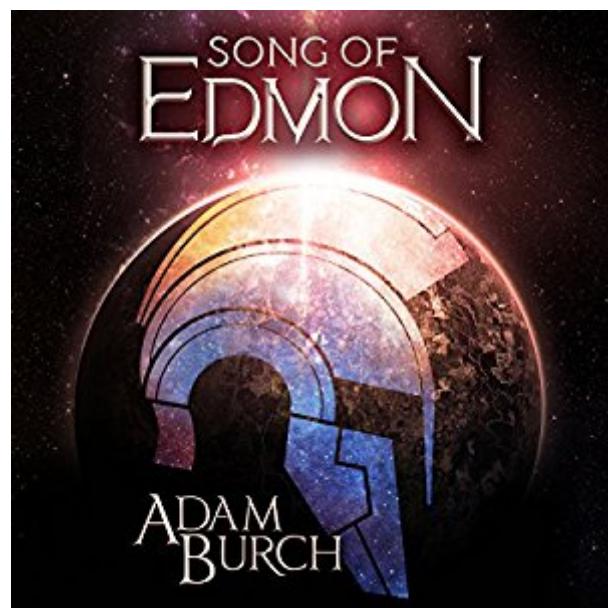


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Song Of Edmon: The Fracture Worlds, Book 1



Synopsis

In Adam Burch's thrilling series debut, a young man must choose between violence and peace in a distant world divided between those who thrive in endless sunlight and those who survive in eternal darkness. The isolated planet of Tao is a house divided: the peaceful Daysiders live in harmony while the pale Nightsiders pursue power and racial purity through the violent ritual of the Combat. Edmon Leontes, the gentle son of a ruthless warrior noble and a proud Daysider, embodies Tao's split nature. The product of diametrically opposed races, Edmon hopes to live a quiet life pursuing the music of his mother's people, but his Nightsider father cruelly forces him to continue in his bloody footsteps to ensure his legacy. Edmon's defiance will cost him everything...and spark a revolution that will shake the foundations of Tao. His choice - to embrace the light or surrender to the darkness - will shape his own fate and that of his divided world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was absolutely amazing, but definitely not what I expected. I feel obligated to warn readers that this is not a happy book. It's not even all that appropriate for younger readers. There are a couple sexually graphic scenes (nothing erotic, but still meant for a mild level of maturity), a lot of gory fighting and a lot of truly degrading and soul-crushing moments. Just when you think the main character's luck will begin to shine, it's absurdly smashed to pieces. That being said, the author does an absolutely incredible job of taking this character, stripping him down to the bare bones and forcing him to unleash all that he has to offer. It was so easy to get sucked into this story

because there's a lot of fascinating geographical detail and there are so many creative and original plot twists. I don't think a single one of my plot predictions throughout the story came true. There are even some relationship dynamics that I didn't expect to see changing the way in which they did. I read a lot of dystopian novels, but this one doesn't fit any sort of pattern or typical layout that I've seen before. Even though I was repetitively depressed by some of the events, it had a refreshing feel that kept my attention completely locked down. I know the word "depressing" isn't a good selling point, but I highly recommend this book if you want something mind-bending and unique.

Sometimes you have to take the bad with the good, and this book is so good that the sad parts are completely worth facing. Thankfully, this doesn't end on a major cliffhanger, but I really look forward to the next part of this series and hope that there are great things in store for Edmon!

INTRO: Song of Edmon is a Science Fiction work relaying to us the story of Edmon. The son of a king, Edmon lives in a world of extreme contrasts — Perpetual sun or perpetual shade, depending upon which side of the vertical equator upon which one lives. The book description, written by the editor, paints an almost too-good-to-be-true picture on the merits of this work. I nearly passed on it for this reason, but I just couldn't quite choose for my Kindle First pick the only other appealing story — All The Little Children. Read on to learn more about what I experienced... *** **ARE THERE PROFANITIES USED?** *** There are a few profanities, but the one word most people might wish to avoid, the f-word, is nearly absent. Despite its use (just twice) I would caution against not reading this work, if that is your only reason. **POV** - Song of Edmon is told to us in First Person Point of View. I found that this provides us the sense of immediacy. Getting inside the head of the protagonist as he sees the world and his place in it is critical, in this story, for me. **KEY POINTS** - Although I understand the author's desire to provide the contrast in the way he did, it was the one reason I almost rejected this story. I feared it would be too simplistic. Fortunately, the author addresses my fears in the opening as he builds the world into which we are entering. In other words, I was able to suspend my disbelief fairly well. **LANGUAGE** - The language used by the various characters through dialogue is pretty good. What I mean is, it is not stilted or forced. It flows with ease. **DOES THIS WRITER SHOW OR TELL WHAT WE SEE/FEEL/HEAR?** - This is a highlight in this novel — we are shown what Edmon sees, feels and thinks. Great writers excel in this, as does Burch. **DOES THE WRITER EVOKE THE FIVE SENSES?** - Yes. Look to the excerpt to better understand how this author shows us what we experience, and why it is worth our time to invest ourselves in this adventure. **CLIFFHANGER?** - This is an epic, emphasizing the growth of the character. Thus, unless it was produced as a 1,200 page novel, there is no way

justice could be done for such an ambitious work, than to end the first half with a cliffhanger, of some sort. This is one of those rare times that I will recommend a book that ends on a cliffhanger, because the character growth from a naïve adolescent into a mature, hardened, leader capable of returning his destroyed world into greatness could only be accomplished in two books.Q - How was this book obtained?A ¶ I bought it on .Q - Are there a lot of typos/misspellings, grammatical errors or other editing failures?A ¶ No.Q - Is this a fast, easy read or is it more of a leisure read?A ¶ This is a leisure read.Q - My biggest pleasure or disappointment?A ¶ No serious worries here. My one nagging point is the writer's need, in dialogue, to tell us what we must see or notice. The dialogue is so well done that it does not need the explanations he injected using such qualifiers as admonishes or fumes or grins rakishly to explain how the dialogue is being spoken. Doing so takes just a wee bit of value from the dialogue. It might be needed for writing plays, but has little need in a novel. Otherwise, though it is not a great novel and will never be considered a classic, it is a good, fun adventure. To give a feel for the editing, and the style and flow of this work, I am posting a brief excerpt below.

Excerpt

Months pass. Intense months. Laborious months. Days are spent on the sands drilling sprints on the beach, standing on one leg for hours. I sit and watch Alberich and Phaestion duel. I want to practice, too, but the techniques and moves Alberich teaches are far beyond me. Alberich sees my frustration and, as recompense, forces me to punch rocks. The pain is blinding but quickly over with use of the salves and treatments Phaestion imports from Meridian. I heal so completely I'm able to endure it all over again on the morrow. My mother circles the confines of her room like a caged shark. She wants to lash out but can do nothing for fear of repercussions. It comforts her little that I actually begin to enjoy the training. Instead, she assures me that she's planning something.¶ The other islands Rock, Shell, Conch, Leaf they tire of rule by their Pantheon overlords, too. We will rally. You won't be taken to Meridian. I promise.¶ I've never seen her like this before, standing over maps, talking with the other villagers about trade. She's like an ancient battle commander discussing sieges, politics, and tactics. It occurs to me that she's more like Edric than I ever realized. I just nod in agreement to her statements, but fear she can't stop my leaving. If she defies Edric, nothing will prevent his wrath. The technology of Meridian and the Pantheon is far beyond anything we have on the islands. We are not strong enough to defy my father. I'm not strong enough to defy him yet. I will find a way to protect her if she rebels, I think. Patience. One day I will be full grown. Then¶ Phaestion and I steal away for private sessions. He breaks down what Alberich teaches into simpler techniques I can learn. Eventually, I spar with him. He yawns,

parrying the thrusts of my sword using only one arm. The second I admire his skill is the second I'm knocked onto my back in the sand. It's dangerous to respect one's opponent, he says. Honor and admiration may be savored only after your enemy is beaten. Alberich will occasionally catch me practicing a move that he knows I didn't learn from him. He'll correct my form before giving me some other task that will wear me out. Nadia spies on us once. She climbs the rocks above our makeshift arena on the sands. Phaestion admonishes her. You break our concentration. Ael can fight as well as anyone! Nadia fumes. Phaestion grins rakishly. You can. He can. He jabs his thumb at me. Don't distract us. Nadia stays away from our practice but blames me for the exile in the few moments we still meet on the cliffs. Little Lord can't bear to have a girl watch him, she taunts. I find myself tuning out her words more and more, though. Instead, I stare at her lips and her legs. When she leans down and snickers, my eyes go to the V of her tunic and the narrow shadow created by her blossoming breasts. When did that happen? I wonder. I'm pulled from my reverie when her japes segue to her true topic of interest—Phaestion. She wants to know everything about him. Where does he come from? What things does he like? Does he talk of any girls back home? I tell her with hot jealousy, Meridian, fighting, and I don't know. The last is a lie. He talks of girls, but only to say he has many who love him and that seems totally natural. Sometimes I think of myself in contrast to him: my arms skinny, my knees knobby, and my hair dirty and dark. I start to feel that if I was more like Phaestion, my father would. |
Burch, Adam. *Song of Edmon* (The Fracture Worlds Book 1) (p. 74-76). 47North. Kindle Edition.
Bottom Line: Despite the minor issue I cited above, I would have been quite proud to have penned such a tale as this epic, *Song of Edmon*. It would not surprise in the least to find that it has become a series available on Video or even HBO. Four stars out of five. Comments regarding your opinion of this book or of my review, whether favorable or unfavorable, are always welcome. If you buy the book based on my review and become disappointed, especially, I do want to know that and I want to understand how I can improve as a book reviewer. Just please be polite. Thank you.

Loved the idea of the book. Did not enjoy some of the places we had to go in order to reveal Edmon. Overall it was a fascinating journey into another time and place. Four stars for creativity and ease of falling into the story.

The protagonist is a weird mix of self aware and naive. His life is a series of awful followed by sickening, yet somehow I just had to know what happened next. Don't read this on a day you're feeling blue. Or around sharp objects. Or rope.

Great story; great characters. I can't wait for the next one in the series. Decent hard science fiction, and a truly interesting idea about the future of humanity. The Fracture Worlds has me hooked

I enjoyed the book very much. It dives deep into an evolution of a culture that has gone to a dark place. Hoping the next book will move away from the relentless suffering.

Interesting story but just too convoluted. You never really get to know the characters on a personal level because they keep changing too much. Overall worth reading.

Lovers of science fiction that is not fantasy-based will enjoy this book. A story of life on a different planet with a different culture. I was given an advance copy of this book.

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