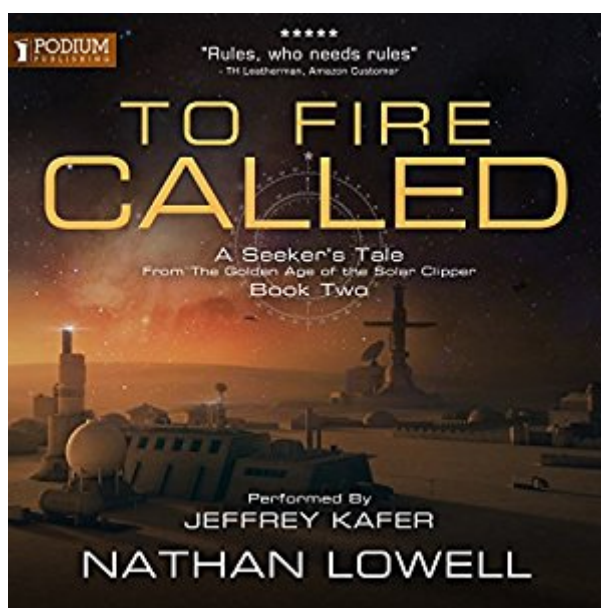


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To Fire Called: A Seeker's Tale From The Golden Age Of The Solar Clipper, Book 2



Synopsis

A dead ship returns to the Deep Dark with a live crew. Captain Ishmael Wang finally gets the Chernyakova out of the yard and embarks on a voyage into the Toe-Holds where the Confederated Planets Joint Committee on Trade has no authority. Where the law is whatever you say it is as long as you can enforce it. Where he learns that some will do anything to hide their secrets and everybody has a secret.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a mystery in unfamiliar places.... Of course Ishmael needs a challenge to help his recovery process, and Pip is ready to work his magic in choosing cargoes. But together on the Chernyakova? And many cargoes go past the familiar CPJCT orbitals to places with names like Mel's, or Odin's Outpost, star of A Light In The Dark (Tales from the Deep Dark Book 1). -It's a faster plot than the previous Solar Clipper series. As the story begins, our bruised Captain forms another company and places the overhauled clipper in service. Lowell documents fuseactors, bridge consoles and galleys; hiring the crew is a challenging exercise. Descriptions of lonely orbitals in the Deep Dark evoke images of ships following digital atlases. Maybe not dramatic, but this crew is trying to solve a puzzle hidden between stations. Pacing is steady, while these images are detailed. It was never clear who the conspirators were, once the crew located their base. And again, Ishmael engages in a narcissistic exercise of clothes shopping. (Minus one star)

I liked this book even though I had to wait so long for it to come out but I thought his other books were a lot better. It's like this one he just didn't care about it. I have given his other books five stars but this one only four.

Ishmael and Pip got a great deal on the Chernyakova at auction but it cost them a small fortune and many months to have it refurbished. But they quickly assembled a full crew and took off to Toe-Hold space to make a profit. Ish knew that Pip was up to something besides making a profit but it took a while to shake loose this information. Along for the voyage are Chief Engineer Stevens and first mate Al who manage to help Ish get out of his funk and back into being a Captain. Unlike its prequel this book has a satisfying ending which neatly wraps up most of the loose threads in the series. But there is one more book to follow to perhaps wrap up the remaining threads. It's always fun and comforting to ride along with Ish and Pip on a grand adventure and Lowell has a knack for good and witty dialog. But the story was not quite as interesting as some of his other tales. But of course I anxiously await the next book in this series.

Captain Ishmael Wong is on a mission. He's out to find the man who murdered the love of his life. To do that he'll have to go into the world of thieves and outlaws: Toe Hold Space. It isn't anything like he expected. The space station and people who operate outside the law are much like the people on the right side of the law. There are some differences though. Might is right, and there are fiefdoms everywhere. Not everyone tells the truth, including some of his oldest and dearest friends. When he finds some of those friends in danger, he doesn't give it a second thought. Helping each other is what friends do, even if it could cost him his life. Nathan Lowell brings another book to the golden age series. There are lots of old faces and many new ones. Like many of his books, it's about the journey, not the destination. A fun read for sci fi fans everywhere.

I've enjoyed this series immensely. The first six books were fantastic and the first in this series was also great. This one wasn't quite up to snuff as the others. Captain Ishmael isn't his normal self. Somewhat forgivable as he is still getting over Greta's death. Pip... that's a different story. His character has taken a sharp turn. Not at all the rakish youth as before. Now he feels like a pathological liar and con man. The dynamic just is all wrong. Not as fun nor charming as they were in the very first three books. To top it all off the dark side is just odd. Feels like a huge stretch made to fit. After about 30% of the book things get better but still feels off. Worthy of 4 stars just not the 5 overall of the original 6 nor 5+ of the first in this series. I say 5+ because I can't give more than 5

and that one set an incredibly high bar this one simply didn't achieve.

The adventure really does begin with this offering. As a fan, I did not have a difficult time picking up on the characters and felt at home with the storyline. If you are not familiar with Mr. Lowell's work, you might want to start at the beginning of the saga. The book is well edited and has the same comfortable flow/pace that I've come to expect with this author. As with all of Mr. Lowell's works, I look forward to the next installment.

I first became acquainted with Nathan Lowell's Solar Clipper series years ago and have listened to them repeatedly. I check pretty often to determine if he has a new one out. I have his books in eformat and audio. I think anybody who enjoys space opera would like his books, but also people who like coming of age books. Coming of age doesn't just mean emerging into adulthood, but into the various ages we encounter.

This is book 8 in Ish's tale; if you've gotten this far, you know the drill. The Seeker series is still pretty heavily focused on Ish's internal issues, now in a larger context. He was rather sheltered through the first 6 books...even Double Share remained a conflict within the narrow environment of a ship. It's still ongoing here. Makes sense to me, so no problems there. And we get more views of the Deep Dark...still largely from the High Line, CPJCT perspective. And motivations get nicely more complex. This isn't a series for action junkies. It's a world for dreamers. One of my gauges is, would I want to be in this world? HECK yeah.

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