



## **A Season for Slaughter**

*David Gerrold*

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From the author of the Star Trek novel, Encounter at Far Point comes the fourth book in his riveting epic of alien invasion and conquest. Only luck, sheer will and an incredible ability to adapt will bring the expedition to safety, when a Special Forces commando and a scientist lead a group of experts into the heart of the alien invasion in South America.

## **A Season for Slaughter Details**

Date : Published December 1st 1992 by Spectra (first published 1992)

ISBN : 9780553289763

Author : David Gerrold

Format : Mass Market Paperback 562 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fiction, Military Science Fiction

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## **From Reader Review A Season for Slaughter for online ebook**

### **Adrian Hunter says**

I didn't hate it as much as the last two. McCarthy gets even MORE full of himself, and all the other characters in charge just kind of tolerate him because of his incredible talent in deciphering the Chtorran ecology. The world really is coming to an end as the Chtorran ecology has almost completely overwhelmed our own, and a last ditch research/military expedition may or may not gain the keys to fighting back. Ends on a hell of a cliffhanger that's been waiting ten plus years for resolution

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### **Mojo says**

I read this when it came out WAY back in '92 and frankly it's been so long that I have forgotten what it was all about except in broad stroke. I really liked the series but I don't think I will read any more. 20+ years of waiting between books is just too much to ask from a reader. I got so tired of hearing "any day now, no early next year, no late next year, maybe the year after that..." that I stopped paying any attention to Mr. Gerrold.

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### **Matt says**

Despite a lot of drag in the center from the soap opera, the bookends of action with the Chtorr are fascinating, with the scientific treatises at each chapter's end adding a growing sense of dread with the evidence and theorizing about just what Jim and Liz are dealing with. Incredible attention to detail of an alien ecosystem. I have this theory that the Chtorr are not aliens but merely the next stage of evolution. Which makes it horrible on another level...humans fighting against fate. Though I occasionally want to slug some of Gerrold's characters who whine or argue on too long, I'm continually on the ride for the exploration of ideas, and Gerrold's imagination never fails to impress me. I'm glad the series has continually gotten better in being very calculating in its expansion of this universe. I'm very much looking forward to July 3010--whoops, 2010, and book 5, A Method For Madness.

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### **Bon Tom says**

WE. WANT. MORE!

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### **Juniper says**

The scifi is still interesting. The interpersonal aspects are still annoying. I found myself scimming and skipping a lot of the overly descriptive walls of text that kept me asking how much the author is being paid by the word. I don't need to read about every possible detail when it comes to a 7 course meal or the random names used for worms that were never used again beyond the initial naming of them. Seriously... he threw nearly 100 names at you in one chapter and they didn't stick.

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## **Christopher Schneider says**

The best (albeit, unfinished) alien invasion series I know. Trying to be patient in waiting for him to close the loop on this one. I balk at recommending this one to others only because I don't want them to experience the same 21+ year wait that the rest of us have had to deal with since he published the "latest" book in the series, *A Season for Slaughter*. However, to be fair, I have no idea how the hell he is going to tie this all together, and I admire the man's ambition for taking on such a project that was supposed to be a trilogy.

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## **NumberLord says**

The series gets back on course (for the most part) in this book. Our hero Jim starts finding out more about the aliens.

But where's the next book? *Season for Slaughter* was published in 1992. The final three books in the series already have names (*A Method For Madness*, *A Time For Treason*, and *A Case For Courage*)...now hows about publishing the darn things?!

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## **Colin says**

The fantastic 4th book of "*The War Against The Chtorr*", taking us deeper into the Chtorran ecology, the mysteries of how the Chtorr infested Earth and hints at how the intelligence guiding the invasion may function. Released in 1993, I believe, now more than 20 years later we're still waiting for books 5-7 . . . but Gerrold's website says they're in the works!

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## **Jim N says**

*A Season for Slaughter* is the fourth and, thus far, final book in the unfinished *War Against the Chtorr* series. I've been waiting decades for more and supposedly, substantial portions of the fifth and six books are coming one of these days. Meanwhile, even incomplete, this remains a series worth reading.

This entry contains some of the most memorable scenes in the series. We're given much more insight into the Chtorran ecology and how it interacts with both terrestrial lifeforms and other Chtorran life. This is great stuff and throughout the books, whenever Gerrold delves into the nature of the alien invasion, he really delivers. Unfortunately, I think he overplays his hand a bit with some of the character interaction in this novel, going back to the well of protagonist Jim McCarthy's hair trigger temper and difficulty with relationships a little too often. There's also a relatively long and somewhat heavy-handed lull in the middle of the novel focusing on McCarthy's romantic relationship with "Lizard" Tirelli. It's not the she isn't an interesting character or that the relationship hasn't been developed over the previous 3 books. It's just a little too much of everything and consequently, doesn't quite work. However, the book bounces back from that lull with a vengeance and the final third of the novel contains some of the most disturbing and spectacular scenes to be found in the whole series. Definitely recommended.

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## Martin says

Dokončeno z 70% a odloženo. Celá série Války s Chtorry začala tak slibně. První kniha byla plná zajímavých nápadů popisů interakcí cizorodých ekosystému a ovlivnění naší planety a vzájemných interakcí. To všechno bylo doplněno zajímavou akcí a skvělým experimentem se psychologií a posunem lidského myšlení v rámci přežití druhu. To byla první kniha, následovala smutná sestupná tendence a tento výtvor není nic jiného než tragédie. Hlavní hrdina celou dobu brečí, řeší vztahy a chová se jako malé rozmazlené dítě. Vedení armády je nastřehované do obří vzducholodě kde je většina posádky zkouší experimentovat se svojí sexualitou. Dialogy jsou přešerné a občas mě přinutili se vrátit o několik stránek zpět a zjistit o čem to vlastně bylo. Prostě ruce pryč. Lepší nápad než říst čas pro jatka je jít si vymlátit mozek z hlavy krumpáčem – tahle činnost alespoň bude mít nějaké finále.

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I didn't finish book and I give up at roughly second third of it. Whole series of War against the Chtorr seems so promising. There was the interesting description of foreign ecosystem and their influence on our planet. There was a great action. There was interesting psychology experiments and shift in the human way of thinking about our race. That was first book. Then it was the descending series of disappointment and this book is really tragedy. Main character was still crying and behaves like small spoiled brat and whole bisexual army lives on a luxury airship – you get an idea. Keep your hands and eyes away from this.

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## Gwell says

Excellent characters, events and settings, I have a love hate reaction to the main character, mostly because of his mistakes as well as success in the fight against the alien infestation of earth. The interactions of humanity with the alien ecology and the type of society that is evolving to cope is very intriguing and still no indication of who and how the infestation is being accomplished.

Gerrold has been very slow to complete the remainder of the heptology, his excuse is that as the story has become more intricate it takes longer for him to write the series, okay, granted but the series was initially written back in 1983 with the last book done in 1993!. I just hope he completes the last three books it in my lifetime, It's been a great read over the years. leaving you wanting more (sigh).

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## Robert Bush says

4 books in and...they still know nothing. The invaders are still a complete and utter mystery to them.

Add in that this book was published over 20 years ago and the 5th book is still nowhere to be found? He claims in some interview questions at the end of the copy I read that he knows exactly where this series is going. Well, if he does, then he doesn't know how to get there. Either that, or he's drawing the story out into multiple book instead of just finishing the damn story!

I'm going to lean on the idea that he really has lost where he wants to go with the story. Otherwise it wouldn't have taken him 22+ years to get book 5 finished (it was supposed to have been finished in September.)

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## **Eyjólfur Örn Jónsson says**

Despite never really liking Science fiction I fell in love with these books in the early 90s. Gerrold draws an amazing picture of a future where humans have come under attack. Aliens unlike anything I had ever read or heard about came to graphic life in Gerrold's storytelling. He stays true to life and makes the story very believable by making the main character Jim extremely flawed and prone to mistakes (making for an excellent love/hate relationship with the readers).

It's now been 19 years since the fourth book was published (1992) and with the last three installments already named it feels about time for the next book in line.

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## **Victoria says**

Really something of a disappointment. A Season for Slaughter is the 4th book in David Gerrold's heretofore amazing "War Against the Chtorr" series - the first three of which I had read before. They're all out of print now, or were when I went looking for them, and it took me so long to track down book four ('bout five years ago) that by the time I found it at a LGBT bookstore in downtown Toronto (a funny story in and of itself) I had fallen out of the habit of the series and didn't get around to reading it until now.

I loved the first three books when I first read them. I loved them upon a reread now.

Each book in the series is distinct from the others in both tone and content, as the Chtorr invasion continues and our heroes learn more about the enemy they're facing. That said, I knew there would be differences in this volume... but it just doesn't work for me. A Season for Slaughter pushed both the horror elements and the pedantic, lecturing tone of the previous books too far for me.

It's also a lot longer than any of the previous books – and I feel like the length is "stuffing," expository material that Gerrold might find quite fascinating (let's be honest, it is rather fascinating) but that isn't plot and doesn't move the story forward in any productive way. 300 pages in, I was still wondering what the point of the book was and whether the few emotional/character issues that had been raised were going to be dealt with at all. They weren't.

The end has a great twist that begins to redeem the book... but just isn't enough to make up for over 550 pages that could have been better served if an editor had made Gerrold cut it down to 350.

I think the series is still salvageable, if he ever gets around to publishing more (he's been "working" on book 5 of the projected 7-book series for about the last ten years) but I wouldn't recommend them as glowingly now as I did before I read this volume.

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## **J. ʘ(?)\_/\_ says**

3.5 stars

After I began book 1 I found out this was an unfinished series. That was a bit of a killjoy. A posting on his facebook page from mid 2017 sparked hope that he might crank out the final two books pretty soon. Unfortunately, a few seconds more on his facebook page destroyed my hope. He has apparently become a Hillary supporter and I just don't know how the guy that wrote these (libertarian flavored?) books falls into the idiocracy of liberal mentality. But no one is the same person after 2.5 decades, so how will he ever jump back into the same mindset? Maybe he'll surprise me, but mentally I'm writing off this series.

I just keep keep imaging: Book 4 (1992) "we have to kill these invading life forms" - cliffhanger!.... Book 5 (2019?) "well gosh, it's a good thing they decimated the population! talk about population control! maybe now we can get that man-made global warming under control! lets apologize to the invaders a whole lot and explain our FEEEEELINGS so they'll be our friends!"

Oh and even better, this one ended on a cliff hanger! Okay, maybe not a "they're about to go over a waterfall" cliffhanger, but still we did NOT get to a satisfactory stopping point.... Calm down, Larry Correia, I agree 100%, but come on! What a douchebag move. On top of that he has apparently been teasing people for 2.5 decades with "soon". I don't care if books 5 & 6 put Shakespeare's greatest works to shame it still would not have been worth the wait to anyone that finished the books when they were released. He may not OWE his fans a book, but in my opinion he certainly owes them an apology. Heck, after five years or so say "I know many of you are eager for a conclusion to the Chtorr saga, but I'm not at a place in my life where I am able to finish the tale". Boom, equal frustration, but less anticipation.

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