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Broken Angels (Takeshi Kovacs Novels Book 2)

By Richard K. Morgan



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Broken Angels (Takeshi Kovacs Novels Book 2) By Richard K. Morgan

Welcome back to the brash, brutal new world of the twenty-fifth century: where global politics isn't just for planet Earth anymore; and where death is just a break in the action, thanks to the techno-miracle that can preserve human consciousness and download it into one new body after another.

Cynical, quick-on-the-trigger Takeshi Kovacs, the ex-U.N. envoy turned private eye, has changed careers, and bodies, once more . . . trading sleuthing for soldiering as a warrior-for-hire, and helping a far-flung planet's government put down a bloody revolution.

But when it comes to taking sides, the only one Kovacs is ever really on is his own. So when a rogue pilot and a sleazy corporate fat cat offer him a lucrative role in a treacherous treasure hunt, he's only too happy to go AWOL with a band of resurrected soldiers of fortune. All that stands between them and the ancient alien spacecraft they mean to salvage are a massacred city bathed in deadly radiation, unleashed nanotechnology with a million ways to kill, and whatever surprises the highly advanced Martian race may have in store. But armed with his genetically engineered instincts, and his trusty twin Kalashnikovs, Takeshi is ready to take on anything—and let the devil take whoever's left behind.

From the Trade Paperback edition.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Critics have compared Richard Morgan's first novel, *Altered Carbon*, to the classic hardboiled fiction of Raymond Chandler. The comparison doesn't accurately describe Morgan's second novel, *Broken Angels*. Morgan's prose never approaches Chandler's metaphoric excess, and Morgan's antihero, Takeshi Kovacs, doesn't wisecrack nearly as often as Chandler's hero, Philip Marlowe. Also, Kovacs's far-future universe is considerably darker than Marlowe's noir world. In Kovacs's universe, high-tech implants called "stacks" record memory and personality; this means soldiers can be sent to their deaths, have their stacks implanted in new bodies, and be sent to their deaths again, and again, and again. Generals needn't quibble about wasting lives in massacres or nuclear explosions. The slaughtered soldiers will soon be back in action--unless their stacks aren't recovered. Then their consciousness will go mad, isolated in an indestructible, inescapable virtual reality. The proper term for the Takeshi Kovacs novels isn't "hardboiled." It's "brutal."

The Martians disappeared long ago, but they left behind their star gates, which have allowed humanity to spread across the galaxy--and bring warfare to the stars. As *Broken Angels* opens, Takeshi Kovacs is a lieutenant in humankind's most feared mercenary company, but rumors of an astonishing archaeological discovery inspire his desertion. Humans have never found a Martian starship until, perhaps, now. If the rumors are true, and the ruthless Kovacs can take possession of the unprecedented relic, he will make his fortune. But if he fails in his quest, he may find himself imprisoned in high-tech hell for eternity. --*Cynthia Ward*

From Publishers Weekly

Despite its slick formulaic structure, Morgan's SF-hardboiled hybrid, the sequel to the well-received *Altered Carbon*, bursts with energy and intelligence. Protagonist Takeshi Kovacs is the product of a brutal future in which corporations and politicians fight for supremacy. Humanity has spread to the stars by deciphering charts left behind by the long-extinct Martians. Since people haven't discovered how the Martians surpassed the speed of light, however, they usually travel through space by broadcasting their digitalized personalities from one planet to another and having them installed in new bodies, a technique that gives virtual immortality to the most unscrupulous individuals. One such is Kovacs, a young sociopath whom the interstellar government transformed into a super warrior before he went freelance. Kovacs resembles a smarter and deadlier Mike Hammer; part of the pleasure is watching him not only use his skills and conditioning but also struggle past his limitations to develop empathy for other humans. The few people Kovacs gets close to are the team that accompanies him on an expedition to claim the ultimate Martian relic—a functioning FTL starship. Morgan is good at presenting Kovacs's mastery of high-tech weapons and other gadgets, as well as his reactions to disturbing alien artifacts. The mystery aspect of the story is also well handled, always hovering in the background of the violent action as Kovacs gathers clues. It all adds up to a superior, satisfying cyberpunk noir adventure.

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From [Booklist](#)

Thirty years after the events of *Altered Carbon* [BKL F 15 03], Takeshi Kovacs is serving as a mercenary in a messy, Protectorate-sponsored war. Gambling on a long shot, he joins a covert team aiming to claim the most important archaeological find since the Martian star maps. Of course, there are complications, beginning with funding and extending to corporate betrayal, which make actually getting to the site rather difficult. When the team gets to it—a Martian ship poisonous with radioactive fallout from a city destroyed

during the war--they have only one working beacon with which to stake the claim. Once aboard, they discover that an ancient battle between the Martians and some unknown enemy is still playing out in empty space. Kovacs gets the team out with some fast action, though, and they have only to explain what happened, which is more difficult than it sounds, because they have obtained an entirely new slant on Martian civilization. A lively follow-up to an energetic debut, with a still refreshingly cynical hero. *Regina Schroeder*
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Richard Perkins:

Typically the book Broken Angels (Takeshi Kovacs Novels Book 2) has a lot associated with on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was written by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research just before write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after looking over this book.

Catherine Ng:

As we know that book is essential thing to add our knowledge for everything. By a guide we can know everything we would like. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or maybe blank sheet. Every year has been exactly added. This e-book Broken Angels (Takeshi Kovacs Novels Book 2) was filled with regards to science. Spend your extra time to add your knowledge about your science competence. Some people has diverse feel when they reading a book. If you know how big benefit of a book, you can experience enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you wanted.

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