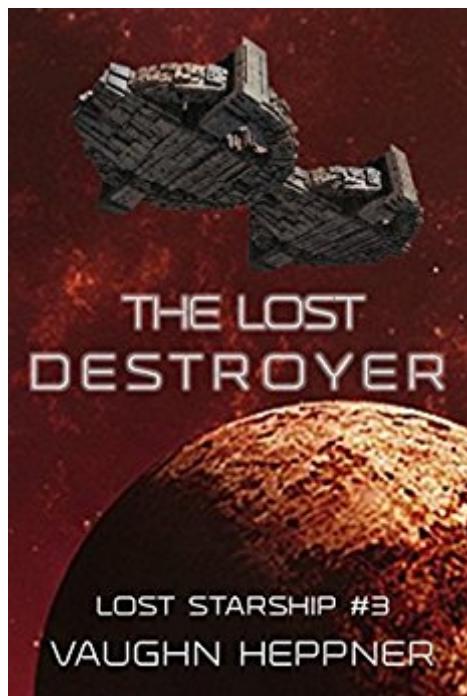


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The Lost Destroyer (Lost Starship Series Book 3)



Synopsis

A silver pyramid in space ten thousand years oldâ |The secrets of the mysterious New Menâ |A war like no otherâ |Starship Victoryâ "Earthâ "TMs ancient, alien spacecraftâ "has won a smashing victory against the New Men, driving them from â œCâ • Quadrant. On their way home, Captain Maddox and his crew run into a vast machine trapped inside an ion storm. Maddox doesnâ "Mt know it yet, but the meeting isnâ "Mt an accident. Thereâ "Ms a traitor aboard ship, implementing a secret plan, threatening to destroy everything Star Watch has achieved against the New Men. Now begins a deadly race as Captain Maddox, the crew and Galyan are pitted against the masters of a centuries-old conspiracy. Human existence lies in the balance. THE LOST DESTROYER is the third book in the LOST STARSHIP SERIES.

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Customer Reviews

Repeating this review for all three books with some added comment: Unlike many series, each book gets better! This third book inspired me to return and review all three. It is very satisfying, causing me to laugh, to keep reading into the wee hours of the morning, and occasionally to tear up. It is

extremely rare for me to give 5 stars, since I usually give that to Asimov-type quality. I am writing this review having read all three books, because taken as a trilogy, it earns 5 stars. Yes, there are a few typos. Yes, there is a bit too much luck involved. However, the complexity of the final plot, the interesting "Asmovian" depth to the plot line, and the warmth of the characters by the end of the trilogy compels me to give the five stars. I suggest you read all three to see this story in its entirety. Best about it: A seemingly simple plot line turns into a Matryoshka doll plot, where just as you think you know what is going on and what will happen, a layer peels away to reveal more complexity. This is what I love most about good sci-fi, and that is it gives you clues to riddles, some you figure out in a satisfying way, others you discover were just the outer shell, to your delight. Plot/story is most important to me, so this gets 5 stars. Needs work: The style is quite good, character descriptions evolve very well, but especially in the first book there are descriptive phrases out of place with the futuristic timeline. "head-butted". The grammar is good, though there are instances during an intense scene which could be more descriptive. This improves in the second and third books, however. Overall: The story is what it is all about since bards and storytellers sat over hot fires and spun their tales. You can have perfect grammar, expressive sentences, and it is ruined by uninteresting or stupid plot. This series is well worth the read and I want to see it continue.

This is yet another good adventure in The Lost Starship series. It is fun although fairly light reading. But then, to me, a good adventure story should be fast flowing and not too deep. The book blurb is somewhat of an exaggeration though. A smashing victory? They won by a very thin thread in the last book as far as I remember. Anyway, the victors start the journey home and, of course, another calamity befalls the crew of Starship Victory. The enemy, by the help of some nasty surprises left by the mysterious professor Ludendorff manages to divert the ship straight into a electrical storm and inside this storm lurks something very big and very very bad. The humans thought the New Men and their star cruisers were bad. Little did they know what was to fall upon them. In this book the author unravels quite a lot of the story behind the New Men, the conspiracy and plotting that led to the creation of these nefarious evolved humans and the current situation. Naturally Maddox and his friends are forced through one hair raising adventure after another to combat the new threat. Starship Victory does indeed, eventually, get back to Earth just in time for Maddox to face a number of assassination attempts not to mention the possible destruction of the planet Earth. Naturally the arrogant and hugely annoying professor Ludendorff makes his best. even then, to twist events to fit into his own agenda. As I wrote, it is a good book. Plenty of adventure, twists and revelations. Galyan, Victory's computer AI, is developing by quite a few orders of magnitude I would say.

They also get the weapons in working order although, sadly, they do not really get to use them much. There are some hints thrown around about how much more capable Galyan and consequently Victory have become though. In the end a battle is won but certainly not the war. I have to say that I would not mind seeing another book in this series being published.

Just when it seemed our heroes may have a slight reprieve from the New Men, another threat manifests itself, one that threatens the utter extinction of humanity. Captain Maddox and his team are hard pressed to stop the threat, as they struggle with obstacles close and far. I especially enjoyed the layered mysteries in this series, which are revealed by increments in each book. We learn more of the New Men, Swarm, Adocks, and another race in this book.

As usual Vaughn has given us a great read with enough twists and turns to keep our attention throughout the book and series. Try it, you will like it. Please Vaughn continue with Captain Maddox, Meta, Dana, Valerie, and Gaylan. WE KNOW YOU HAVE IT IN YOU.

The best thing about cracking open a Vaughn Heppner book for the adventure reader (and that's what I consider myself) is that it will deliver. I know this because I believe I've read them all. While Captain Maddox isn't my favorite character. To tell the truth, he's a little dull. You know the type, half New Man, half human. Smarter, faster and stronger than the average protagonist. His lone flaw is that he doesn't really know who he is or whether he's more aligned with the enemy or the human race. But that's incidental. Heppner writes like he's got a head full of Hendrix (pardon the Lords of the New Church lyric) and he's just tapping a vein of intense creativity that explodes as the progression builds. It must be working. As I write this, *The Lost Destroyer*, the third novel in Heppner's *Lost Starship* series, already has reached more than 400 reviews. Obviously, he's got the fans. He's connecting. Maddox learns more about his crazy ship, and he comes exceedingly close to losing the battle to keep mankind from becoming vapor. Heppner introduces an entirely new threat, the Builders, a race that has left weapons of destruction on a scale a nuclear engineer could only dream of. And he also takes one of his chief antagonists and humanizes him. He leaves this for the climax. Heppner's kind of the Karl Malone of the sci-fi section, the Mailman. He delivers.

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