



The Deluge Drivers

Alan Dean Foster

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In the superb finale to the popular Icerigger Trilogy, scientists discover an odd phenomenon, something not seen for thousands of years: open water on the ice oceans of Tran-ky-ky! Original.

The Deluge Drivers Details

Date :

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Author : Alan Dean Foster

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From Reader Review The Deluge Drivers for online ebook

John says

This is the only one of the trilogy that I didn't read many, many years ago. I am glad I found these three on Kobo and had a chance to revisit an old friend. A lite and very enjoyable read. Recommended for anyone who likes old sci-fi or those who read these many years ago like I did.....

Jeff Smith says

Very good book. Thoroughly enjoyed the entire trilogy. Excellent story, great characters, wonderful dialogue and vocabulary. Definitely recommend it. One of my favorite science fiction authors.

Micah Horton hallett says

In which it is revealed that this entire series has been an extended REALLY old school marriage farce. The realisation of which made me view everything in the previous books in a whole new light. Only moderately icky and massively contrived ending... but as I said: Marriage farce as adventure sci fi with capitalist heart, learned white people meddling in other cultures, Conan analog character and medieval cat people.

Laura says

Not as exciting as the previous two, but still a good read, with all the beloved characters back for one last adventure.

Fiona says

Had to reread this to complete the trilogy. A final adventure with the Icerigger crew and passengers. lots of fun along the way but the whole series is just a bit lacking in substance when you get familiar with it and read it for the 4th time!

Jeffrey says

In my mind, this book was merely gilding the lily. I liked it because Ethan Fortune, Skua September, Elfa and the rest of the characters are likeable, and Foster, does not write a bad book, but I felt that the confrontation at the core of this book, was just another nasty confrontation with the criminal element of the Commonwealth.

Stick with Icerigger and Mission to Moulokin, which focus on the Tran and not on a confrontation with more advanced Commonwealth, but if you like the first two books, and you want more of the main characters, you will still enjoy this third book.

Just not as much

Paul E. Morph says

The Deluge Drivers is the third part of Alan Dean Foster's Icerigger trilogy, which in itself is also a sub-series within his larger Humanx Commonwealth series. It's not as confusing as it might sound, honest. If you can cope with the complexity of Terry Pratchett's Discworld you can cope with this.

Foster really pulls out all the stops in this one. There are new characters introduced but they don't steal the spotlight from the characters from the first two books. Our protagonists visit old friends from the other books. There's a really cute love-story subplot between Milliken and one of the new characters. There's a palpable sense of threat on more than one front, including close-quarters physical peril and an impending environment disaster on a global scale. There's a mid-point twist that I totally failed to see coming (I love it when that happens)! There's even a space-ninja! What more could anybody want?

At least two of the action scenes had me practically breathless, I was so caught up with the excitement... and it's not often I can say that about a book.

Another thing I liked is that Milliken Williams really gets a chance to shine in this book, which is great as he was always a bit more of a means to an end than a fully-fledged character in the previous volumes.

Yes, it's space opera; yes, it's classic action movie fodder (someone should really make that movie... although the special effects budget would have to be colossal); yes, it's cheesy in places... but it's also pretty intelligent and its heart is in the right place.

If I had one gripe it would be that there is a new character introduced, early on in the book, and a big deal is made about her and her motivations for joining our protagonists... only for her character-arc to completely fizzle out, most anti-climactically. The character ends up feeling more than a little pointless, but maybe she'll show up elsewhere in the Humanx Commonwealth series.

Minor grumble aside, I really, really enjoyed this book.

Matt Pollicove says

Weakest of the series, but it did wrap everything up.

Ethan is one of my favorite characters. I wish ADF could find a way to do more with him as he did with Skua.

Jay says

As indicated by the title, this is the final installment in Foster's *Icerigger* trilogy. In the first, travelling salesmen Ethan Frome Fortune and his new friend, the large mercenary Skua September, as well as other humans, find themselves stranded on the backwater, ice-bound world of Tran-ky-ky. Fortunately they make friends with the local natives, the felo-ursine and warlike Tran, when they save their city from an attacking horde of barbarians. Along the way they construct a giant ice-skimming ship based on old Earth's clipper ships, on which they embark on a journey across the globe to return the humans to the only human settlement on Tran-ky-ky, far-off Brass Monkey on the continent of Arsudun.

In the second volume, *Mission to Mouloukin*, Fortune, September, and the others have realized that what the Tran need is to unify all their city-states and fiefdoms into a single planetary government in order to apply for membership in the galactic Commonwealth. To start that effort they sail to the legendary southern city of Mouloukin, and along the way they make some new enemies (and friends) and make a startling discovery.

Then we come to the final book in the series. Having returned to Brass Monkey from the Mouloukin mission, the adventurers are just about to resume their normal lives after almost two years marooned on Tran-ky-ky when the small cadre of Commonwealth scientists at Brass Monkey inform them of a puzzling phenomenon on the other side of the world: the thirty-meter-thick ice of the seas is melting in one area, and open ocean has appeared for the first time in tens of thousands of years. Worried about what this development might mean for their Tran friends, the humans reluctantly re-board the great ship *Slanderscree* and voyage to the far south, beyond the equator, into unexplored regions to investigate the freak warming.

I can't say these are the best sci-fi space operas ever written, but they are solid adventure tales with interesting characters and strong effort to create an alien world with a believable ecology, culture, and politics. I think a big-screen adaptation would lead to one or more far better films than most of the dreck Hollywood is putting out these days, but I no longer trust Hollywood to co-opt any story without infusing it with left-wing politics so it's probably best that this small gem remains overlooked. Instead, settle into a chair and enjoy these books which represent some of the last science fiction written before feminism, left-wing claptrap, and white male-hating racism took over the genre in the 1990s.

Kevin says

Inessential but inoffensive completion of the trilogy nobody asked for. "Icerigger" and "Mission to Mouloukin" are cliffhanger-style skiffy adventures, well written by the standards of the genre. This? Meh. I should say that though I lumped the whole trilogy into the kitty-cats-with-laser-guns shelf, this is the only book where the felinoid Tran sport actual zapguns.

Of note also for the denouement, which features perhaps the least romantic proposal imaginable.

Michael says

The final book of the Icerigger trilogy starts out a little slow, as Fortune, September and Williams finally make it to civilization. They learn that there is a weather anomaly taking place in southern Tran-ky-ky that could become a global catastrophe, so they sail off once more on the Slanderscree to save the Tran from a fate that the Tran can't even conceive...

Read Ng says

The third book in this "trilogy". I felt it came to a good conclusion.

This book wrapped up a few flaws, but not all of them. It completed the tale of this young ice planet. It was consistent with the previous stories, even if it took more than a decade of real time from book one to three to complete. I was happy to complete this trilogy.

Have a GoodReads.

Mike S says

I like this book and the entire trilogy, some of the science in the story annoyed me, but the characters grew on me and the drama was imaginative and engaging enough that I ended up liking it in spite of my misgivings. Foster fans will most likely enjoy this series.

Clifford Smith says

These were written in the 70-80's. I don't know how I missed them! Big finish with book three and glad that I was able to read them straight through! Definitely, want to check out more of his work.

Brian White says

Mindless . . . but fun!
