



Dune: Red Plague: A Tale of the Schools of Dune

Brian Herbert , Kevin J. Anderson

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An all-new Tale of the Great Schools of Dune -- written to accompany *Navigators of Dune* by the same authors (Tor, September 2016).

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Dune: Red Plague: A Tale of the Schools of Dune Details

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From Reader Review Dune: Red Plague: A Tale of the Schools of Dune for online ebook

Will says

Short but sweet

Effectively just another chapter of the Navigators of Dune full length novel.

I have seen it said it is a prequel to that book, but I think it sits better as a chapter inside that novel, as I believe Venport would act slightly differently to the Butlerians earlier on in Navigators based on these events.

Good read.

Tadiana ☆Night Owl? says

2.5 stars. Final review, first posted on Fantasy Literature:

“Dune: Red Plague” is a brief episode in an ongoing conflict in the DUNE series universe between an anti-technology group, led by Manford Toronto, and pro-technology people, personified by Josef Venport, the selfish CEO Directeur of Venport Holdings, a huge interstellar commercial empire with a large fleet of spaceships. Manford lost his legs in a bombing that killed his inspiration and mentor, Rayna Butler, and he views himself as responsible for leading humanity away from the temptations of technology. Venport, who cruelly calls Manford a “legless freak” and the “barbarian half-Manford”, considers the Butlerian group a bunch of zealots who want to “reduce humanity to a primitive agrarian culture scattered across the galaxy.” Venport has blockaded the planets that have taken the Butlerian pledge.

However, the anti-tech people on one planet, Walgis, are dying of the terrible Red Plague. Dr. Rohan Zim, an altruistic Suk doctor, convinces Venport ? with a fair amount of difficulty ? to loan one of the Venport spaceships to him to bring a life-saving vaccine to the people of Walgis, arguing that maybe it will change their minds about the benefits of technology and will make Venport look humane.

It’s a rather confusing and opaque world if you’re not already familiar with the DUNE universe and how it’s developed under the authorship of Brian Herbert (Frank Herbert’s son) and Kevin J. Anderson. Words and concepts like Mentat, Suk doctor and Butlerian creed play a significant role but often get little or no explanation. I dimly remember these things from reading Dune years ago, but I think a reader would have to know this universe and the later entries in this series a lot better to make this story work for you, and even then, it’s a thin, rather predictable tale, and isn’t a complete story in itself. “Dune: Red Plague” probably won’t be of much interest to anyone except fans of the ongoing DUNE series.

Free online here at Tor.com.

Patricia Lustig says

This feels like a very formulaic book. I didn't like it much. In particular the continued escalation of

aggression between the two sides. It felt childish and lacked any subtlety. Not that it couldn't be realistic with what we see in our world, but it is therefore much less interesting. I would not recommend it.

Joe says

I can see this short story will be unpopular among many, owing to its affiliation with the Dune concept, but I for one really enjoyed it - it reminded me, for the five minutes it took to read, how rewarding good sci-fi can be.

Hanna says

meh

Joe Pranaitis says

The Red Plague is a followup short story to the Schools of Dune trilogy which ended with Navigators of Dune. As the story opens we find that Josf Venport is being asked to help out a colony planet that had turned its back on technology, we also learn that the leader of the opposing force that has blockaded that planet has gone to join his fleet. I won't give away the ending but this story makes me want more Dune and I'm still looking forward to the two Leto II books that are supposed to bridge Children of Dune to God Emperor of Dune. Pick this story up you won't be disappointed.

Ted Powell says

a WASTE. I have to wonder why this was released. Come on guys you should be better than this. Very dissapointed.I.I forgot it and read it again.

I'm going to forget it again.

Lyn says

Disclaimer!!! This review is written by an unapologetic and wholly illogical Dune fan who hopes one day to be considered a Dune aficionado.

Brian and Kevin's latest excellent adventure expanding Frank's genius vision is a short story published in November 2016 by Tor.com.

Disclaimer!!! This review is written by a rabid Tor.com fan who thinks this site is the coolest thing since the Falcon made the Kessel run in less than 12 parsecs.

Written some time after the Butlerian Jihad, this concerns an attempt by an evil thinking machines proponent

to provide assistance to a disease-ravaged planet on the side of the Butlerians.

I've read Frank's original six and then the next two by Brian / Kevin so I can follow along with the terminology and am for the most part picking up what the collaborators are throwing down. This makes me want to further explore their expansion on Frank's awesomeness.

For fans.

Roger D. Robertson says

Backpage

As usual, the writing was awesome. I am so glad that Herbert's son is in charge of revealing the back story to the Dune books. No one else would be right as far as I am concerned. Love everything that has come out of the Herbert and Anderson writings.

Rafael Sousa says

As a short story, it's nothing special. It highlights the ongoing technology feud that's present in the Schools of Dune trilogy.

Something to briefly keep you up to date on the story before starting Navigators of Dune.

Mark says

This is a brief story in which the conflict between the Butlerian school of anti technology and the pro-technology camp come into conflict when one planet suffers the consequences of the Red Plague, from the title.

One camp has the technology and the cure for the disease and the other camp is blindly fanatic in following the anti-technology course. This of course in the aftermath of centuries of oppression by technology driven dictatorship.

This is not a story with a moral but a window on the depth of the conflict between two belief systems. A nice addition to the Dune lore.

Too bad that any new publications by Brian & Kevin J Anderson written in the Duneverse have not yet been presented. As this trilogy of the Schools of Dune was actually more than decent.

Alexander Kränzle says

I liked it. It was a nice in between read before diving into "Navigators". Nothing more, nothing less. Please

tell me that the blond man (?) represented on the ebook's cover carrying Manford Torondo isn't Anari Idaho :-).

Denise says

I'm not sure this added a lot to the overall Dune story, but it was ok

Lois says

Ok

Michael says

A minor story in the Dune universe which adds very little to the canon.
