



## Changer of Worlds

*David Weber, Eric Flint*

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Lady Dame Honor Harrington - starship captain, admiral, Steadholder, and Duchess - has spent decades defending the Star Kingdom of Manticore against all comers. Along the way, she has become the legend known as "the Salamander" from her habit of always being where the fire is hottest... and also from being a national bestseller (Ashes of Victory). But it's a big universe, and Honor's actions affect a lot of lives, not all of them human. And their actions affect her - a lesson "Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington" learns years before rising to command rank, when a desperate battle against "pirates" who aren't quite what they seem begins her brilliant career. Closer to home, in "Changer of Worlds" a secret that the alien treecats have kept from their human friends for hundreds of years is about to come out... and completely change the relationship between the two species forever. Meanwhile, Eric Flint weighs in with "From the Highlands." Honor can't be everywhere, so when the People's Republic of Haven tries to stage a political assassination on Earth, Anton Zilwicki - husband of one of the Star Kingdom's most revered military martyrs, and father of a young woman who is clearly a chip off the old block - steps into the breach... and takes the opportunity to settle some old scores along the way. And finally, Esther McQueen and Oscar Saint-Just square off for their final confrontation in Noveau Paris in "Nightfall."

## Changer of Worlds Details

Date : Published February 1st 2002 by Baen (first published 2001)

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Author : David Weber , Eric Flint

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## From Reader Review Changer of Worlds for online ebook

### Christopher says

Changer of Worlds is a great collection of novella's that plug much of the back and side-stories of the Honorverse that are too big to fit in the other novels that primarily cover these periods and add much depth these stories and answer mysteries and plot arcs that were left hanging in them as well as explaining the later actions of some of the characters! :D They also give us more insight in Nimitz, Samantha, Saint-Just and Ester McQueen's actions and perfectly dove tail with the other books! :D

Changer of Worlds is witty, clever, fun, fast-paced, inventive and action packed! :D Brilliant and highly recommended! :D

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### Jennifer says

3.5 stars, rounded up.

based on my last review of one of david weber's books, i find myself a little surprised to be reading two of his anthologies so soon after giving up on one of his novels. i think what saves this book is that it IS an anthology; the stories are shorter, and not all of them are written by weber.

i enjoyed all of the stories pretty equally, for different reasons. i really liked "nightfall," and i think it's because it kind of summed things up and gave a good overview of what really happened during the coup. i find that in weber's novels, i tend to skim large parts, so i honestly couldn't tell you if i had read about the coup in a novel yet or not. it did seem familiar, but possibly because i had only heard of it from others who had read farther in the series. i also very much like victor. he's an example of the reason that i keep reading honor books, i think, but one reason that i don't like them. it's not that i don't like the fact that there are good people on both sides - sometimes it's just really hard for me to tell who the author is talking about, and on what side.

another thing that gets me is the incredible amount of repetition that weber and his fellow authors use. take, for instance, the countess of tor - cathy. it's established pretty early on that she reminds people of a particularly high strung pony. then, in the course of the short story, it's repeated over. and over. and over again. until i reached the point where i wanted to scream "i get it, she's a pony. seriously. stop it."

but good stories, and good background. i did like the story about the treecats as well. recommended for those wanting more honorverse stuff, but not really for anyone else.

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### Dan says

2018 re-read.

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## **Vitaliy Hristyuk says**

Nice stories about some interesting aspects of Honorverse.

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## **The Pirate Ghost (Formerly known as the Curmudgeon) says**

These short stories are better than the mainstream books. Worth reading first if you like short stories!

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## **Steven Allen says**

I really enjoy these short stories set in the Honorverse. Many of these stories fill in the blanks between the books. These stories also provide backstory on many of the characters without bogging down a new Honor Harrington book. I especially love the stories about a young Honor Harrington, in the case of this book on her midshipwoman cruise with Nimitz. I also enjoy the stories of Honor's famous ancestors, especially Stephanie the first person adopted by a Treecat.

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## **Sable says**

Okay, to be fair I started this book a fair bit of time ago, read about two and a half of the four novellas in it, and then my partner decided to read it and hid it on me. I found it again a month ago or so but wanted to finish reading the book I was on before I went back to this one.

These are some very well-written stories, and because they lack the usual Weber info-dumps, they're among the best written Honor Harrington stories I have yet to read. And I have to warn you, unlike many short stories that center around an ongoing novel series, you kind of have to read these or some things will make no sense to you in the later books.

Fortunately this will almost universally be a pleasure. The first story, "Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington," is a direct homage to "Mr. Midshipman Hornblower," which is wonderful since the Horatio Hornblower books are part of what inspired Weber to write this series in the first place, and why it's such wonderful space opera. Here we get to see Honor Harrington, great captain and admiral, as a mere midshipwoman on her "snotty" cruise. Lots of action, typical Navy politics . . . wonderful stuff for any Honor Harrington fan.

The second story, "Changer of Worlds," provides some wonderful insight into the ways of the other major intelligent species of the Honorverse; the treecats, who are not just cute telepathic kitties. No indeed.

The third story, "From the Highlands," introduces us to some other major characters in the Honorverse and what they're up to; including Victor Cachat, Peep intelligence agent, Anton Zilwicki, the world's most unlikely Manticoran Navy intelligence officer; Cathy Montaigne, renegade Liberal eventually to be a force to be reckoned with in Manticoran politics; and the Ballroom, a secret terrorist organization of escaped slaves dedicated to wiping out slavery by whatever means necessary. Oh yes, and Zilwicki's daughter Helen, a force to be reckoned with on her own. This story, written by Eric Flint, is full of his subtle humour, sharp wit, and clever plot and counterplot elements. It reads just like a spy thriller with some comedy thrown in. Great

stuff!

The only story I thought we could have done without was the last one, "Nightfall." This was basically what happened when Secretary of War McQueen took on the Secretary of State Saint-Just just before the end of "Ashes of Victory." I suspect it was originally included but Weber's editor, in a rare act of prudence, cut it and told him it wasn't necessary. I agree; it wasn't necessary. Since we already read how it started, and we already knew how it ended, and it was just a lot of pain and bloodshed in between, and we didn't learn anything about any of the characters or the events, I don't see the point of it.

So; three out of four great stories ain't bad. Well worth reading, anyway.

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## **Mayank Agarwal says**

The best of the short stories book from Honorverse. It has all the positives of David Weber without the negative info dump.

### 1.Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington by David Weber

The first naval action of Honour and she is marvelous. Like the way the Story is paced and how David Weber creates perfect opportunity for Honour to show her talent. The military tactics/strategy as always seems detailed and interesting. Typical Honour Harrington Story – beating the odds which are so much fun to read. (4/5)

### 2.Changer of Worlds by David Weber

Really enjoyed it and loving what can happen to Honorverse with what's being hinted in the story. The tree cats have been one of the best and least utilized part of the Harrington novels. Great Plot and Storytelling but one will only understand the significance if they have read the trilogy on the Tree Cats(The Star Kingdom books). (4/5)

### 3.From the Highlands by Eric Flint

Good plot and story writing. Eric Flint is one of the best writer in this genre. The pacing was superb the only part which felt out of place for me was the romance. The whole Kidnapping, Spy and Rescue thriller mixed with political intrigue came out beautifully. (4/5)

### 4.Nightfall by David Weber

It is the missing chapter form "Ashes of Victory". Tells us of the MaQueen failed coup attempt. Well written account of Oscar Saint Just rise to Chairman of the Peeps. By itself the story is incomplete but if one read's it during or after Ashes of Victory, they will get the picture. (4/5)

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## **Joshua Zucker says**

I picked this up for a little light diversion.

The first story got me what I was looking for. It was fun, but didn't give us any new insight into the character of Honor Harrington that we already knew so well, and nothing much happened, and the space combat part

of the plot was, like I usually think of Weber's combat scenes, overly drawn out and detailed while interesting in principle and strategy.

Then, to my surprise, the second (title) story was totally different, and gave us insight into another species in a quite well-written short story. It made me wish to know more of the surrounding context (which I no doubt would if I'd read all the Honor books).

The third story "From the Highlands" was a suspenseful spy thriller with some lovely characters, including some I didn't know before as well as some filling in of backstory on characters I'd encountered in other books. Multiple points of view really worked well here. And sometimes I really love Weber's politics: he is very much anti-slavery and anti-idiocy and tells lots of stories of slavers and idiots getting the fates they deserve. Even the mostly-unrealistic love-at-first-sight subplot was almost believable and besides I liked the characters enough that it was OK with me to have them like each other too.

The final story was a depressing tale of power struggles in Communistic politics that shows how those power struggles lead to paranoia and mass death. I didn't really want to finish it, but I hoped that there'd be some bigger lesson in the end, or some character who would transcend, or ... something. But, alas, no. Ending with this story almost got me to knock the rating down a star or two, but it's really a pretty small part of the book as a whole, one of the shorter stories, so I left it with a rating based mostly on story #3 which I enjoyed a ton.

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### **Michael says**

This book has 3 stories by David Weber and 1 by Eric Flint. The 1st story is "Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington" by David Weber. This story is about Honor Harrington's "Snotty Cruise". Her ship is assigned to fight space pirates in a remote region of space. The 2nd story is "Changer of Worlds" by David Weber. It is a very short story about the Treecats and a decision they have to make that will affect their entire race. The 3rd story is "From the Highlands" by Eric Flint. This story provides the background on young Helen Zilwicki's kidnapping in Chicago, the adoption of Berry and Lars, and Anton Zilwicki's taking up with Cathy, the Countess of Tor, and the Anti-Slavery League after providing both Cathy and Jeremy X with proof of Manticoran involvement in Manpower. It also tells about how Victor Cachat hooks up with Kevin and Ginny Usher. The 4th story is "Nightfall" by David Weber. This story gives more detail to the attempted coup in Haven led by Admiral McQueen mentioned in Ashes of Victory. I recommend this book to all David Weber fans.

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### **Jim says**

From Publishers Weekly

Naval SF is the common theme in this solid collection consisting of a short novel, Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington, and three stories, all set in the same universe that Weber (Ashes of Victory) created for his popular series heroine, Honor Harrington. In the novel, Honor is now a midshipman in the Royal Manticoran navy (which sails space, not the sea) on her "snotty" cruise. This trip will determine whether Honor will keep her commission or flunk out of the naval academy as a complete failure. Along for the ride is her constant companion, Nimitz, a tree cat who has bonded with Honor and now is able to share emotions and some empathic ability. Unfortunately, someone who has a grudge against Honor has manipulated the crew roster to include Elvis Santino as her training officer. Besides having the power to ax Honor's career without moving

a muscle, Mr. Santino has a real problem with people who are smarter than he is and that definitely includes Ms. Harrington. The outlook for Honor is bleak, to say the least. Like the novel, the three stand-alone stories, which are only lightly connected to Honor, have the flavor of C.S. Forester's Hornblower books. Readers familiar with David Feintuch's Hope series will also see similarities. Weber gives a real feel for the military chain of command both the good and bad parts. While some fans may be disappointed because the novel and stories don't interlock, the individual works have more than enough suspenseful action to engross the reader. (Mar.)

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From Library Journal

In "Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington," Honor Harrington's probationary cruise as a midshipwoman of the Royal Manticorean Navy takes an unexpected and potentially deadly turn that tests the young officer's tactical brilliance and personal courage. Together with two more tales by Weber and one by Flint, the four tales that comprise this third collection of stories set in a far future of galactic empires and interplanetary politics expand on the background for the Honor Harrington series. Recommended where the series is popular.

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## Kathy Davie says

Four short stories in the Honorverse military science fiction series.

### Series

*Worlds of Honor, 3 (Anthology)*

#### *Chronological Placement within the Honorverse*

"Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington" (Honor Harrington, 0.5)  
"Changer of Worlds" (Honor Harrington, 6.5)  
"From the Highlands" (Honor Harrington, 9.5)  
"Nightfall" (Honor Harrington, 8.5???)

### The Stories

**"Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington"** (also in *Worlds of Weber* ) is Honor's snotty cruise on board War Maiden with Captain Bachfiisch where she first encounters Elvis Santino.

**"Changer of Worlds"** provides background on Nimitz and Samantha's visit to his Bright Water clan on Sphinx which sets in motion the emigration of the treecats. The action occurs after the kits are born and before they all head back to Grayson.

**"From the Highlands"** provides the background on young Helen Zilwicki's kidnapping in Chicago, the adoption of Berry and Lars, and Anton Zilwicki's taking up with Cathy, the Countess of Tor, and the Anti-Slavery League after providing both Cathy and Jeremy X with proof of Manticoran involvement in Manpower.

Victor Cachat hooks up with Kevin and Ginny Usher. And Admiral Parnell, late of the prison break

engineered by Honor, is arriving in Sol to testify against the Peeps.

"**Nightfall**" is a non-essential story that summarizes what has been written elsewhere in which Esther McQueen attempts her coup, gets Rob Pierre killed, and the Octagon blown up with Saint-Just left in charge.

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### **Rich says**

Great set of back stories for the world of Honor Harrington.

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### **Alex Shrugged says**

"Changer of Worlds" is a series of short stories filling out the storyline in the Honor Harrington series. Generally speaking, I don't like these sort of anthologies, but I make an exception for David Weber. He does a good job bringing this together along with other authors. I'm glad to be introduced to other authors this way.

There was mention in the book Crown of Slaves of Berry Zilwiki's life before her adoption. A rather long short story in this anthology, "From the Highlands," explains how she met Helen Zilwiki and her father, the spy-master.

The story "Ms. Midshipwoman Harrington," explains how Honor Harrington knew Captain Bachfisch of Pirate's Bane who took such a critical role in the book War of Honor.

Yes. The F-word is used. It is in context but there it is.

I've read this book before and I will probably do so again.

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### **Edward Davies says**

A pretty decent collection of novellas, though the Weber penned ones were better than that of the guest writer.

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