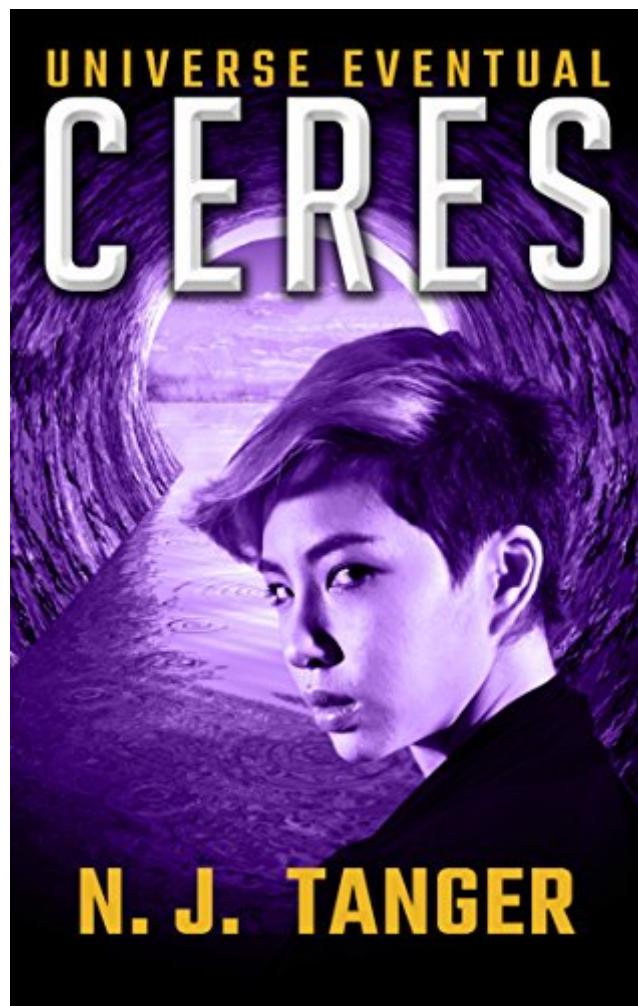


The book was found

Ceres (Universe Eventual Book 3)



Synopsis

Whatever Navigator Selena Samuelson expected when her Fractal Class ship, Chimera, arrived at Earth, it certainly wasn't a brutal attack from an unknown enemy that killed more than half her crew and all but destroyed her ship. Deserted by their captain and the only other navigator, Selena makes a terrible gamble and flees for Damascene—a colony that lost contact with Earth hundreds of years ago. On Damascene, an anachronistic society has sworn off advanced technology and have all but forgotten about their colony ship, Ceres, still in orbit high above. Embroiled in an endless war with the more advanced EPR, they want nothing to do with Selena or the war at Earth. However, Ceres herself might hold the key to ending the war, and changing the fate of not just the Damascene colony, but Stephen's Point as well.

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Customer Reviews

I started this series as a beta reader and have graduated to buying my own books. This is one of my favorite YA dystopian series ever - not just among independent/small publishers. The two books before this one were solidly plotted, heavy on character development, fast-paced, and well-written. Ceres is somewhat lighter on character development, at least in the sense of dynamics, because it has to be.*Warning: Some mild spoilers ahead (especially for Book 2 - Helios)*More happens in Ceres compared to Helios. There's a whole new world to learn about. The scene is far broader, and there are lots of new characters. N.J. Tanger introduces them fairly deftly, and I cared about them (even some of the new antagonists) maybe not instantly, but quickly enough that I wasn't impatiently flipping through the book to find out about the characters who survived Helios (and the cliffhanger we left them on). Ceres continues the excellent world-building/mythology of Chimera and Helios, while delivering plenty of action that unfolds organically from the characters out. Most of it does not come from the characters left from the first two books, though. The Chimera crew has serious problems, and they all need to be solved from the outside-in. For now. By the time I was about three quarters of the way through the book, I had anticipatory book grief: I didn't want it to end. And then it did end. On another cliffhanger. On the surface, the Universe Eventual series delivers more than enough character+action to keep a reader like me happy, but there is also plenty here for the deep thinkers: Questions about artificial intelligence - as of this book, we have three fractal class ships, each of whom is very different from the others. Why? Is it a function of who navigates them/interacts with them regularly? Who makes whom in whose image? Questions about religion: Duncan's Order on Stephen's Point (Who was Stephen? The Chimera tells a different tale from the stories her crew grew up with.) Our new world has its own kind of thing that resembles fundamentalism. Questions about human nature/right and wrong: Sometimes the people who do the worst things are right. Sometimes the people who do the worst things are completely unredeemable. Sometimes, a good person fights to do the right thing, and it all ends tragically anyway. Because the bad person was right. Questions about the value of progress: Corporatism, nature versus industrialization, and the laws of unintended consequences. It's all there.

I found the Authors "Timeline" at the beginning of the book very helpful in following along. I enjoyed this book greatly enough to give it a five star rating even though I hadn't yet read the first two books in the series. Without that timeline, or having had the pleasure of reading the first two books, (YET) I would have been lost. I'm going to remedy that right now and read all three books from start to finish. And, fortunately, Book IV has already been written. I read a lot of Sci Fi books and have trouble keeping some series distinct from one another. I kind of like it when I discover a great series

that's well along as it enables me to read the series with limited interruption. If you know me and have read more than a few of my reviews you may get the impression I've an easy Five Star reviewer. NOT SO! I never post a public review for any book I deem worth less than four stars. In fact, unless I'm reading as an advance or BETA reader book, I won't even finish a book that seems to be unequal to at least a four star rating. In the case of BETA and advance reader books, when they're less than four stars I give a private personal review directly to the Author. No need to hurt any authors career more than the absence of a review does. I've also begun to NOT write "HS style Book Reports" (e.g. Story Summaries) as the author's already provide that for prospecting readers. **DO YOURSELF A FAVOR; DO NOT READ THIS BOOK** until you read the first two in the series. You will anyway, as I'm about to do. Review by: THE HOLEY ONE

My 13 year old daughter and I had to fight over whoever would get to read this 3rd book of the series first. Though we were both a little disappointed not to find out what happened to Theo and Marcus (though she skimmed through and found the epilogue - yay!), we both easily got sucked into the new world at Damascene and the characters there. It was so interesting to see how the earth colonies at Stephen's Point and Damascene were so different. I loved how the story went between Selena and her crew, and what was going on at Damascene - though at times it was hard b/c you were left in suspense for a while until the story returned to the ones you were just reading about! I'm very much looking forward to book 4, though I have to admit I'm intrigued to see where Celeste fits in. It ended a little too abruptly for me there and makes me wonder if there's more to her story to be continued.

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