Protectors are an intriguing alien species, but Niven relies far too much on speculation among his characters as a form of exposition. While it might make for a lighter touch when it comes to narration, this has the one drawback of allowing Niven an easy way out when it comes to retconning in later books: the characters were mistaken, or lying, or both. So I just don't feel like investing much time or effort into learning about a backstory that is just going to get revised anyway.

I wish, having now read these three books, that I could somehow take everything I like from each of the books and mash it up into a single, coherent *Ringworld* narrative. There's something good in each of them—yes, even in this one—but it's lost in a lot of mediocre and downright awful stuff. Niven shares a problem all-too-common among other science-fiction writers: his ability to come up with big ideas far exceeds his mastery of the actual craft of writing. Niven is a *good* writer, but he is a good writer with

awesome ideas, an essentially disappointing combination.

The Ringworld Throne is, as I said earlier, likely the conclusion for me of the *Ringworld* series, at least for now. And if you are considering the series, consider reading only the first book; it did earn its place in the canon of classical science fiction. I cannot say the same for its sequels, particularly this one.

Lastly, for Terence:

My Reviews of the Ringworld series:

← *The Ringworld Engineers*

Eric Stodolnik says

I'm sad to say that I was a bit disappointed with this installment of the Ringworld series. In fact, I was a bit on the fence as to whether I was going to give this a 3 Star or a 4 Star rating. I decided on 4 Stars, I think because I really enjoyed the ending, or more specifically most of the "Part 2" section, and it picking up and my enjoying it a lot more at the end meant my enjoyment was more fresh in my memory than my disappointment. So I settled on 4 Stars, but if you could do half-stars on this site, I would've ended up giving it a 3.5.

The first half+ of the book was a bit of a let down to me though. I really LOVED Ringworld, and while I didn't like Ringworld Engineers nearly as much as the first novel, I still loved that book as well... So I was ready for more fantastic adventures of Louis Wu and his Motley Crew!... So when the heaping bulk of the first part of the book was about a band of Ringworld natives and their odd-stacked-against war with the Vampires, I was definitely let down. It was cool and exciting at times, particularly the section where they made their way onto the City Builders' floating factory... But it wasn't the Ringworld I came to know and love, and at times it was downright boring. I found myself extremely eager to get the war over and done with so I could get back to Louis Wu and Hindmost's part in the story. In fact, I ended up putting the book down somewhere around page 145 and not picking it back up again for over a month... And it is extremely rare that I'll put down a book for a break.

But when the Vampire War was finally done with, it got back to the Ringworld storytelling that I expected, with their ups and downs and epic battles with Pak Protectors. So the second part of the novel pretty much redeemed it for me.

One more thing to note is that there sure was an uncomfortable amount of "Rishing" in this book, lol... I get it, it makes sense, what with the role that the Vampires played on the story... And I'm not a prude by any stretch of the imagination (in fact, I'd say that I'm extremely desensitized and consider myself to have a bit of a sick sense of humor) so it's not like all that Rishartha actually offended me in any way like it would some Christian moms who might find out what was actually in the sci-fi novel their kid is reading, lol... But JEEZ! So much Rishing!!! Lol. It kind of makes me guess that Larry Niven might have been a bit sexually frustrated during the writing of this novel and took it out on all the lucky native species of Ringworld. Lol. But hey, it didn't really take away from the novel. One thing is for sure though... There's NO POSSIBLE WAY that this book could be adapted into a sci fi film! ;D

I'm hoping the final installation in the Ringworld opus will get back to the Ringworld I loved and just stick with 'ol Louis Wu and his Motley Crew!

Oh yeah!... And it also made me kinda sad that Chmeee ended up being MIA for the whole book, sending his son, Acolyte, to fill in for him. Hopefully he'll be back in the next book.

odedo1 says

Such an old story but still good.

I don't think that I would recommend it for everyone because of this reason, new SiFi uses much more advance science with authors trying to explain its working which is missing in Ringworld but if you disregard it you can enjoy the series.

Niffe says

This is the first book in a long time that I started reading and never finished.

While the first two ringworld books were annoying in their obsession with aliens having sex with each other, this installment in the series was unreadable for the same reason. At 60% there still seemed to be almost nothing going on in the book except for "Rishathra" (Wikipedia: "In Larry Niven's Ringworld novels, rishathra is "sexual practice outside one's own species but within the intelligent hominoids"), and what little there was didn't seem to be going anywhere.

I am even more bewildered by the over-abundance of sex in this book than in the previous books, as in the previous books it seemed as though the author might have some sort of subtle point that I was missing, while in the case of this book the Rishathra was such a central concept that it seems as though any point should have been explicit.

If you have read this book and can explain to me what the point was, please do so!

I might return to this book one day, for completeness, but it was bad enough to get me out of the habit of reading fiction for months, so I am not in any hurry to give it another go.

Benjamin Duffy says

I believe it was Isaac Asimov who said that in true science fiction, the setting is the real protagonist. In this third Ringworld book, Niven is finally arriving at that stage; there's frustratingly little of Louis Wu (undoubtedly Niven's most interesting and compelling character) in the first half of this book, so it was slow going for me until the Ringworld itself roped me in. By that, I mean that eventually I kept pushing forward, not because I cared what happened to the people, but more because I was intrigued by what they would find next, and by the ultimate fate of the world. Much the same as the last two of the original six *Dune* novels in that way.

Not nearly as warm, funny, or emotionally involving as the first *Ringworld* book, but more compelling than

The Ringworld Engineers. Again, Niven's intelligence and imagination leave little to be criticized, and this series is definitely worthwhile reading for the fan of speculative fiction.

Booknerd Fraser says

This was a disappointment. I mean, Niven knows how to get you to turn the page, but the first part of the story is about characters I'm not really attached to, and the second part was something of a rushed train wreck. It's the opposite of over-written, it was under-written
