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Space Carrier Avalon (Castle Federation Book 1)



Synopsis

THE FLEET'S OLD LADY - OUT FOR ONE LAST DANCE Avalon was the flagship of the Castle Federation in the last war, now twenty years past. The first of the deep space carriers, no other warship in the fleet holds as many honors or has recorded as many kills. No other warship in the fleet is as old. Accepting the inevitable, the Federation Space Navy has decided to refit her and send her on a tour of the frontier, showing the flag to their allies and enemies as a reminder of her glory and then decommission her for good. But Avalon has been a backwater posting for ten years and has problems a mere refit can't fix. The systems along her planned tour have been seeing pirates for the first time in decades, and there are rumblings of Commonwealth scouting ships all along the border. It may be Avalon's final tour but it looks to be anything but quiet!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After reading Glynn Stewart's first novel, *Starship's Mage*, I decided to take a chance on this one and was richly rewarded. This is an excellent read. I am giving it four stars, but only because I reserve my five-star ratings for a very select few stories. But I could find very few things about this

novel to criticize. (BTW - Starship's Mage is a "five star" in my view - you should read it if you haven't already!) As with his earlier novel, Stewart's tone is refreshingly upbeat. Unlike a lot of modern sf, this author does not automatically assume that governments or large organizations are incompetent or diabolical. His characters believe in ideals and follow a moral code. And it's not always the same moral code - the stories clearly have good guys and bad guys, but Stewart does a great job of showing how all the characters believe they are acting "correctly" according to their various world-views. The science seems well grounded, if a bit far-fetched; but the novel is set seven hundred years in the future, and the technology seems plausible given the time scale. Even though it is definitely space opera, there is no "using the Force" in this novel :-). The action is military-centric but not too "strategic". Diehard fans of military sf will have no cause for complaint, but casual sf readers should also enjoy it. I found myself caught up in the excitement of each encounter and unable to put the book down until I finished it. The only criticism that I have is that there are a few 'cringe-worthy' moments where the dialog gets a bit sappy; usually they happen as the last line or two of a chapter.

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