



The Eternal War

Alex Scarrow

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Liam O'Connor should have died at sea in 1912.

Maddy Carter should have died on a plane in 2010.

Sal Vikram should have died in a fire in 2026.

But all three have been given a second chance—to work for an agency that no one knows exists. Its purpose: to prevent time travel destroying history...

A time wave has struck that alters the entire history of the American Civil War. Abraham Lincoln has followed Liam into the present from 1831 and now the world is in a dangerous state of limbo...

If the TimeRiders can't return Lincoln to the past, the Civil War will *never* end. Can Maddy persuade two colonels on either side of no man's land to cease fire long enough to save the future?

The Eternal War Details

Date : Published July 14th 2011 by Puffin

ISBN : 9780141336336

Author : Alex Scarrow

Format : Paperback 448 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Time Travel, Young Adult, Fantasy, Adventure

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From Reader Review The Eternal War for online ebook

Dove Harbour says

I didn't love this one quite as much as book 3, but I am getting hooked onto the overall story of the series. I am getting a bit confused by the time waves though. The team aren't affected by the wave because "they don't belong here anyway", but at other times they have to run in panic to get home before the wave hits. If the wave doesn't affect them I have a few questions: In book 1 how did Sal come back? In book 2 how did they reset the schoolkids? And in book 3 surely that Adam character could never have joined the team since he *did* belong in 2001? I'm not sure if this is inconsistency or just not all revealed yet. Overall the little mysteries etc are pretty interesting. I like that Liam is growing up quicker than the other two, and I always love Bob and Becks.

Phillip III says

The Eternal War was a great installment in the Time Rider series.

Abe Lincoln doesn't become president. Instead he is bound to die in a freak accident. Worse, when the Time Riders go back to the 1800's to fix history, Lincoln gets caught in the time machine and finds himself in 2001 --never having been president.

And the world is a mess.

The Time Riders have their work cut out for them as they desperately attempt righting so many wrongs ... time (naturally) is of the essence. If they can't fix what went wrong, countless lives will be at lost. It comes down to trust, and a tired present.

Phillip Tomasso
Author of Absolute Zero
and Damn the Dead

Michelle says

I loved this series from the very first book but this, the fourth, was a major disappointment. There was nothing new about this - it was the same style as the previous books and didn't feature any big revelations as previous books have done. With a LOT of buildup (teaser images/jigsaws on the website for example) I was excitedly waiting for this book to come onto Amazon so I could preorder it. And then I simply had to start reading it as soon as I got it, despite the fact I've got about a million other books to read before this.

There were a couple of main things that I didn't like about this book. The technology and some of the description of certain "characters" were not up to scratch. Whether they were not well enough described for my imagination to work, or for some other reason, there was no image fixed in my head. And I normally can read these books pretty quickly but it took me the best part of a week to get through, and even then it felt like a chore to actually pick it up and read it, not pick it up and enjoy it.

The same characters come back, but they seem to be just plodding along and really doing nothing to move the story forwards. If it is true that Alex Scarrow has an end in mind to this series (I've heard it's rumoured to be six or as many as nine books!) he would have been best off skipping this book, or condensing it to fit in with another book, there's that much interesting storyline in it.

As expected, there's a big revelation/cliffhanger at the end of each book. One particular finale in a previous book had me bouncing in my seat and squealing and then telling my Dad he simply had to read it now. How did this one end? With me yawning and looking at my watch and thinking "was that it?"

Robin Carter says

TimeRiders Book4, a series that grows and improves with every book, and that's not a simple compliment to the author because book one was a 5 star excellent read.

This is a fun series for any age, i'm 40 and i love them, I have bought all of them for myself, my 21 year old son, my 15 year old nephew, 12 year old niece, various cousins and my friends kids and they all love them.

Book 4 is a return to the brilliantly written characters that Alex Scarrow is so well known for and his greatest talent, the last book has been awarded the Red House Children's (older readers) book of the year 2011 for writing those amazingly real and likeable characters.

The story as usual roars along at a frenetic pace, so fast in fact that you will struggle not to devour the book in one sitting

As usual we get a further peek at the overall series back story that gathers pace as the series progresses, as story within a story, and at the end we are left to wonder where this writers imagination can take us next. This is a Book and series that has more awards in it and a writer that has further brilliance to put onto paper.

For those who have not, I suggest you go read his other thrillers, A thousand Suns, Last Light, Afterlight and October Skies all also brilliant stories.

Highly recommended.
(Parm)

Pari {Ridhee} says

I'll like to be straightforward. I realized it in this book that Alex Scarrow was trying to warn us what could happen to us after fifty years if we didnt take care of our environment right now. In this book, Abraham Lincoln comes into the future. The plot is always the same, but the way there is a bigger secret to these series, which is revealed in The City of Shadows (I've not read it yet), makes it all the more interesting. Alex Scarrow realizes that if he continues with one or the adventure in every book, without a deeper secret, this book will go down and it will not be popular and will be read by nine year old kids when he wants older people to read it. After all its a YA novel. This keeps me going. I thought of leaving the book, but this secret stopped me. The way he puts the text, which will come where, attracts the attention also. That's the best part. He starts with different stuff. If he would start with the same thing, it would get so boring, no one would like to read it. He has brains, just like his brother, Simon Scarrow. People read it, enjoy it and tell me how you liked it!

Erik Fazekas says

OMFG!!!

Kde mám ?alší diel?!

Akože... nebol to najlepší diel, udržal si akúsi štandardnú úrove?, ale to?ko vecí sa tu vysvetlilo, to?ko pochopilo a TO?KO nazna?ilo... že... fakt neviem, ?o bude ?alej.

John says

This is another great entry in the TimeRiders series. I think the best way to describe this book is "TimeRiders goes steampunk" as our trio of time traveler's find themselves thrust into an alternate timeline in which the Civil War never really ended and technology has barely progressed beyond the Industrial Period.

While this is not my favorite TimeRiders book, it still had plenty of action and adventure to keep this reader engaged and keep me hooked on the series. And I was excited to see Sal get the opportunity to go out "in the field."

I would recommend this book (and the series) to any young avid reader as well as adults who enjoy well-written, young adult books that don't talk down to children.

Anthony ➡ KeepReadingForward ➡ says

4/5

Date Reviewed: 13 January 2018

This Review was first posted on Keep Reading Forward. If you want to see more, check out our other locations as well as here.

This is the only series that I have to push myself to get the next book and continue. Now, I enjoy reading the series, but I always have this thought that says there is something else I can read, something better. These thoughts just want to make me stop and give up the series completely. However, I refuse to give up the series and I will finish it. I will finish all nine books of the series.

I have expressed many times that I worry for the series because I just don't want it to be repetitive book after book. In each book, a different story involves another time period. Along with the time travel, it usually takes place within that certain time period. However, in this place, I am glad to say that Scarrow has finally shaken it up. It finally feels that Scarrow knows that it was time to make something different. Instead of the team being in a certain time period, the team was stuck in an alternate present day. That has really became an interesting take for the stories, and it was one that I really enjoyed.

The series are so darn good and for once, I am finally excited to read the next book (which will be in a while because I have a ton of other books to read...) which takes place in Rome! If I had to read anything involving history, it would either in Greece/Rome or Egypt (in which would totally have been cool for this series, but I guess not...). Now, onto the next time-traveling adventure!

Stuart says

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves" - Abraham Lincoln

Here we are with book four of Alex Scarrow's *Timeriders* series. This time Liam, Sal and Bob *et al* find themselves venturing back in time to 1936, America and one drunken Abraham Lincoln. Though, much of the story is set in 2001, where an alternate timeline has occurred (due to certain events and the usual cock-ups by Maddy and Sal). The American Civil War never ended, the south is now under the control of the British and the north is now run by the French. Plausible I suppose, given the British and French were willing to aid both sides if you believe some of the historical evidence - though due to both sides stance on slavery, it would have been a very unpopular decision for both countries back home.

War is hell out there, the Timeriders find themselves caught in the middle of a war in New York, where it's become a sort of trench warfare conflict. Spurred on by these strange arrivals, the combatants band together to kick the British and French out of their country. Both sides are disillusioned with the war, due to underlying prejudice, slightly akin to the slavery issues from the original American Civil War. This perceived prejudice comes from the use of eugenics, genetically engineered beings, created for slave labour. Another interesting aspect is the similarity between the support units Becks and Bob, who are also genetically engineered super-cyborgs from the future. How they react to their situation helps push the story along and makes for interesting reading.

A continual trend with the sorry, that becomes even more apparent in this novel, is just how crap the Timerider team are at doing their job. The problem is, and it certainly hamstrings the story, is that Maddy is a moany-worrier, Sal is a kid of 12 years old and doesn't add anything to the team, beyond her made up swear-words. Their whole situation stems by them making a childish mistake, which avalanches into one big cock-up. By now, I'm finding it rather amusing just how badly Maddy is going to mess up - maybe this was the authors cunning plan all along. Write a bad character who you just want to see fail! Sneaky.

The truth is, I thoroughly enjoyed this YA novel. It's fairly well written and thought out (other than Maddy and Sal). I'm either getting soft or my reading tastes are going downhill as I age! *groans*. Of particular interest are the humanistic philosophical posits that come from the writers prose.

Tom Owens says

Occasionally, usually between "epics", I like to indulge in a little palette cleansing for the mind. My series of choice for these moments is Alex Scarrow's cheeky little number, Time Riders.

Three young kids, who should all have died, have been given a second chance at the moment of their supposed departure - to work for a top secret organisation whose goal is to make sure no-one can destroy the fabric of space-time via time travel.

The premise is interesting and fun, though there are some slight plot holes/inconsistencies which sometimes

do allow Scarrow to escape from a hole he has somehow got into. Generally though, these tales do exactly what it says on the tin - they are marketed more towards Young Adults so maybe its not unsurprising that they aren't quite as developed plot wise.

The Eternal War is #4 in the series of (I think) 9, and we are starting to see an arc developing which wasn't quite so prevalent in the earlier books (though it was hinted at towards the end of #3). The first few felt like stand-alone tales but the last couple have really started to present more and more questions about the nature of the Time Riders, who recruited them, what the ultimate reason for their existence is and why is time travel so dangerous?

For the first time in the series you really sense something bigger lurking in the shadows, waiting to pop out and ramp up the intrigue a notch or two. Coincident with that is a further "layering" of the characters from what has been seen before. They are starting to feel more three dimensional and slightly more well rounded than they have been previously.

Another interesting difference in this particular story is the setting. Rather than our operatives having to operate from "the past" to try and fix what has gone wrong, Eternal War finds us in an alternative future, trying desperately to fix the necessary equipment in order to go back in time and repair the damage. This helps in allowing a number of the characters to get outside of the comfort zone they have been living in for the first few stories, further aiding their development and evolution.

Overall this feels like a very transitional book, the individual and loosely linked stories giving way to something which is a bit complex and over-arching than we though at first glance. These are never going to be towering epics, but they certainly clean the palette well whilst providing plenty of interest along the way.

Verdict: 4 stars out of 5

Ira Booklover says

Saya kalau membaca TimeRiders itu, mau ga mau, harus terburu-buru, seperti dikejar-kejar waktu. Soalnya ceritanya sendiri seperti itu. Kalau tidak cepat-cepat, nanti gelombang waktu yang mengubah dunia akan terjadi, dan para tokoh dalam kisah ini akan melihat kilasan mengerikan di langit, dimana sejarah menyusun ulang dirinya kembali. Parahnya, penyusunan ulang itu menyebabkan dunia yang kita kenal menjadi dunia yang tidak kenal.

Saya rasa, petualangan Maddy dkk kali ini kalah menegangkan dibanding buku-buku sebelumnya. Entah karena saya sudah terbiasa dengan ketegangan seri TimeRiders, atau karena kali ini masalahnya terlalu terfokus kepada markas beratap lengkung, bukannya fokus kepada petualangan Liam di waktu yang berbeda, atau bisa juga karena ceritanya sendiri yang mengangkat tema perang abadi, dimana para prajuritnya sendiri sudah bosan berperang.

Tapi meskipun begitu, seperti biasa, saya tetap tidak bisa berhenti membaca TimeRiders. Saya bahkan tidak merasa sudah membaca lebih dari separuh buku saking serunya.

Ngomong-ngomong kali ini ceritanya adalah tentang perang saudara di Amerika. Ada hubungannya dengan sejarah Presiden Abraham Lincoln. Nah, bagi saya inilah asiknya TimeRiders. Saya bisa lebih mengenal sejarah yang pada awalnya hanya saya kenal sekilas.

Oke, kembali ke perang saudara di Amerika. Menurut sejarah yang sebenarnya, Perang Saudara tersebut berakhir di tahun 1865. Masalah besar terjadi saat gelombang waktu besar-besaran menghantam dunia. Hasilnya, Amerika di tahun 2001 masih terjebak di dalam perang saudara.

Well, bayangkan saja ada perang yang berlangsung selama ratusan tahun. Tidak ada pihak yang menang maupun kalah. Saking lamanya perang tersebut, kedua pihak yang saling bermusuhan pun sudah saling mengenal layaknya saudara. Eh tapi kalau dipikir-pikir mereka memang saudara sih, kan namanya juga perang saudara yak.

Awalnya gelombang waktu yang terjadi kecil saja. Maddy menemukan penyebab masalah dengan cepat. Dia bahkan mengijinkan Sal ikut bersama Liam untuk kembali ke masa lalu dan memperbaiki keadaan. Sayangnya, keadaan memang selalu saja menjadi lebih buruk kalau menyangkut TimeRiders.

Seseorang yang seharusnya mereka selamatkan ternyata mengikuti mereka ke tahun 2001. Kebetulan orang ini adalah orang yang menghentikan perang saudara di Amerika. Ketidakhadirannya di tahunnya sendirilah yang mengakibatkan Amerika masih terjebak dalam perang sampai tahun 2001. Luar biasa.

Mengembalikan orang ini ternyata tidak mudah. Ada-ada saja kejadian yang mengakibatkan satu-persatu gelombang waktu datang dan mengubah sedikit demi sedikit dunia yang ada saat ini. Saat gelombang waktu yang paling besar datang, Maddy terjebak sendirian di markas yang hampir runtuh, di tengah zona perang saudara dan nyaris putus asa.

Sisi positifnya adalah Liam dkk berada di zona waktu yang sama dengan Maddy, mereka hanya berbeda tempat. Sayangnya tempat tersebut sangat jauh dan juga banyak mengalami masalah.

Petualangan kali ini diawali dan diakhiri dengan misteri yang menyelubungi Sal. Sepertinya masing-masing anggota TimeRiders memiliki misterinya sendiri. Sayangnya, petunjuk misteri tentang Sal terlalu sedikit.

At last, susah untuk tidak suka dengan agen-agen perjalanan waktu ini setelah apa yang mereka lalui di buku-buku sebelumnya. Tapi favorit saya tetap Liam sih :D. So, 5 dari 5 bintang untuk buku keempat TimeRiders. Sudah jadi seri favorit soalnya.

Tasha says

A minor time wave has Liam travelling back to 1831 to investigate and set right an accidental death of a young man named Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln wasn't supposed to die, his destiny was to become President of the United States but someone's been messing with time ... again. After ensuring that Lincoln remains alive, Liam returns to 2001 but somehow manages to bring Lincoln with him. With Lincoln now not being able to have influence on the American Civil war everything changes. The war never ends and instead becomes a battle between the French and British on US ground.

This fourth book takes the Timeriders series in a slightly different direction from the other books in the series. The previous instalments have had a majority of the action happening in the past. This time they are in the present, even though it's a very altered present. There's a very steam-punk feel to the story with the ongoing war drastically changing how science and technology developed. Computers and cell phones are unheard of but genetic engineering is much more advanced.

I really enjoyed reading this book and I was glad the author mixed up it up a bit in terms of the story pattern set in the earlier books. The characters are developing nicely and we're starting to get to know a lot more about the Timeriders agency and how the time travel technology came about. As an extra advantage, I found that I actually learned quite a lot about the American Civil War from reading this book, as I had an extremely limited knowledge of it before hand.

I highly recommend the Timeriders series, particularly to fans of Dr Who and Scott Westerfeld's Leviathan series.

Γι?τα Παπαδημακοπο?λου says

?χει περ?σει αρκετ?ς καιρ?ς απ? τ?τε που σχολι?σαμε το τρ?το βιβλ?ο της σειρ?ς "Οι φ?λακες του χρ?vou", του Alex Scarrow, και παρ? που ?χω διαβ?σει το τ?ταρτο βιβλ?ο απ? το καλοκα?ρι, δεν ε?χα βρει χρ?vο μ?χρι στιγμ?ς να καταγρ?ψω την ?ποψ? μου γι' αυτ?. ?ταν κ?τι που δεν ?θελα να γ?νει βιαστικ?, ?χι μ?νο γιατ? οι υποχρε?σεις μου ?ταν πολλ?ς και ?πρεπε να καλυφθο?v με τον καλ?τερο δυνατ? τρ?πο, αλλ? γιατ? μετ? τον "Κ?δικα της Αποκ?λυψης" που αν και μου ?ρεσε αρκετ?, δεν πα?ει να ?πεσε ο π?χης, ο συγγραφ?ας καταφ?ρνει με τον "Αι?vιο π?λεμο" να μπει και π?λι στο παιχν?δι, ?χι απλ? ανεβ?ζοντας και π?λι τον π?χη εκε? που τον ε?χε τοποθετ?σει το δε?τερο βιβλ?ο, "Η μ?ρα του αρπακτικο?", αλλ? να τον π?ει και λ?γο ψηλ?τερα, πρ?γμα που δεν περ?μενα και που σαφ?στατα αποτ?λεσε μια εξαιρετικ? ευχ?ριστη ?κπληξη.

Οι γνωστ?, πλ?ον, σε ?λους παρ?α, ?χει αναλ?βει μ?α ν?α αποστολ?. Να επιστρ?ψει στο παρελθ?v για μ?α ακ?μα φορ?, και πιο συγκεκριμ?vα στο 1831, ?χοντας ως στ?χο να αποτρ?ψουν τον θ?vατο του Λ?vκολν. Και πρ?γματι, τα καταφ?ρνουν, ?μως η επιτυχ?α τους αυτ? στιγματ?ζεται απ? ?να μοιρα?ο λ?θος. Μαζ? με εκε?vους, στο παρ?v, επιστρ?φει και ο Λ?vκολν με αποτ?λεσμα να αλλ?ξει ?λη η ρο? της ιστορ?ας, αφο? εκε?vος δεν υπ?ρξε ποτ?, δεν ?γινε πρ?εδρος των Η.Π.Α. και σαν να μην ?φταναν ?λα αυτ?, ο π?λεμος μεταξ? N?τιων και B?ριων δεν ?ληξε ποτ?, παρ? συνεχ?ζεται μ?χρι και σ?μερα. Οι αντ?παλες πλευρ?ς εξυπηρετο?v πλ?ον ξ?vα συμφ?ροντα, ?χοντας χ?σει τον στ?χο τους και ?χοντας ξεχ?σει πως και γιατ? ξεκ?vησε ο εμφ?λιος αυτ?ς, η Αμερικ? μαστ?ζεται απ? αρρ?στιες, εν? σαν να μην ?φταναν ?λα αυτ?, ομ?δες θυμ?των της ευγονικ?ς που παλαι?τερα χρησιμοποι?θηκαν απ? τους ?γλους ?χουν χ?σει τον ?λεγχο κ?vοντας επιθ?σεις σε ?λλους ανθρ?πους.

Διαβ?ζοντας ?λα τα παραπ?vω πολ? πιθαν?v να σκεφτε?τε πως ο συγγραφ?ας προσπ?θησε να χωρ?σει πολλ? στοιχε?α και γεγον?τα -?σως και κ?πως ασ?vδετα μεταξ? τους- σε μ?α μον?vχα ιστορ?α. Και ?χι, δεν θα ?χετε ?δικο. Αλλ? η ουσ?α δεν βρ?σκεται εκε?, αλλ? στο πως ο ?διος τα διαχειρ?στηκε, πρ?γμα που π?τυχε με τρ?πο μοναδικ? και ανεπαν?ληπτο, δημιουργ?vτας μια ολ?τελα δικι? του ιστορ?α καταφ?ρνοντας ε?στοχα και με λογικ? συν?vπεια να παραποι?σει την ?δια την Ιστορ?α, ?τσι ?στε να την φ?ρει στα δικ? του μ?τρα. Η ιδ?α του Scarrow, με μ?α μοναδικ? λ?ξη, ε?vαι λαμπρ?!. Με το βιβλ?ο αυτ? καταφ?ρνει να αποδε?ξει ?χι μ?νο πως ε?vαι ?νας εξαιρετικ?ς συγγραφ?ας, αλλ? πως ε?vαι και εξαιρετικ?ς γ?vτης της Ιστορ?ας και αρκετ? ευφυ?ς ?στε να την αξ?ιοποι?σει με τρ?πο μοναδικ? προς χ?ριν της μυθοπλασ?ας, προκαλ?ντας μας ποικ?λα συναισθ?ματα και προσφ?ροντ?ς μας μια περιπ?vεια με συνεχε?ς ανατροπ?ς κι εκπλ?ξεις που κ?βουν την αν?σα.

?σον αφορ? τον χειρισμ? των χαρακτ?ρων του, ο Scarrow κ?vει επ?vης εξαιρετικ? δουλει?, με τους ?ρω?ς μας ?χι απλ? να ?χουν ωριμ?σει, αλλ? να παρουσι?ζουν τα φυσικ? σημ?δια φθορ?ς που

επιφ?ρει η ν?α τους θ?ση και κατ?σταση, ?χι μον?χα επειδ? δεν ?χουν τη δυνατ?τητα να επιστρ?ψουν στο παρελθ?v και να διορθ?σουν το λ?θος τους, αλλ? επειδ? απ? παιδι? αναγκ?στηκαν να γ?νουν εν?λικες πιο γρ?γορα απ' ?σο ?πρεπε, σηκ?νοντας το β?ρος ?λου του κ?σμου στις πλ?τες τους. Δεν ε?ναι, ?μως, μον?χα οι πρωταγωνιστ?ς που παρουσι?ζουν ενδιαφ?ρον και ?να τρομερ? δουλεμ?νο ψυχογρ?φημα, αλλ? και οι δε?τεροι χαρακτ?ρες που ο καθ?νας με τον δικ? του τρ?πο προσθ?τει ?να ακ?μα λιθαρ?κι σε ?να χρονικ? που δεν γνωρ?ζουμε που θα καταλ?ξει, αλλ? που δεν μπορε? να μην αφ?σει, στο τ?λος, σημ?δια και πληγ?ς.

Καταγιστικ? δρ?ση, με φ?ντο ?να ζοφερ? περιβ?λλον που κ?νει το στ?θος σου να σφ?γγεται απ? αγων?α για το τι πρ?κειται να ακολουθ?σει, και μια περιπ?τεια που δεν σου επιτρ?πει ο?τε για μια στιγμ? να βαρεθε?ς. Παρ?λληλα, θα λ?γαμε πως το βιβλ?ο αυτ? ?χει και φιλοσοφικ? υπ?βαθρο, με τον Scarrow να αφ?νει ξεκ?θαρες αιχμ?ς εναντ?ον του ανθρωπ?νου γ?νους και της επιστ?μης που, συνδυαστικ?, προσπαθο?ν να παραστ?σουν τον Θε? και να αποδε?ξουν πως ο ?λεγχος, η δ?ναμη και η ισχ?ς, δεν ε?ναι δυν?μεις που απλ? υπ?ρχουν στο Σ?μπαν, αλλ? που πλ?θονται, δημιουργο?νται και τελικ?, ακολουθο?ν την πορε?α που εμε?ς ορ?ζουμε. ?μως, ε?ναι ?τσι τα πρ?γματα στην πραγματικ?τητα; Μ?λλον ?χι! Αν, λοιπ?v, δεν ?χετε ?δη διαβ?σει τον "Αι?νιο π?λεμο", κ?ντε το ?σο πιο ?μεσα μπορε?τε και χαθε?τε μ?σα στις εξελ?ξεις του που ε?ναι ανατρεπτικ?ς και συγκλονιστικ?ς, που συγκινο?ν και προβληματ?ζουν, χωρ?ς καν να προσπαθο?v.

Jonathan Terrington says

I admit it, I skipped book three and read book four. Why? Well because I couldn't get my hands on book three. Skipping books in series is never something I like doing but it does give you a great idea of how powerful a series is.

The very fact that I could instantly understand what was going on shows that the TimeRiders series is one which allows for a reader to engage no matter the book number in the series. And I just created an awful run-on sentence. But now back to the novel. This for me was a return to the original premise of the story. It featured the American Civil War and the idea that taking Abraham Lincoln out of history meant that the war kept on forever backed by British and French troops on either side. It didn't become a war about slavery but about the British and the French using American troops and the land of America. That for me was fascinating.

Technology and action wise the story again picked up and featured the elements I loved about the first novel. There was the time travel technology, there were steam-punk airships, there were genetically created creatures of various types and there were two terminator/genetically created human soldiers. And because this was in the Civil War there was heaps and heaps of shooting, fighting and blood and gore. (view spoiler)

So if you like time travel and want to pick up another series read the first novel. And then eventually you might work your way through to this one. Or perhaps you'd prefer to jump in with the fourth book and work out everything that's going on. Your move.

Christine Blachford says

Really enjoyed this one. The series continues to grow on me, although it continues to be not quite for my reading tastes whilst being a subject matter that I adore. This one felt a lot more serious than those that went before, not in terms of the level of peril our characters were in but more in philosophical thoughts of the world they're in.

We had many moments where the characters would much prefer to stay in a different timeline, and equally those within an alternate line wistfully wanting to change. The grass is always greener, etc, etc. We also had more explanation of how this particular time travel works, and why some events in history are more important than others. There are still bits I can't get my head around, but mostly it makes sense.

I loved the scene with the police at the end, and amazed myself by remembering the reference previously. There was also the now-traditional edge of your seat ending, with the action going right up until the last minute. Although this time it wasn't so much a twist in the tale as a rather disturbing cliffhanger, designed to keep you wanting to know more. And it works!
