



Fate of Worlds: Return from the Ringworld (Fleet of Worlds series Book 5)

By Larry Niven, Edward M. Lerner



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For decades, the spacefaring species of Known Space have battled over the largest artifact—and grandest prize—in the galaxy: the all-but-limitless resources and technology of the Ringworld. But without warning the Ringworld has vanished, leaving behind three rival war fleets.

Something must justify the blood and treasure that have been spent. If the fallen civilization of the Ringworld can no longer be despoiled of its secrets, the Puppeteers will be forced to surrender theirs. Everyone knows that the Puppeteers are cowards.

But the crises converging upon the trillion Puppeteers of the Fleet of Worlds go far beyond even the onrushing armadas:

Adventurer **Louis Wu** and the exiled Puppeteer known only as **Hindmost**, marooned together for more than a decade, escaped from the Ringworld before it disappeared. And throughout those years, as he studied Ringworld technology, Hindmost has plotted to reclaim his power ...

Ol't'ro, the Gw'oth ensemble mind—and the Fleet of World's unsuspected puppet master for a century—is deviously brilliant. And, increasingly unbalanced ...

Proteus, the artificial intelligence on which—in desperation—the Puppeteers rely to manage their defenses, is outgrowing its programming. And the supposed constraints on its initiative ...

Sigmund Ausfaller, paranoid and disgraced hero of the lost human colony of New Terra, knows that *something* threatens his adopted home world. And that it must be stopped ...

Achilles, the megalomaniac Puppeteer, twice banished—and twice rehabilitated—sees the Fleet of World's existential crisis as a new opportunity to reclaim supreme power. Whatever the risks ...

One way or another, the fabled race of Puppeteers may have come to the end of their days in this final installment to Larry Niven and Edward M. Lerner's *Fleet of Worlds* series.

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M. Lerner Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Exceptional freshness and suspense...full of startling revelations about human and puppeteer politics.
(*Booklist*)

From the Back Cover

Praise for the Fleet of Worlds series

"Exceptional freshness and suspense ... full of startling revelations about human and puppeteer politics."
-- *Booklist*

"A new Known Space book, particularly one with new information about Puppeteers and their doings behind the scenes of human history, needs recommending within the science fiction community about as much as a new Harry Potter novel does -- well, anywhere. But Niven and Lerner have produced a novel that can stand on its own as well as part of the Known Space franchise."
-- *Locus*

"A far-future SF mystery/adventure set two centuries before the discovery of the Ringworld by humans ... Intriguing human and alien characters and lucid scientific detail."
-- *Library Journal*

"A very worthy addition to the ongoing Known Space future history."
-- *SciFi.com*

"Larry Niven and Edward M. Lerner have teamed up to write the prequel [to *Ringworld*], and it's well worth reading whether you've read *Ringworld* and its subsequent books or not."
-- *SFRevu.com*

"As we have long expected from Niven, it's a great read, and Lerner -- as *Analog* readers know -- has the knack as well. You'll enjoy this one."
-- *Analog Science Fiction and Fact*

Praise for the Works of Larry Niven

"The premier hard SF writer of the day."
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"For three and a half decades, nobody's done it better than Larry Niven."
-- Steven Barnes

Praise for Edward M. Lerner

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-- *SFScope* on *InterstellarNet: Origins*

"A fast, fun read."

-- *Sci Fi Weekly* on *Fools' Experiments*

"Suspense and action enough to fuel any thriller, and even to drive it to the big screen."

-- *SFRevu* on *Small Miracles*

About the Author

LARRY NIVEN is the multiple Hugo and Nebula Award-winning author of the Ringworld series, along with many other science fiction masterpieces. His *Beowulf's Children*, coauthored with Jerry Pournelle and Steven Barnes, was a *New York Times* bestseller. He lives in Chatsworth, California.

EDWARD M. LERNER, a physicist and computer scientist, toiled in the vineyards of high tech for thirty years as everything from engineer to senior vice president. Then suitably intoxicated, he began writing full time. Lerner lives in Virginia with his wife, Ruth.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Maryann Carson:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled Fate of Worlds: Return from the Ringworld (Fleet of Worlds series Book 5) your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe not known for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get prior to. The Fate of Worlds: Return from the Ringworld (Fleet of Worlds series Book 5) giving you one more experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful info for your better life in this particular era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

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