



## Bastion Saturn

*C. Chase Harwood*

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## **Bastion Saturn** C. Chase Harwood

*A swashbuckling space opera, **Bastion Saturn** is a dramatic, often humorous, action-packed romp that explores the best and worst of humankind while questioning the very definition of humanity.*

In 2101, having conquered the Solar System, most humans are choosing to tie their minds to an Artificial Intelligence. The only place of be free of AI is living off-world, with Saturn and its vast system of moons serving as the wild frontier. The only caveats to living there: the funds to fly a billion miles into space and a pledge to keep vigil against the threat of AI. Otherwise, what you do out there is your business.

Career scoundrel/petty-thief Caleb finds himself broke and unemployed when he arrives at his new home among the colonists of Saturn's moons, so he takes a job as a cop. When law enforcement takes a turn for the less-than-just, Caleb refuses to sit idly back. After rescuing and escaping with several civilians, Caleb and his new comrades are now fugitives who must beg, borrow, and steal their way across Saturn's moon colonies to survive.

Tensions rise as Earthlings begin looking at Off-Worlders as threats. Keeping his friends safe among Saturn's moons is no longer Caleb's only challenge--he must find a way to protect the last vestige of remaining free humans if they all want any hope at staying alive.

For the sensitive ear, *Bastion Saturn* contains salty language and a main character with rather sexist attitudes. With that in mind, enjoy the ride!

## **Bastion Saturn Details**

Date : Published July 19th 2016 by Kindle Press

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Author : C. Chase Harwood

Format : Kindle Edition 304 pages

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## From Reader Review Bastion Saturn for online ebook

### Sirius Scientist says

The premise of this book pulled me in--an AI ruled Earth setting it's sights outward to the colonies that didn't conform. What was touted as the main focus was more in the periphery as we follow an underachiever, who has a recently discovered brilliance in all his manly man-ness, through a series of incredibly lucky get-a-ways, all the while harassing the women he's with.

We have a devastating viral outbreak going on behind the main plot, which is making money and talking about how hot the females on board are. This includes detailed descriptions of the women aboard's boobs, which might have caused me permanent retinal damage from rolling my eyes THAT hard. It's okay, our main character said they knew and didn't mind him staring all the time because of a BS biology rational the "smart" one of the group explained so everyone got that it's totally cool. [gag] I'm probably a little over sensitive to this, since I work in two mostly male fields, but still.... GAG.

This book had SO many possibilities and I kept reading in the hopes it would eventually get to the actual meat of the story. Cool virus outbreaks. Robots gaining sentience and the humans that don't naturally trust them. An AI's inner motivation and Earth as it is now in general, and not the brief and disappointing glimpse we get. How the colonies mentalities are different from each other, but still more similar than what remains on Earth. This was touched upon by the crew's occasional unwillingness to tether their mind to the ship and how they treat the robots around them but was done in a way that made it almost comedic relief that I'm sure was written as tongue-in-cheek, but came across as just uncomfortable and crass to me.

The end was interesting, but also to me a disappointment. I've only had a few books in which I wasn't wholeheartedly on the side of my fellow humans, and I'm afraid this might be one of them.

If this book had a movie adaption spirit animal, it would be World War Z, because it had little to do with the actual synopsis, and chaos follows our main character in a way that simply makes you sigh and hope it gets to the point soon.

Hilarious link from Carol, via Mimi on how women are written in scifi: [HERE](#).

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### Scott Holstad says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It's an entertaining ride, with some nice comedic elements thrown in, to the point of simple silliness. It took a little while to get into the story, but once there, the action really doesn't stop; it's very action-oriented. A lot happens in this AI vs. last free peoples story, and there's even some decent science thrown in. As crazy as this is, it's nearly believable! It actually left me wanting a sequel, but I doubt there will be one, which is a pity. I especially write this last sentence for the author to hopefully see, as he's a Goodreads Author. Come on, Chase, a sequel! Anyway, a good, fun, enjoyable book and heartily recommended.

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## **Sandy Conley says**

I found Bastion Saturn an easy read and very addicting story. I am so far from being an expert in this confusing language of ours that I had to take a test in English to get into College but I was very comfortable reading this book. I did ace the test as it was reading and comprehension of Huxley's Brave New world which I had read at 13. This novel is not of the depth of Huxley's novel but I am certainly happy I read it. The book introduced nanobots, AI, gravity effects and other concepts I find interesting into the story being told and they were well handled. The six main characters were well defined and enjoyable. The personalities were diverse interesting.

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## **Craig says**

What happens when you combine Peter Quill (Guardians of the Galaxy) with Malcolm Reynolds (Firefly) and send your new protagonist to the Barney Stinson School of Douchebaggery and Insecurity? If you can accept this book's main protagonist for who he is—an insecure ass who still manages to do the right thing—and you enjoy funny sci fi that reads like a grittier version of your favorite prematurely-cancelled space cowboy TV series (you know the one), you'll enjoy the book. This book can be painful to read for grammar police. Typos, misplaced punctuation, and other usage errors occur more frequently than they do in most books.

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## **Adil Ehsan says**

It's not bad but the reviews and blurb are quite misleading.

First it's got little to do with an AI world and it's a lot more focused on a space romp. Also I certainly wouldn't put this as hard Sci fi. It's almost space opera but based in our solar system.

Second be aware this is more Hitch Hikers Guide style but more dark. It's certainly a humourous book and not meant to be a serious Sci fi or even dramatic story.

With those caveats in mind it's not bad.

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## **Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says**

Review of BASTION SATURN by C. Chase Harwood

BASTION SATURN is hard science fiction, in the vein of Kim Stanley Robinson's Mars series, and of Neal Stephenson. Thoroughly researched and very technical, BASTION SATURN is educational and exploratory, sometimes joyful, often tragic. As 22nd century Earth has merged into nanotechnology and one overarching hive brain of AI (Artificial Intelligence), the minority takes exception and "escapes" to other planets to colonize, for to remain an Earthling is to be absorbed into the AI, constantly aware of everything and everyone.

The Moon colony was first, then Mars, then various of the moons of Saturn. Now the Lunar and Martian colonies are no more, and suddenly the Saturnian colonies are coming under attack. One passive misfit named Caleb somehow manages to save a few colonists, only to enter into a journey seemingly with no end, to another of Saturn's satellites.

The science of this novel is a character into itself. Woven into it are various diverse personalities, whose emotions and character are amply vivid. Mr. Harwood balances a sizeable number of characters, and brings them, the science of space travel and colonization, and the backgrounds of the various locations in space, to vivid and immediate life.

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### **john s moore says**

#### **A book i enjoyed reading and learning the characters**

The story gives you some things to think about and enjoy reading while trying to work out the characters and where you think they may go and sometimes your right other times you are surprised. If I was you give it a go i did and glad I did. Thanks for a great read looking forward to reading the prequel

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### **Shelee Whitaker says**

#### **Thank you good story!**

I hope some day that we will truly run around the solar system ,just like in your story. I did enjoy it.

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### **Jeremy Cath says**

#### **Female character development should not be solely focused on their chest measurement**

This had the makings of an enjoyable, freewheeling sci fi romp... but I am struggling to finish it because every time the author tries to, no pun intended, flesh out one of the female characters we veer off into prose than seems more 1970s Hustler than something written in the 21st Century.

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### **\_ says**

My interest in this novel was peaked when I read about it on the Kindle Scout page. I voted for it and received a free copy when it won the contest for publication. Having read Chase Harwood's Of Sudden Origin, I already knew the potential for a good read was there. I wasn't wrong!

Bastion Saturn is about Wild West Cowboy Space Pirates and Evil Artificial Intelligence! Well, not exactly, but the elements are there. The action is pretty much non-stop, which made it a page turner for me. The background setup is of an AI + Human Hive-Mind Singularity in 2101 forcing non-conformists to escape to space. The AI feels threatened by their very existence and takes steps to remove the threat. That dread

permeates the entire work.

The struggle to establish a viable existences on the many moons of the Saturn ring system encapsulates the actions of the main characters. They come at you fast paced and fully formed. Caleb Day, the petty thief and general wanderer, annoyed me at first. I guess he was supposed to though. He finds himself in the middle of a corrupt Police action where - finding his conscience isn't as sadistic as the other participants - he ends up throwing his lot in with the fleeing refugees. One of those, a very attractive woman named Jennifer, is also somewhat more than she lets on at times. They end up in a series of unpleasant moon hopping situations as they try to find a new way to make it in the Saturn system.

Character development isn't a main component of the book, although there is some, especially for Caleb. The general direction of change is more of a getting-to-know-each-other kind progression where familiarity and acceptance between them bonds the gang together in a way that works. There is quirky humor employed in the book. I had a few eye-rolls at some of it. A couple of times I felt like I was missing an inside joke as if the author forgot to explain the lead in part. Hard to put my finger on though. Still, I can remember the character's names and their quirks, so they left an impression.

I found the science to be believable and fun. It may not be as detailed as I sometimes like, but the trade-off is the action. That is epic, and kept the novel moving from start to finish. One nag I do have is the roughshod yet dependable equipment. It always seems to work, no matter how much abuse or neglect it takes. Sure, it is 100 years in the future, but space is a very hard place to live... and stay alive... in. The jumping in and out of suits and airlocks. The crashing and scraping into things. The tracking in of dust particles. All that amounts to some very serious maintenance issues to me. But again, maintenance is boring, so.... action!

I enjoyed this read, and I look forward to the sequel (if there is one). I give this novel 4 stars and call it an Exciting Read.

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### **Steven Piet says**

#### **Fun read**

Interesting plot and characters. Caleb is a great main person. Nice premise. I'd read a sequel. None required, story ends well, but I could imagine seeing the characters face new challenges

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### **Montzalee Wittmann says**

Bastion Saturn by C. Chase Harwood is a sci-fi book and a kindle scout book. This book has nanotech that blends AI with the human brain, this is a common thing during the days of this book. Space has been explored through our solar system. The only place without AI is the wild west of Saturn's outposts. This is where the story plays out. Caleb, he is the new cop to the area. It is mostly his story we follow. I pictured it as a futuristic wild west. I enjoyed it.

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## **Rebecca says**

This book was a fun and entertaining surprise. After a slow start, with a long description of the book setting and character back stories, this book settled down nicely into a fun ride across the universe. It's a bit comedic and corny at times. All intentional, I think. There's plenty of action and silliness to keep you gripped to your seat and laughing at the same time. It also has a fantastic world-building about Saturn and its moons. The author has done quite a bit of research and woven it into the story in a way that leaves you wanting to know more.

I received a copy of this book through the Kindle Scout program.

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## **Kristofor Hellmeister says**

This book started off grabbing my attention with a tone of dread and mystery. I could feel the terror in finding bodies of people who had been reprogrammed into committing suicide by homicidal AI. This book was easily accessible and not over the top sci-fi.

The story, though, didn't seem to invest too much in this terror and the rest of the tale felt like a string of coincidences and random plot lines. In the end, though, it came together neatly and was actually touching. I recommend this book for any sci-fi lover, and for those considering an adventure but don't necessarily like over the top sci-fi.

My biggest drawback is the main character. He is such an annoying womanizer who cares only about how he can get laid. I appreciate, though, the fact his childish antics were never rewarded by the end of the novel.

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## **Kris says**

### **A Good Sci-fi Trip**

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