



The Ecolitan Enigma

L.E. Modesitt Jr.

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L.E. Modesitt, Jr.'s science fiction novels have been pleasing readers for nearly two decades. Among his earlier novels were three books set in the future universe of the Ecolitan Institute. Now Modesitt returns to that world to tell another story of cultural conflict and interstellar diplomacy. *The Ecolitan Enigma* is sure to thrill his old fans and win new ones.

Nathaniel Firstborn Whaler is an Ecolitan, both a professor at the Institute and a field agent with extraordinary powers. Sent to a backwater colony planet nominally to determine its economic viability, Whaler evades assassin's bullets only steps from the spaceport. He soon uncovers evidence that the planet will become the flashpoint for interstellar conflict between two empires, with each prepared to blame the Ecolitan Institute should war break out. Whaler must do everything in his power to stop what might become the worst disaster in human history.

And Nathaniel whaler just may have more power than any man in the galaxy.

The Ecolitan Enigma Details

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Author : L.E. Modesitt Jr.

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From Reader Review The Ecolitan Enigma for online ebook

Steve says

Ecolitan

Jeanine Kennedy says

Felt stupid the entire time I was reading it. It was alright not sure i'd read it again.

Aaron Dettmann says

Sequel to The Ecologic Envoy

John says

More eco-politics and commandos.

Pokie says

meh. It was a library book. I read it. It was mildly interesting.

Peter Tillman says

"A/A+": a hard-eyed look at an ancient human dilemma

Monsters as political leaders have been a recurrent nightmare in our history - from Lenin, Hitler, Stalin & Mao to such comparative small- timers as Idi Amin, Pol Pot & Saddam Hussein. The record of "good governments" in dealing with monsters is not encouraging. Millions of lives could have been saved with a few snipers' bullets... why weren't they?

Modesitt posits the Ecolitan Institute, on the Coordinate capitol world of Accord, as a genocide-prevention force: "The Institute, for better or worse, operates on principle. They try to avoid small wars... by deceit, assassination, or economic warfare. They will try any type of small-scale tactic to avoid war... That's the good side... The other side is that when they do fight, they insure they don't have to fight that enemy again."

My 2004 review:

Eric says

The plot was a little squishy at times, but I found it a fun read, 'specially from midway to the end.

It described, in stark terms, the difference between claiming morality versus justification. And, though, tasteless as it may be, you /cannot/ save everyone, and that waiting for justification, while more politically appealing, may be the more morally reprobate course. Though the book describes this in terms of planetary warfare, the idea scales, I think, to more boring realities like healthcare, environmentalism, corporate responsibility, etc.
