Readers' Favorite®
Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Syrenthian Redemption

Subtitle: Non-Explicit Edition of the Xeno Tryst Duology

Author: Troy D. Wymer

Genre: Fiction - Science Fiction



Appearance:

5

The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

Plot:

5

The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

Development:

5

Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

Formatting:

5

Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

Marketability:

5

Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

Overall Opinion:

5

The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

Review: Reviewed by Robert A. Groves for Readers' Favorite

A thousand-year secret, hidden at the edge of the galaxy, is the central plot of Syrenthian Redemption. Troy D. Wymer's two-part space opera follows Sierra Shalinsky, a disaster medic and symphony metal vocalist. She first fights for the rights of two species to love freely, then is abducted into a mystery that she had no clue about. The book is divided into two parts, a thousand years apart. Part one is set in the present day, where Xenolfan galaxy law forbids relationships between humans and the Xenolfan aliens. A bitter leader is willing to kill to enforce it. Part two reveals a far older crime where a Xenolfan leader hid a third species. These were the winged Humolfans who were exiled to a dead part of space. The leader rewrote history to erase them. The book ties the two eras together through Sierra, who becomes the Humolfans' advocate and the leader's wife. What happens next is quite a story.

Flight is the measure of Syrenthian Redemption. It is all about who had wings, who kept wings, and who never had them among three very different species. And whoever has flight has power. Troy D. Wymer has done an excellent job of combining two novels, Xeno Tryst and Feathers of Shardaa, into a single novel. This construction naturally creates a long but interconnected story with a large cast of characters. His writing is so superb that I was easily able to follow them individually and collectively without any confusion. There are dark chapters that entail the outcome of genocide. There are also some illustrations. I was drawn to read the book by its cover, which depicts a strong warrior woman. The story describes two feathers interlocked. One is whole, and the other is broken. That illustration symbolizes what happened between the three species. The wedding at the end has a surprise twist that exemplifies how differences can be bridged for love to prevail. Best science fiction book I've read this year, and I give it my highest recommendation.