



## Return of the Ancients

*Greig Beck*

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## **Return of the Ancients** Greig Beck

Arnold Singer is just like any other fifteen-year-old boy growing up in the suburbs – average height, average looks. The love of his life thinks he's a geek ... that is if she notices him at all. Pretty normal, and pretty boring, really.

But this normal life is about to change forever. On a school science trip to watch the test firing of a new particle accelerator, Arn is caught up in an accident that propels him into an extraordinary new world.

In this new land, Arn is the last human alive. It is populated with mysterious and bloodthirsty creatures, some of whom want him dead, while others see him as their only hope for survival.

Can Arn survive in a hostile world and save his new friends? Or has he arrived in time to witness the fall of a mighty empire?

An epic tale of love, betrayal and war in a world both familiar and terrifying.

## **Return of the Ancients Details**

Date : Published February 15th 2012 by Momentum (first published February 1st 2012)

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Author : Greig Beck

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Genre : Fantasy, Science Fiction, Adventure, Time Travel, Young Adult, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Return of the Ancients for online ebook**

### **Neil says**

This book is a definite step away from the normal Greig Beck books that I have been reading just recently. Supposedly it has been aimed at the young adult market, and the language and situations have been toned down accordingly. Having said that I do have to admit to enjoying this book, even though it reminds me of bits and pieces from several other similar works.

I thought that the characters were a little underdeveloped, but I guess when you are writing fantasy there are so many other things to concentrate on. The pacing of the storyline is quite good, and while not actually being an edge of your seat page turner, there is enough to maintain the interest. The accuracy of the science and technical pieces might be off putting for some though.

The book ends at a logical point, and sets up the sequel very nicely. So if you are looking for escapism in a book where you don't have to think too much, then I can recommend this book to you.

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### **Red says**

\*Won from a Goodreads Giveaway\*

Having not read a book by Greig Beck, I wasn't sure what to expect going into this novel. What a pleasant surprise it was to find a fresh new perspective on nuclear warfare, evolution, and wormholes in space! Overall, I would give the story line a 5 star rating but the actual fleshing of the written work I would give a 4 star rating. I didn't necessarily like how the college aged students seemed more akin to high schoolers through verbiage and actions.

And what a cliffhanger!! I can't wait to read the next book to see what happens. I'm very curious as to how Greg plans to wrap up the transformation into the future by humans in the Valkeryn world.

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### **Rick says**

I am a serial reader of Greig Beck and his stories. I put this off because it was YA. Curious, I read some of the reviews and I am glad I did. Great little story about a teenager that gets whisked away to a faraway time and place full of creatures very unlike himself. Great story that is tied into the medieval/Viking culture. The bad thing is that it is two books and the second is not available on Kindle. I ordered a paperback.....boohooo.

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### **Geoff says**

Great adventure, with the only problem being that it wasn't long enough. Very, very well-written, with a great mythos building already. Believable characters, and very well-paced. Greig Beck is going from strength to strength.

Now, to wait for the sequel, out toward the end of the year...

4.5 out of 5 stars!

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### **Cate Sommers says**

I was really hesitant about buying this book, seeing I'm not a big fan of Young Adult stuff. But I have been a reader of Jeremy Robinson, Boyd, Konrad and especially Greig Beck for years. Thank heavens i did, as this book surprised and delighted me – it had plenty of science in the form of a young man being ripped out of a lab and shot into the future here he finds that mankind has disappeared. Wolf like beings now rule and are in a constant war with the viscous panterans.

Greig Beck is known for putting some pretty brutal and gory scenes in his books, and a few horrifying scenes slip in here as well (the jorgmunders cave for one). Also he likes his military action, and he used that as well when the government sends some green berets through the wormhole to try and bring Arn back (boy, do they get a shock!). For me though, the most enjoyable thing was the tender scenes where the young female wolfen starts to fall in love with Arn – impossible love, but it made me laugh out loud, and cry a little as well.

If this is the first In a trilogy, I'll be getting the next as soon as it arrives!

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### **Dan Barbier says**

I'm not a fantasy reader. I love Greig Beck's books. This is a Greig Beck fantasy novel. I liked it a lot, enough to buy the sequel, The Dark Lands. The reason I don't like fantasy novels, is that I sometimes I have difficulty with a complete new universe and believing in it. Not so with this one. The hero is a teen from our time , so we see this world from his perspective and it helps understand and imagine the universe he's getting pushed into. A great read and great characters, humans and creatures.

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### **Jonathan Wilson says**

4.5 Stars

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### **Scotty says**

Not to be harsh, but those reviews below mine sound like planted reviews. When I worked for a hotel, my boss would do that. He'd go on travel websites and plant glowing reviews...problem is, they sounded fake. As do these 5 star reviews.

I had a hard time putting my finger on the intended audience. The main character is in his teens, but he and his classmates act like early middle schoolers. The wolf humanoids reminded me so much of furies that I literally groaned out loud when I came to their introduction. The premise is good and being a science geek, I was excited to read this book, but the characters turned me off from the get-go. They're uninteresting, childish, and lack originality.

The pacing of the book is quick but the action failed to maintain my interest long enough to keep turning the

pages.

I really do hate writing bad reviews, but I'm also stricken with a streak of honesty. The childish, unoriginal characters and the furries killed this book for me.

-Munboy

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### **Jean Sparrow says**

Time travel, tunnels with slimy things hiding in the dark, desert wastelands with giant bleached bones, and then a land populated by creatures that have evolved to be the new rulers of Earth – where was the kitchen sink?

This is Greig Beck's first foray into fiction/fantasy, and I'm glad to see he hasn't totally ignored all the things that make his books fun – some frightening elements, the humor, and the big action and adventure. The world Beck creates is one of wonder – from tiny vampire worms, to the giant forests, and also to the clues as to what happened to mankind and how the new 'beings' evolved.

Arnold 'Arn' Singer is pulled into a black hole and hurtled into the future. The moon is closer now, and its light imbues him with the strength he needs to survive in a world that is deadly and beautiful. Two mighty races have evolved who are locked in an eternal war.

I loved the ruthless Colonel Marion Briggs who sends through some kick-ass Green Berets to bring Arn back – no spoilers, but I'll just say, not everything goes to plan!

Beck includes one more new element in this book that I adored... a budding (unrequited?) romance between Arn and the female Valkeryn Eilif – I know it's going to make me sad in the end....but fingers crossed!

I loved this book – hope the next one in the series comes soon.

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### **Thomas E. says**

The Valkeryn is an epic story by Greig Beck. It has just about everything in it you can imagine and you will want to crave more, which is good because the author will be providing more to satisfy your cravings. Greig has this wonderful knack of developing characters with great depth and his character dialogs are exceptional. This is one of the finest reads I have enjoyed in the scifi/fantasy genre in a long time. This is a must read epic tale.

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### **Amarzyciel says**

dang, cliff hanger!!!

been a while since there is a cliff hanger in the climax, usually it ended after the arc finished.

it's killing all those build up excitement that I have that it's about to burst out when the climax start to rise and it to be continued...

feels like a when it's rising then cut right out to 0.  
really mood killer there.

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i am not good with writing good review (I finish reading and even want more,so it's good for me,since I am a daily book dropper)

so i will just let other write that, I will just do the bad part.

there is some point in the book that is actually not making sense,but I let it slide as it's a fiction,too much restrain in book will just hinder imagination

I find that the book is too rushed and how the story jump from one point of view to another pov sometimes makes me go "where is this character again?" it makes me confused with those short and often change.

it need to be more longer, showing us more detail about what happened especially around Arn's world, it is just bits of quick info what is happening there, although it could be lengthened more, like showing a detail about what happened after it, becky thought, and the bully's (forget the name) reaction after what he had done, what happened to the parents,etc.

Hope the next book will show much more information.

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## **Barry Simiana says**

Have just finished this, the new series by a great Aussie writer Greig Beck. I like this guys writing. He researches well in his other series and uses some obscure facts to construct a good story. In this new YA series, he has used his imagination to create a new world to play in. For adults it's a little too easy, a lot of the hints hidden in the narrative are a little too obvious, but for boys (and girls) at that 12-14 year old age group, they are going to love the little surprises hidden. I'll not give away any spoilers here because that would ruin it. Suffice to say, kids and lots of adults will like this. It's a good bit of fun. The only serious downside I have to this book again is nothing to do with the writer or what he has written. Rather, it is with the person(s) charged with bringing this book to life. The number of glaring print errors and typos is ridiculous fr a major publisher who credits both a proofreader and a editor. They also ask for any "typographical errors" to be sent to them via email. Sorry, these people do this excellent writer a huge disservice by not putting his work out as perfectly as possible. Readers should be able to read a book without being interrupted by poor trade practices.

Just one more thing, Greig, mate, as an Aussie writer of talent, perhaps an Australian based hero/heroine sometime in the future please.

Other than that, keep them coming.

Thanks for a good read.

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## **Anni (Tea in the Treetops) says**

Review originally posted on The Oaken Bookcase on July 21, 2012.

Arnold Singer, or “Arn” to his friends, is thrown forward in time after an accident during a school trip to a government scientific facility. In this strange future world, humans have been replaced by the honourable Wolfen, an evolved species of dog. The Wolfen lands are under attack from the evil Panterran, an evolved race of cats. There are plenty of other horrors in this world, but Arn’s quest to find out what happened to the human race and get home again is put on hold. War is coming.

I must admit that I’ve been judging this book by its cover. After only scanning the blurb, I thought it looked like an adult dystopian war story. Turns out I was quite wrong, although there is war involved. Let that be a lesson to me!

Arn doesn’t seem in any particular hurry to get home again, but is happy to take up warrior training with the Wolfen and fight alongside them against the Panterran invaders. The “prophecy” of the future links up with what happened in Arn’s proper time rather well – I often wonder about the actual events behind ancient legends, and Greig has taken this a step further by showing us events in both time periods.

The only thing that I found a little off-putting about this story was the romance between Arn and a Wolfen girl (no spoilers...). Why would she be attracted to him so quickly? He looks like a fur-less freak to most of the Wolfen! I know, love conquers all and all that, but... they are different species. I just found it slightly uncomfortable.

That aside, I really did enjoy reading this story and loved the way each race had its rulers, its ambitious underlings and its honourable warriors. I’ll look forward to the next in the series.

*Return of the Ancients* is a fast-paced adventure with plenty of twists and turns. I’d recommend this story for those who love reading about adventure in strange lands, preparations for war and time travel, especially younger readers.

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## **Amanda J Spedding says**

Loved it! Excellent, excellent story!

Return of the Ancients is a fast-paced, action-packed story that grips the reader and doesn’t let go.

See full review here: <http://amandajspedding.com/2015/10/03...>

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## **Andre says**

This is very different from Greg's other works and after reading it twice (I didn't really get into it the first time) it kinda grew on me. I will surely be checking out volume two when it comes out.

