



Cascade Point

Joshua Guess

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Grant Stone and his crew just want to be left alone. They fly at the edges of Alliance space, surveying new systems far from the problems that brought them all together. Some are former military, while others have more colorful pasts. Everyone aboard the Fallen Angel has a reason for staying on the fringes. It's a good life, but a chance discovery will change everything.

Confronted by an enemy powerful enough to threaten all of human civilization, Grant and his crew are forced to choose between confinement or joining the Ghost Fleet, a hidden network of ships recruited and run by the Alliance Navy. Faced with an existential danger, Grant will lead his team into the far reaches of unknown space to keep the brewing conflict from exploding into all-out war.

Cascade Point Details

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From Reader Review Cascade Point for online ebook

Eric Prater says

Great read

I enjoyed this book, well written , neat concepts, i.e. space travel, weapons, I will read the sequel as it looks interesting

Arun says

This wasn't a bad book. It wasn't all that good either. A starship crew operating outside expected norm and rules is a refreshing change from the usual military-style space novels. Unfortunately, the characters in this book were a bit bland. The storyline tends to abruptly shift from describing battle scenes to the character's thoughts or feelings, a shift that felt clunky and out of place.

David P. Duffy says

Smug, Condescending SJW Attitude Mars Otherwise Decent Story

Authored by Mr. Joshua Guess, "Cascade Point (The Ghost Fleet Book 1)," is a decent SciFi space opera. The smug, condescending, and at times, arrogant SJW attitude of the author, irritatingly permeates and mars the otherwise entertaining story.

In a far future, humanity has expanded throughout a large expanse of space, under the "Planetary Alliance (PA)." The crew of a former PA naval warship prototype, the "Fallen Angel," mainly disgruntled, ex-PA personnel, are independent contractors, surveying stellar systems for a living. During one survey, the crew witnesses an apparently alien vessel, emerge from a "Cascade Point," into normal space. The "Fallen Angel," limping away on conventional propulsion due to the alien ship's dampening field, eventually distances herself, makes her escape, and informs the PA navy. The aliens are not unknown to the PA intel assets, as multiple incursions have been observed. The "Fallen Angel's" crew is manipulated into a espionage/privateer asset, within the PA's "Ghost Fleet," and dispatched to thwart the aliens' invasion plans. Various plot lines ensue, including sentient AI, a human/genetic-enhancing as a religion/Spartan/world, interstellar space battles, and a potential fifth column within the PA.

Mr. Guess, has created an entertaining storyline, that has merit. On two levels, the arc is undermined, causing dissatisfaction for this reader.

Firstly, Mr. Guess, an experienced author, has serious flaws in his skill set. Writing "tics," needless with the most basic of editing/proofreading, appear throughout "Cascade Point." Examples: "after all;" "obviously;" and "snorted." The most egregious repeated and systemic flaw is the use of "but." Mr. Guess, is apparently of the writing philosophy that "but" can be used in lieu of "and," as well as punctuation (comma, period, etc.). It's indicative of a lazy and undisciplined effort. Further, the author commercially offered his story initially as a serial "chapters" enterprise, then combined all into one book. The result is an abundance of

repetition in the book form of “Cascade Point.” Again, this is simply lazy.

Secondly, the smug, SJW, leftist ideology, that the author patronizingly intertwines throughout the story is irritating to this reader. Other readers might disagree, as they espouse similar beliefs. For this reader, it is more the arrogant and condescending manner of the author, as he pushes his agenda, rather than the agenda itself. Many of his main characters - “Dex,” “Crash” - are portrayed through the lens of victim hood. Dex, a young man, the “Angel’s” assistant engineer, is an escaped, genetically enhanced, de facto slave, from the religious, Spartan world. Crash, the XO, is the expert female pilot, who was unjustly discharged from the navy, after fighting off the sexual assault of her CAG. Even the captain and engineer, both navy buddies of Crash, left the PA in disgust, as their defense of Crash, went unfulfilled. The author sings the praises of how humanity has evolved to a better state, due to everyone having shelter, food, and medical care, “...at no cost....” Yet, he doesn’t explain how this is possible. In fact, the crew of the “Angel,” are working for a living, needing to get paid, and paying for things while on space stations. The contradiction is galling. This reader highlighted and noted dozens of examples of both the writing flaws and the author’s failure in subtlety, when pushing his agenda.

“Cascade Point,” is recommended as a SciFi story. Readers will decide for themselves, in regards to the author’s political ideology.

The book was fully read via Kindle Unlimited.

Bill says

Grant Stone and his renegades become part of the Navy Ghost Fleet after they discover a threat to civilization, Worse yet, the threat is mankind's fault
