

Book review:

“SpaceCorp: A Science Fiction Thriller” by Ejner Fulsang, Aarhus Publishing

Review by Peter Butterfield published on Amazon 14 Nov 2014.

Space Corp is the first hard sci-fi book in Fulsang’s planned “Galactican” series. As such it meets, and well exceeds, its two implicit goals: It stands on its own as a riveting novel, a well-told story around a central tenet that is surprisingly fascinating; and, it leaves me wanting Volume 2, right now!

Not many writers could pull off what he has with Space Corp: Lay out a whole book-full of believable science explaining how the world’s space effort progresses from the one we know in 2014 to a medium-term future of 2071. How the US has engineered solutions to the potentially crippling problems of radiation in space, and of human-generated space debris. The author’s years as tech writer helping NASA scientists whip their articles and proposals into readable shape, while absorbing their science of current and future space-travel, have given him a rare palette of expert conjecture with which to build his perfectly plausible extrapolation into the future. His is a pretty unique CV, and the tech panorama he lays out is formidable. If sometimes giving us a bit more tech detail than we need, I found.

But luckily Fulsang is also an experienced fiction writer, who knows how to tell a great story. Space Corp is a gripping drama. The episodes of disaster and survival happen not just in space, but also down below as geopolitical machinations and treachery play out in a changing world to determine whether Space Corp’s ambitious next-stage program will survive and even whether the USA will. The space program’s expansive destiny is placed in serious jeopardy by frightening and deteriorating conditions on earth, political, cultural and environmental. As plots and players are revealed, we can’t stop reading until the finale, when a certain kind of order does get restored -- at least for the time being. At the end, we’re left anticipating what might come next on our future world, and above it; but we’ll have to wait.

Don’t miss this book. It’s like no “sci-fi” you’ve read before.

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