
Frank Herbert

Der Gottkaiser des Wüstenplaneten (Dune Chronicles #4)



Title: Der Gottkaiser des Wüstenplaneten
(Dune Chronicles #4)

Author: Frank Herbert

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Description

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Insightful reviews

Justin: Painful and unrewarding. Listen: if you read Dune 1-3 and want to hop into the maelstrom of Dune 5, let me just tell you what happens in God Emperor. Just give me a call and I'll sketch it out. It'll take 2 minutes and you'll thank me later. Or, hey, be crazy and read it like I did.

I'm pretty sure Brian Herbert wrote it and Frank knows it sucks. In Dune 5 and 6 the characters continually refer to the period in human future history covered by this book as "[number redacted due to spoiler:] years of boredom." I am not making that up.

Lucy Black: God Emperor of Dune is one of those books you can measure inner growth and change by.

As a child, I hated it. I got bogged down in what I felt was a lack of story and plot. I hated the characters which I felt were very, very one dimensional and boring. I hated the protagonist, Leto II, who I thought was stuffy and pretentious.

Then, as an adult, I rediscovered it and it is now my favorite book of the Dune series (the original Dune is right behind it) and indeed one of my favorite books in the world.

I think it takes an experience of time and pain to be able to understand Leto. The sacrifice he makes to save the human race is doubly painful because his prescient gifts make every nuance available so that he can see exactly what he is missing and will never experience. He is the ultimate outsider staring in, in love with the human race, and completely reviled by them in return. One wonders if they deserve the great sacrifice he has made for them and if they will ever understand or deserve the great words he leaves behind in his journals.

Every time I read God Emperor of Dune I find new layers of meaning, new ideas to ponder, and new beauty to appreciate. Frank Herbert was a genius ahead of his time. Give the series a try and if you can not read God Emperor yet, set it aside and try again another time. You may end up being pleasantly surprised and greatly touched.

Roddy Williams: The fans of 'Dune' and indeed the fans of Frank Herbert fall into two camps. There are those who are desperate for ever more tales of the universe in which Arrakis and its intricately structured interstellar society exists. Indeed, the likes of Kevin J Anderson and Brian Herbert are still churning out new 'Dune' material nearly fifty years after the first novel was published. Then there are those who feel 'less is more' and that 'Dune' should have been left as a quite extraordinary stand alone novel, undoubtedly a classic and arguably one of the top ten SF novels of the 20th century.

To be fair to Herbert, 'Dune Messiah' and 'Children of Dune' were not simply 'more of the

same'. They were stylistically pushing the boundaries of the first novel, but even so, lacked much of the complex structure and rich colour of the original.

This, the fourth novel, takes us three thousand years into the future. Young Leto, the son of Muad'dib, has entered into a symbiotic relationship with the larval forms of the giant sandworms. Having been encased within their bodies he has been slowly transformed over centuries until he is physically more worm than man.

Leto, being not only prescient but possessed of the memories of all his ancestors, is a difficult creature to assassinate, although people keep trying.

Where this novel fails is that the narrative is for the most part centred around Leto, and Leto is not a creature who is that mobile. Now and again he goes out on a cart, but not often enough. Consequently there is a continual succession of scenes where characters are summoned to the Emperor's presence, at which they have long – often meaningless – discussions, since Leto operates through the medium of riddles, or oblique comments which his guests and servants are expected to decipher.

Arrakis has been terraformed and there is now only one small desert left in which 'Museum Fremen' are allowed to dwell.

There is a shortage of spice – the 'unobtainium' that bestows longevity and gives the Guild starship pilots their ability to navigate hyperspace.

The Ixians, the Tleilaxu (who have provided a new Duncan Idaho for the Emperor after he killed the last one) and the Bene Gesserit sisterhood, are all suspicious of each other.

As with 'Dune Messiah' there is a sense of doomed Shakespearean inevitability about it all, particularly in view of the fact that Leto can – to a certain extent – see the future and knows what is going to happen.

There are some interesting points made both obliquely via the narrative and through Leto's conversations and journals about politics and religion. However, Herbert is covering old ground here since 'Dune' had already examined quite subtly and in exquisite detail the complex overlapping boundaries of religion and government.

One would have to clarify, having said all that, that this is not a bad novel. It's just not a good Frank Herbert novel. Herbert was a writer whose name figures largely in the pantheon of SF saints but, like Anne McCaffrey and Fred Saberhagen, seems to be doomed to be remembered for one book that spawned an industry of sequels and franchise, leaving his other work sadly neglected.

Melee Farr: I simply complete this one and beloved it nearly up to the first, that is quite announcing something. i need to say that Leto disgusted me firstly ... gave me the willies simply examining approximately him, almost like squishing a snail, yet by way of the tip of the book, I felt dreadfully sorry for him, and had a reluctant admire for the lonely offerings he made. i would definitely have by no means made these sacrifices. i've got a pile of prices from the clever Mr. Herbert so as to add the following

Kyle Holden: an excellent read. Herbert's use of conversation and total language forces the reader to not concentrate on what the writer is announcing yet what the writer is leaving out. i used to be a bit dissatisfied within the ending; concept it can have had extra element or substance, yet total a truly stress-free read.

Yasiru (reviews will soon be removed and linked to blog): A deep and unflattering meditation at

the human and no matter if close to absolute tyranny can loose mankind from sure of those trappings, Frank Herbert's God Emperor of Dune is my favorite novel of what's a huge sequence and one of many maximum in all of technological know-how fiction. This assessment deals a great and concise precis of what the booklet does for the story. Be warned even though that this novel does not supply a gentle silk thread of a plot the place characters are affixed vibrant and considerable beads sliding alongside via well-paced curves and loops to a conclusion. The constitution is unorthodox and is composed commonly and most importantly of digressions from the eponymous God Emperor, Leto II, whose sacrifice with a purpose to set humanity at the Golden course his father deferred, has bodily and mentally alienated him from it. In whatever of a reversal of the destiny Frazer offers for the Sacred King, the God Emperor suppresses and goads a few of the factions of his new empire to strength the tip he wishes so as to jolt civilisation out of stagnation. Another reviewer in short notes how this can be a glimpse of 'alien motives' à los angeles Lovecraft, that is a truly astute observation. every now and then Leto thinks of the Golden direction as a need for humankind's survival fairly independently from the temporary standpoint of his human subjects, nearly as an highbrow problem. hardly ever will we locate gods written approximately in detail in literature. The pitfalls are obvious. the reason is, all of the features and complexity Herbert bestows on his eponymous personality the following this kind of feat- remarkable in my view. Numerous, usually coy insights into the previous that ends up in doom if now not for his Golden course are ruminated upon via Leto along ambiguities which has to be addressed at this overdue level in his plans sooner than his personal precious demise. to understand those calls for a large view of the advanced social dynamics in Herbert's universe and a virtually cynical openness to how a technologically complex species may adapt economically, culturally and politically to the lengthy reign of this kind of danger because the God Emperor. That Herbert used to be capable of distill such far-reaching machinations and provides voice to them via Leto rather than letting the narrative resolve extra disconnectedly (but probably as effectively) as in Stapledon's and Asimov's paintings is a feat of bold which nonetheless traces credulity as i glance again in this work. It is not that the opposite characters are rather fallacious in comparison to the opposite novels, yet their shortcomings and struggles of constrained scope, given our view via Leto's eyes, seem to condemn the full of humanity, previous and present, which has accepted, yet in addition was once came across desperately wanting Leto's direction.

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