



Constitution

Nick Webb

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The year is 2650

75 years ago, an alien fleet attacked Earth.

Without warning. Without mercy.

We were not prepared.

Hundreds of millions perished. Dozens of cities burned.

We nearly lost everything.

Then, the aliens abruptly left.

We rebuilt. We armed ourselves. We swore: never again.

But the aliens never came back.

Until now.

With overwhelming force the aliens have returned, striking deep into our territory, sending Earth into a panic. Our new technology is useless. Our new ships burn like straw. All our careful preparations are wasted.

Now, only one man, one crew, and the oldest starship in the fleet stand between the Earth and certain destruction:

ISS CONSTITUTION

Constitution Details

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From Reader Review Constitution for online ebook

Kathleen says

I can't believe I nearly forgot to rate this story! It was so very, very good. Colorful, well developed characters, good science, great world building. Not a new trope, but so well done. Excellent narration. Highly recommended for sci-fi readers who insist on a story revolving about the characters.

Dan says

This reads pretty much as a rip of Battlestar Galactica. Aging ship, washed up captain, drunken XO, on the verge of it's decommissioning Earth space is attacked. That was as far as I got. No need to finish it.

Jesse Fort says

Instant Classic

I have read many military sci-fi books in the last year, mostly from New and Up and coming authors. I found this book right near the top of my must read list because I read the 1st 3 books in the Pax Humana Saga. Mr. Webb has already proven to me that he writes an excellent sci-fi novel. The backstory is set and you can see events starting to take place then boom, the action sets in almost non stop. The pace is quick, and the science behind the action is understandable. The book has a good flow to it, and unlike other books, some of the chapters are very short, giving into ones imagination as if you were watching a movie and the scenes would cut back and forth. Fans of military sci-fi must read this book, you will not be disappointed.

Jack says

This is just a good ol' outer space gunship battle tale. No one wants to eat 5-Star food and drink overpriced wine every night for dinner. Sometimes you just want a fried egg sandwich, a bag of Doritos, and a Miller High Life.

This book is the latter, if books were food (which sounds strangely enticing...) It's not Tolstoy or Kierkegaard. Eat your vegetables some other time.

Amazon classifies this book as "galactic empire." Let's not overthink things. Aging captain of dying ship makes heroic stand against invading enemy ships to save Earth. Category: Sci-Fi Miller High Life.

And who cares if it's a rip-off of Battlestar Galatica? (Not a completely accurate conclusion, in my opinion.) Nacho Cheese Doritos, Cool Ranch Doritos, etc. They're all good.

Glen Robinson says

Decades after a war against aliens almost destroyed the human race, the last of the old line of fleet ships who held the line against the invaders is about to be turned into a museum. And with it, the aging captain and his first officer are looking at mothballs as well. But there is a conspiracy at play, and the alien race that had mysteriously disappeared has come again, destroying all of the modern human spacecraft that had been specially prepared to meet them. It is up to the Constitution, once again, to hold the line against the aliens who are bent on destroying humanity.

If the storyline sounds familiar, it's because it is. Those who are fans of the TV series Battlestar Galactica will recognize many of the same elements. The story starts off with many of the same cliches that I've read before, and even the dialogue is stiff. And to be honest, I almost stopped reading it about ten pages in for that very reason. But then I went back to its Amazon page and saw more than a thousand favorable ratings and wondered if they saw something I didn't see. And so I kept reading, and the story got better.

What I ended up getting was a fast-paced, high-action story that never lets up. The body count is high, the characterization leaves a lot to be desired, but the story is fun. The captain is forced time and again to make hard choices that cost people their lives, but end up saving countless others in the process. If you like space military sci-fi, especially space battles, this is a likely candidate.

Sean says

Human culture forgetting the lessons of a past war? Check.

Aging capital ship about to be turned into a museum that later becomes the key to humanity's survival? Check.

Old, crusty commander on the verge of retirement? Check.

Alcoholic XO with a history of poor discipline? Check.

Greedy human betrays humanity and grants secret information to the enemy that allows them to slice through Earth's defenses? Check.

Aging starfighters put back into the fight? Check.

Leader staring a cancer diagnosis in the face? Check.

Nope, not Ron Moore's brilliant reboot of Battlestar Galactica, but rather this stunningly derivative novel that will amaze you with questions as to how this managed to get past an editor before you realize it was self-published. It amazes me that Mr Webb could so transparently mimic so many of the key plot points of Galactica without a hint of self awareness. Especially since the world and story that's underneath the retreaded BSG story elements is actually pretty interesting.

Bob Edwards says

Google 'Deus ex machina' and you may very well find the cover of this book. This is you fairly standard military scifi: Old ship about to be mothballed, crusty old captain, up and coming officer sent to put the ship away, sudden attack from alien species. All that was missing were Starbuck and Boomer.

The characters are fairly well written though a little stale, but the ending reeks of "Oh, no! I forgot to leave a

plot twist so that I can write another book."

The ending is far from satisfying destroying all the carefully built motivation for the main character. Why are authors so unwilling to let a character die. If the character's motivation that you have carefully crafted for two hundred pages calls for it, let them die. Yes, you can't write another story about them, but at least this one would have been a good one.

It would have been a decent read, if not for the hokey ending.

Ike says

If you're ready for action on every page of a book then "Constitution" is the book to read. Nick Webb does a masterful job of putting you right into the fight to save Earth from the Swarm, an alien people committed to death and destruction of whatever or whoever lays within its path. Join the crew of the ISS Constitution led by feisty and cranky Captain Tim Granger as they join the fight. Launch into governmental intrigue, hot battle action and heroism as you enjoy this page-turner.

Daniel Villines says

This novel imparted a strange feeling all the way through its pages. Images of Commander Adama, on the bridge of the Battelstar Galactica (BSG), surrounded by other characters of remarkably equal similarities, were ever constant. In fact, it was so difficult to dismiss the setting of the reimagined television series that I finally gave up and ran with the imagery and characters of the BSG world. It also brought up the possibility that Webb wrote a full length fan-fiction novel and then edited all the minor details in order to avoid paying licensing fees to the franchise owners.

In comparing *Constitution* to the reimagined BSG series, however, the novel falls short of the content of the series. The book is one constant battle for survival and is written within the confines of military culture. Characters follow orders, put their personal feelings aside, and attack the enemy until reaching their last dying breath. The television series, on the other hand, took time between the battle scenes in order to explore the characters. The series made the characters human and allowed for real human fears and frustrations to guide their actions, even while living in a militaristic world. *Constitution* may have touched on this, but the next battle scene always cut humanity short.

The writing of military demeanor was a strong point. Webb captures the ability of those in command to garner respect. He also conveys the sense of duty felt by those following orders and he humorously provides the sarcasm that shows up from time to time as a momentary release of frustration. Webb also knows how to put battle scenes in space into words. He gives the reader enough to feed the imagination while not diluting the action with needless details.

Overall, I was enamored by the nod to BSG that *Constitution* afforded. I simply wish that humanity had a bigger role to play in the midst of all the action.

Lizzie says

I am one of those people who finishes a book once I start it. I struggled to do so. I had read the first few chapters 6 weeks ago and anytime I found something better, I easily set aside Constitution. After reading a book I enjoyed, I forced myself to read another chapter of this book.

I knew when I started Constitution that it was military science fiction, but that is all it is. Aliens who no one has ever seen. Bad Russians in bed with a VP who wants to be president. An old space ship with a dying captain and his drunk right hand. So predictable that neither the characters nor the story were interesting.

About to be decommissioned, the career officer just wants to get her job done when the aliens return after 75 years. The first few chapters introduced us to the characters, but they were pretty similarly boring. The Constitution is one of the old ships and the aliens easily destroy the fancier new ships, so that only the Constitution stands between them and Earth. Multiple space battles with the formula of the lasers didn't work so let's try the gatling guns approach. Interspaced are detailed scientific descriptions of what they think the aliens are doing to destroy ships, space stations and cities. The discarded captain saves the day and becomes the hero.

Constitution went into my collection of "boring delete it" on my kindle. I am relieved that it was free on Amazon when I obtained it. This book makes me rethink my lifelong approach that when I start a book I need to finish it. I felt like I punished myself in forcing myself to read it to the end.

Trevor Dennis says

Perhaps not really a five star book, but it is clearly worth more than the paltry one or two stars some people have given it, so karma required I gave it five stars to redress the balance.

Webb gave me characters I really cared about, and didn't pull his punches when some of those characters don't make it to the end of the book. There is an intriguing sub-plot that works as an effective hook, but is not resolved in the first book. When I finished Constitution I immediately went looking for the next instalment, so I guess that hook has done its job.

It's not hard to predict aspects of books two and three, as the clues are not subtle, but I am hoping for lots of surprises (please Nick). So a better than average SiFi shoot-em-up.

RevathyToady1 says

Good one from the author... Really enjoyed while reading this book!!!

Kirsten says

I started this book because it showed up in a list of best sci-fi on kindle unlimited. I'm really excited about how much I like the series so far! It's been a while since I've read really space-battle-y sci-fi so this was a

pretty fun read. I also found myself getting really fond of the characters, which is always a huge plus. I'll be reading the rest of the series for sure.

Eddie Guernica says

A good start to a new compelling Trilogy

As a fan of military science fiction, and having read quite a bit of it I recommend this book as a worthwhile time and money investment. Characters are well developed and the pacing and action was quite good. I only gave it four stars as it was rather short and could have used more in the way of further character development and back story. I look forward to other books in the series.

Kevin Griffin says

Webb keeps you entranced in the story.

A good, fast paced read. Keeps you wondering what else they can bring into it. Keep them coming, ready to read the next one.
