



The Ruins of Anthalas

Richard Fox

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An ancient holocaust holds the key to humanity's survival.

An ember of mankind endured the Xaros invasion, those who remain are too weak to defeat the alien's inevitable return. The key to rebuilding Earth's defenses lies within a cryptic message from a long lost alien race, one deep behind enemy lines. One of the last strike carriers, the *Breitenfeld*, journeys to the distant world and learns that humanity isn't the only power interested in the planet's secrets. Do the ruins of Anthalas hold an ancient treasure, or a deadly trap?

THE RUINS OF ANTHALAS is the second book in THE EMBER WAR SAGA, a military sci-fi space opera. If you like David Weber and John Ringo with a touch of Isaac Asimov, then you'll love this fast-paced and captivating adventure where humanity survives at the edge of a knife.

Join in the epic series today!

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Q&A with Richard Fox

What's in store for the crew of the *Breitenfeld*?

The war with the Xaros is far from over. In this story we'll meet new enemies, new allies and learn that Marc Ibarra isn't done manipulating the human race. There's plenty of action, intrigue, and scifi adventure, but on a much larger scale as the war grows to include the Alliance that saved humanity from the Xaros invasion.

If this was a movie, what would it be rated?

Still PG-13 for and wartime violence some language.

When can we expect the next adventure?

Book 3 (tentative title BLOOD OF HEROES) will be out around Thanksgiving, 2015.

The Ruins of Anthalas Details

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Author : Richard Fox

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From Reader Review The Ruins of Anthalas for online ebook

Jesse Fort says

The adventure continues.

In the second book of the Ember Wars saga, we begin to see the full story that was started in the 1st book. New allies emerge, New threats show themselves. Not all is seen yet so more twists are yet to come. The action and pace of this novel are perfect, the story slows down just enough to provide depth. This is an excellent 2nd book in a series that has great promise. 4 1/2 stars. Lose half a star for a few editing and grammatical errors, but again, these did not take away from my enjoyment of this book.

Christopher Toon says

Exciting romp into the Anthalas system of a long dead alien civilisation with the crew of Breitenfeld. Explosive new information is revealed, and we finally get to meet some of the pivotal alien species! Can't wait for book three!

Barbara Dunbar says

The Ruins of Anthalas

This second book on the Ember War Saga continues with more skirmishes and frightening missions that keep them fighting the Xaros who annihilate intelligent life.

Andrew says

Well this second book was far better than the first, in it we see more aliens and battles overall a better book than the first for sure. I loved the new alien allies that we have in this book and that it is not just from a view of earth and the characters are going out of their way to fight for their survival.

Craig Sweeney says

Page turners

Glad to have found this author. Incredible imagination, great battles, live the hardware that he used. Good characters. Recommended highly.

Jim says

I really like reading a military science fiction series, especially when two or three books are already written. That's the case when I found "The Ember War" series. I've read and reviewed the first book, "The Ember War", and now I've just finished the second. This book pretty much carries on where the previous book left off which is always good.

Having saved what remains of Humanity, they now have to prepare for the next visit by the Xaros. That probably won't happen in a hundred or more years, but when they came and the Earth had over 7 billion people, that didn't stop them from almost wiping out every last one. Humanity's population is now around 400 or I think that's the number in the Earth remaining fleet. But, first they need to find something that will help them to fight against the Xaros. That something just might still exist on the planet Anthalas, so the Breitenfeld is going to go exploring.

It seems that the previous occupants of Anthalas were left alone since they were already extinct when the Xaros arrived in their solar system. The Xaros have a strange habit of not doing anything to the remains of ancient civilizations. Earth's Central Command believes there may be some advanced weapons or other advanced items left behind by the Anthalasians. They decided to send the Breitenfield to have a look; this is recon only and the ship is not to engage in combat if it can be avoided. The Xaros are not currently in the Anthalas system and aren't expected back anytime soon. The Breitenfield doesn't want to attract any attention if at all possible; get in, find what's left, collect it, and get out.

Unfortunately, nothing is ever so easy. The Toth have arrived with the same idea, only they are or were working with the Xaros. The Toth are the sworn enemy of the Karigole, an alien race now allied with humanity. So, now Alliance Marines must not only fight off the Xaros, but the Toth also. This battlefield is getting crowded. Lots of military action. Some characters get taken out with serious wounds and some new characters get introduced. We find out more about Marc Issac's Granddaughter, Stacy, and she appears to be a key player in all of this story.

I'm already on to the third book since I can't really find anything more interesting right now. I think you'll enjoy the series. Some of the characters are beginning to have a history and we're learning a little more about the leaders in this book. There certainly not very many humans left so they have to find some thing to help them fight off what could be millions of Xaros drones in the next battle for Earth.

Lisa says

Really Good Space Opera

I liked this book. The storyline is entertaining and the characters believable. In some ways it reminds me of Heinlein, yet in other ways I think of Hubbard.
I Highly Recommend this Series.

Shelly Singhal says

Fun

This book moved really fast and was fun to read. Some of the battle scenes were hard to follow but I really enjoyed reading it.

Michael Wood says

Good Second Full Novel in Ember War Series

If anything, this second novel in the series is even better than the first. I emphasize "novel" because it is a full-length book of 400 or so pages. One weakness of many military space opera writers is a tendency to break the story up into very small chunks. Fox did not fall into that mistake. This is a well-written, full-length book.

After Earth had been exterminated (first book), the million or so survivors start gearing up to fight a second expected battle with the evil Xaros make the twelve year round trip from their nearest base to finish their extermination campaign against humanity (and, it would seem, every intelligent species in our galaxy).

The Artificial Intelligence is now passing along more advanced alien technology from the "Alliance" (of alien civilizations that refuse to surrender and die as the Xaros demand). The AI had previously withheld this information because the "Alliance" feared discovery by the Xaros if too much technology revealed that others had helped humanity.

In this novel, we see some of the hidden abilities of the human race, as well as individual members, begin to emerge. In tandem with the protagonists, we begin to learn more about the various civilizations that survive the destruction of the Xaros. We learn the Xaros have decimated nine tenths of our galaxy. Some characters seem to believe that the Xaros are preparing our galaxy for another race.

We meet another race of enemies, a race that actually consumes the minds and then the bodies of intelligent aliens and humans. We also get some hints that there may be concealed motivations for most, if not every one of the competing civilizations. Quite a few plot twists, hard to see where Fox will go, but I look forward to reading the next book. Highly Recommended

John says

3.5 for the Ruins of Anthalas purely because of the dramatic slow down from the pace of book 1. There are a lot of interesting concepts in this book, that will almost certainly be developed in the series, but there were times when it was hard to follow. I don't think I cared much for the alien mind control and possession at random times. There was an interesting teaser towards the end that we may soon find out what the Xaros are up to and why they want to wipe out all life in the galaxy. Good series so far.

David Williams says

The saga continues

In The Ruins of Anthalas the saga of the Ember War continues. Humanity has barely survived its first

encounter with the Xaros. Before the enemy returns humanity must be prepared. They are not alone. There is a coalition of alien species that has formed to fight the Xaros. Now the crew of the Brietenfeld must explore an abandoned civilization for clues on how to destroy this foe. What they find will only lead to more questions

Richard Fix has written an excellent second book to his series. Once again the pacing is fast, but not breakneck. Our favorite characters are back along with some new favorites. The characters are enjoyable and the writing is great. Check out this series and get ready for a good time.

Trish R. says

THE RUINS OF ANTHALAS

So, they battled the Xaros in the first book and I thought they took care of them, BUT they show up again in book 9 when, according to the books blurb, they finally get all that's coming to them. Yeah, that's not gonna happen for me. I can't read 9 books of battles. I'll stick with this one with the Xaros that were left to guard Anthalas, the dead Shanishol that had lived there and the Toth, who wanted to kill everyone, just like the Xaros did. Again, one battle after another. (Oh, and the Karigole, who were helping the humans.)

I finished this book and it was a little better than the first one. BUT, I just can't read the next 7 books. I don't mind when an author write 2 or 3 or 4 books in a series with cliffhanger-like endings but I can't read 9. I've read as many as 10 to 15 books in a series but they weren't cliffhangers. Maybe you wouldn't call them a cliffhanger but they are without endings. LOL, life's too short.

The heroes were all fabulous. Some were still alive when these two books ended and some had gotten killed.

No sex and no swearing to speak of. And that reminds me, the non-swearing is a real bummer. Whenever I buy a book and it's downloaded to my iPad I immediately search for fuck, shit, damn, hell and goddammit. If these words aren't said in terrifying situations then I know it's just not going to sound right, and it didn't. It simply isn't real-life to me. But then, I'm Miss Potty Mouth.

As to the narration: Luke Daniels is simply awesome. His voices are great and his emotions while reading are spectacular.

Marti says

A good military story with lots of battles and lots of aliens. The characters (at least the human ones) seem real and many are heroic. I was disappointed that the whole alien agenda ended up being completely mysterious and probably won't be resolved for seven more books.

Laurence says

Where the first was weak with just enough to suggest possible improvement, the second confirmed that the tenuous first was a fluke. DNF at 50%.

LMW says

A decent read, will keep a sci-fi buff entertained.
