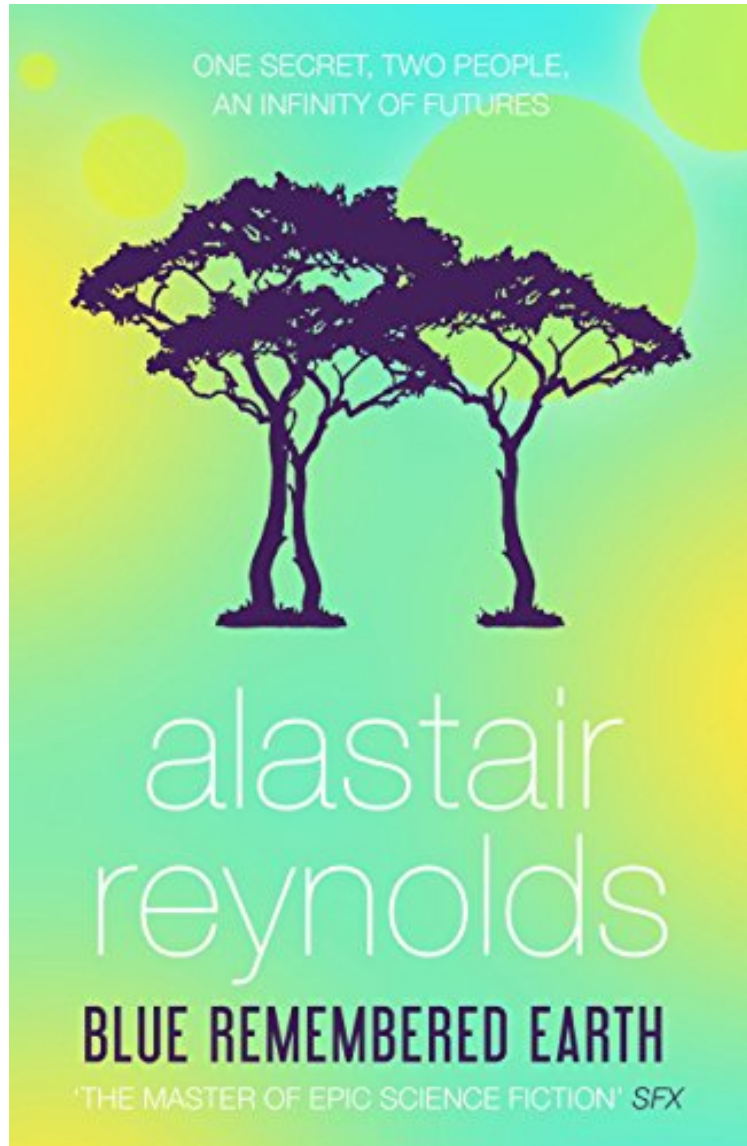


(Mobile book) Blue Remembered Earth (Poseidons Children)

Blue Remembered Earth (Poseidons Children)

Von Alastair Reynolds

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Von Alastair Reynolds : Blue Remembered Earth (Poseidons Children) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blue Remembered Earth (Poseidons Children):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hard Science or merely Sci-Fi?Von K. RottenbacherMr Reynolds decides to offer us a view of close future Earth in this book that is very close to Hard Science ficiton.The former superpowers have died off in the wake of massive repercussions and technological revolutions which put all states close to the equator on the fore-front of power, thanks

to the roulette of geology and geography. Especially Kenya with Mount Kilimanjaro offering an outstanding base for a launch assist system has grown prominent among the world. Space elevators and power launch assist systems have made colonization of space viable and economically feasible. Other nations have arisen on the water of the oceans, floating in huge constructs, again close to the equator, using these huge constructs as a basis for space elevator stations as well as new living areas. Bio-technological modification of even advanced species into other species or other habitats is frowned upon, but definitely possible. Mr Reynolds decided to stay within the realm of Einsteinian physics. FTL travel is impossible, even achieving sufficient speeds to cross the solar system is still a formidable problem. The basis of this new society is the all encompassing Mechanism, a combination of benign AI as well as a strong touch of Orwellian Big Brother that is able to tap into every human being, and even most larger animals, as every newborn, including most potential predators in the wild, is automatically cybernetically or nano-technologically enhanced to transfer all of its senses into the 'benevolent' overwatch of the AI. The same tech that allows the AI total overwatch mode also allows humans to interact with each other in a simulated, augmented reality that is virtually indistinguishable from normal reality, called 'chinging'. This is a simulated existence by projecting one's own image into the visual field of another person and interacting with them as normal. Time lag between two very distant persons (such as one on the Moon, one on Earth) in a 'ching' is somewhat compensated by very highly accurate predictive algorithms that base their predictions on previous reactions of the same person to similar stimuli. Languages are no barrier anymore, as everyone receives real time, perfect translation of any language at any time. In addition to that the AI detects violent thoughts and intentions and reacts as quickly as possible to prevent any violence vs or among humans, reverting to a mental lockdown of the aggressor's bodily functions only in the most extreme cases. In most cases a mild shock reminds humans to reconsider their actions. Only some of the Moon bases, one strong political faction, and some outliers in the asteroid belts have decided to remove themselves from their local copies of the Mechanism's overwatch. The process of 'chinging' is not really explained, not even the first time it is mentioned, but the reader is simply confronted with it 'as is'. But it is a central concept of the first book of this series which makes it even more baffling to me that this tech is simply mentioned, then glossed over. The same goes for multiple other introduced technological concepts. While some may be quickly and easily understandable for a hard sci-fi fan, anyone who has never been confronted with such concepts will be 'left out at sea'. This makes the book somewhat cumbersome to read and understand, as the reader is often left wondering what is currently happening at all; being forced to think about what the author might mean is not conducive for a gripping page-turner. Based in this society Mr Reynolds places his story about the descendants of the prominent Kenyan family clan Akinya, the predominant movers and shakers in this new world. Controlling the first launch assist system ever built gave them the power, including the economic and political clout of a previous superpower. While this society seems logical to most intents, some of the probable changes such massive upheavals should have brought forth are simply ignored. This is also my greatest gripe with the book. The wonderful opportunities offered by demonstrating the wild changes this society has wrought upon itself are simply placed 'as is' and virtually no focus is given to the ramifications. Compare the smart-phone revolution to even the one tech of 'chinging' and you will see why this seems astonishing to me. Maybe I am too interested in focussing on the societal effects of such tech; but I would have wished for more such interaction, explanation and exploration. Still, this book is definitely worth a read, and remains true to the monicker of 'hard-sci-fi' as in 'it stays within the realm of accepted physics, or what can be reasonably expected within the next two or three decades of scientific progress.'

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not really bad, I guess Von Snick The book was entertaining and I found some imaginative things that made me think. But I found the main characters to be sort of wooden and bland somehow. They all seemed rich narcissists who varied from one another only in the degree of belligerency. At the end, there was not a single character that I could really identify with or even like.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Perfect pitch, engrossing story Von Andr This is how space opera should be: Following mover/shaker families through the years and millennia, world-shattering being belittled as 'local'...I actually read the second book (On the Steel Breeze) first, which is absolutely no problem story-wise - this one still had me firmly in it's grasp. Perfect. The plot revolves around the Akinya family and what gave rise to the pilgrimage of book 2 - reviewing the insights and revelations, i begin to wonder whether it might not even have been beneficial to have read the books in this order, as a lot of exposition felt quite good and might have spoiled the experience in the second book.

Kurzbeschreibung BLUE REMEMBERED EARTH is the first volume in a monumental trilogy tracing the Akinya family across more than ten thousand years of future history ... out beyond the solar system, into interstellar space and the dawn of galactic society. One hundred and fifty years from now, in a world where Africa is the dominant technological and economic power, and where crime, war, disease and poverty have been banished to history, Geoffrey Akinya wants only one thing: to be left in peace, so that he can continue his studies into the elephants of the Amboseli basin. But Geoffrey's family, the vast Akinya business empire, has other plans. After the death of Eunice,

Geoffrey's grandmother, erstwhile space explorer and entrepreneur, something awkward has come to light on the Moon, and Geoffrey is tasked - well, blackmailed, really - to go up there and make sure the family's name stays suitably unblemished. But little does Geoffrey realise - or anyone else in the family, for that matter - what he's about to unravel. Eunice's ashes have already been scattered in sight of Kilimanjaro. But the secrets she died with are about to come back out into the open, and they could change everything. Or shatter this near-utopia into shards ...

Pressestimmen

Engrossing

Blue Remembered Earth is, ultimately, a collection of conflicting isms: individualism, collectivism, romanticism, capitalism, expansionism, escapism. The ability to integrate such competing notions into a stable narrative speaks to the ideological power of the best SF; it also demonstrates Reynolds's genre mastery. More importantly, the projected series and the work Reynolds has yet to produce will tell us much about the state of SF in the early twenty-first century.

Los Angeles of Books

Reynolds both develops a richly detailed portrait of a resurgent, postapocalyptic Earth society and economy, and leaves himself plenty of room to expand his narrative space exponentially. If Reynolds can keep this up and there's enough planted here for future volumes to already suggest that he can, he might have one of the most enjoyable series of the still-young decade.

Locus

As my number one SF writer of the 00s, any novel or story by Alastair Reynolds is a must. As speculation about a mid 2100s Earth and nearby solar system, Blue Remembered Earth is simply unrivaled in recent SF and if only for that and the novel is a top 25 of mine.

A compulsive read that you do not want to put down. If you want to understand why SF at its best is still the most interesting form of literature today, Blue Remembered Earth [is the place] to go.

Fantasy Book Critic

Werbetext

BLUE REMEMBERED EARTH is the first volume in a monumental trilogy tracing the Akinya family across more than ten thousand years of future history ... out beyond the solar system, into interstellar space and the dawn of galactic society.