



# Prince of Crows

*Aaron Dembski-Bowden*

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The Thramas Crusade draws to its inevitable conclusion, with the forces of the Dark Angels and the Night Lords locked in a struggle which neither side can abandon. The Night Hunter lies comatose after being mauled by his primarch brother Lion El'Jonson, and in his absence it falls to Sevatar and the remaining members of the Kryptera to command the Legion. But the self-styled 'Prince of Crows' has his own plans to save the Night Lords from annihilation – plans he intends to follow, with or without his comrades in tow.

## Prince of Crows Details

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# From Reader Review Prince of Crows for online ebook

## Darrel Vater von Katzen says

Fantastic!

Another great instalment by ADB. Sevatar reminds me of a legionnairy version of Deadpool. Definitely worth checking out.

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## Gateacre says

A top notch novella detailing events after the Night Lord's mauling by the Dark Angels during the Thramas Crusade. Centring around Jago Sevatarion, First Captain and leader of the Night Lords whilst Curze lies comatose with his injuries from The Lion, the story is a brilliant insight into the working of a traitors legion, and the characterisation is second to none.

Note: This is also included in the Hersey collection "Shadows of Treachery"; it's the best contribution to that volume.

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## Jacek T says

If you've liked Bowden's way of handling the Night Lords Legion\* this is a story for you. If you've liked Talos Valcoran, a geneforged warmachine turned murderer and traitor, with a bonus of complex personality and some extremely twisted and deeply buried moral fibre, then you will love Jago Sevatarion, the protagonist of this short.

Of course usual Bowden's trademarks - seemingly instinctive but perfect feel of the 40K(30K?) universe, seemingly unnatural ability to create sentences that roll on your tongue like a sip of fine cognac with similar deepness, and seemingly easy way to create characters that are likable despite being monsters and traitors of the species that created them - are here, making it one of the best Horus Heresy shorts and a very satisfying read.

\*of course you need to have a penchant for murderers, traitors and backstabbers as a prerequisite

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## Morgan Freed says

### Top 10 in the hh series

Aaron is by far the best author in all the hh world. I reccomend reading all his things. He understand the night lords better than an otter. It's a shame he didn't write the Konrad cruZe book.

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## **Garry says**

A continuation of the Thramas Crusade story arc this novella follows on from *The Lion*. The Dark Angel have finally defeated the Night Lords Legion in a decisive battle leaving their forces scattered and their Primarch Konrad Curze lies in a coma from wounds suffered at the hand of the Lion.

Trying to regroup their fleet, Sevatar takes control of the legion with the intent of dividing their forces across the Imperium and fighting what loyalists they find. During this time of reorganisation and turmoil Sevatar tries to revive the Primarch, even if it means awakening his latent psychic powers.

The final part of this novella has to be read to be believed with a huge void battle between the Night Lords fleet and the pursuing Dark Angels. A desperate boarding action against the Dark Angels flagship is truly a claustrophobic battle. And Sevatar's means of transport is jaw-dropping.

This novella is a true revelation to fans, giving much needed insight into the inner-workings of the Night Lords legion and much detail is given in Konrad Curze's past as a child and later his first meeting with the Emperor.

Lion El'Johnson with his Dark Angels and Konrad Curze the Night Haunter is seen continuing his murderous rampage in Dan Abnett's novel *The Unremembered Empire*.

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## **Andrew Ziegler says**

If the Night Haunter (Konrad Curze) is the Batman of the 31st Millennium, only a complete murdering psychotic and not a "no killing" avenging angel, then Jago Sevatar is the Clown Prince of Mayhem himself. Maybe it is just the way the reader acted as Jago, but I often found myself laughing at the way he delivered his often dry sarcasm so perfectly as to conjure up the Joker in my mind. Jago has got a LOT of problems in that old head of his, and realizing he is actually crazy AINT one of them. I loved this story, and I loved the character development. Much like ADB's Night Lords trilogy he once again nails this legion and its characters. The VIII's lore is definitely a universe of his own making, and one I really enjoy. I highly recommend this story, if for nothing else than sheer enjoyment of Sevatar as a character, he is great, and one you can't help but root for.

I am not sure why ADB has such a love affair with crazy fighter pilots, and OP characters hanging on to the exteriors of their ships while they fly through a battle to deliver them to another ship in lieu of a drop pod or a transporter, but this is the second time he has done just that. Still wonderful, but glaringly repetitive a plot device. Anyway, take it as you will. I am a bit of an ADB fan-boy at this point, so I am totally willing to let this go.

Read or listen to this, you will thank me.

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## **Matt Byrum says**

The story was a lot of the same flavor in an interesting wrapper. It could've been much better if it was a full length novel with more pacing and more character development for both Curze and Sevatar. The ending isn't

punchy or satisfying, it just drops off. That's sad for me because I started seeing Sevatar as genuinely compelling and nothing is really resolved. It's a syringe of 40K for a quick fix (which is probably why you'd read the anthologies anyway) but it's nothing substantial like a full length Horus Heresy novel. I will say though that Dembski-Bowden's writing is well executed. I look forward to reading Helsreach.

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## **Dylan Murphy says**

Holy fucking shit.

This novella is definitely on even ground with Fulgrim as my #1 favourite Horus Heresy release, and my love for ADB is definitely growing!

Before my quest to get caught up on the Horus Heresy series, I had my doubts about ADB's writing and story-telling. I hadn't read any of his work, and while Dan Abnett seems to get highly positive reviews just as ADB does, I had read a decent amount of Dan's work, and found it not quite perfect for me like Graham McNeill does. So in my delusions I cast that same negative shadow over ADB without reading his work. It is a shitty personality trait, I know! But boy was I wrong! The First Heretic, Aurelian, Savage Weapons, etc. All of ADB's stuff so far, I have LOVED.

Now, I had read bits and pieces of the Night Lords in the HH in various shorts and the tiny roles they play in novels/anthologies prior to this novella, and I was just blown away. Their culture and mannerisms are amazing, I really cannot express in words how truly awesome they are! I feel like I am falling in love with the Emperor's Children and Iron Warriors again!

But the star and reason for the 5/5 is Sevatar. He is amazing. Truly a top tier badass in a universe of badasses. So many times I found myself falling in love with the character and his personality. Forge World HAS TO MAKE A MODEL OF HIM. I really, really hope they do!

I cannot express in adequate words how amazing this novella was. If only I had the skill of my buddy Abhinav. He writes awesome reviews!

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## **Veronica Anrathi says**

To me this one is a masterpiece, one of the few Horus Heresy pieces that I am never tired of re-reading or listening to. This novella had an impact on me and became a source of inspiration. Sevatar is undoubtedly one of the most fascinating characters in the franchise and it is always extremely interesting to follow him both in action (as in Prince of Crows) and in loneliness (as in the Long Night). He is one of the most well developed, multinational, complicated characters, even though we don't have much written about him. This is the reason why I cherish every little piece of lore that shows more of his personality. I can properly share my initial thoughts from the first time reading it since it was a long time ago, but this story will always have a special place in my heart. The scene that describes his background on Nostramo, a boy talking to the crows, is what I always have in mind when thinking of Jago, it is eerie and beautiful, frightening and luring, just as he is as a whole. I can't find words to truly represent my love for this piece so I will leave this review just like that. I love it with all my heart.

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