



Eye and Talon

K.W. Jeter

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Ridley Scott's vision of Philip K. Dick's 21st Century Los Angeles was a masterpiece that has become a defining landmark on the SF landscape. And with his **Blade Runner** novels acclalimed author K.W. Jeter has added a body of fiction that is richly resonant of the original vision.

Fully authorised by the estate of Philip K. Dick and written by the author they felt best equipped to take forward the vision of one of the great names in SF, *Blade Runner 4: Eye and Talon* combines the dark imagery, paranoia, tension and pace of Dick's original novel and the cinematic genius of Ridley Scott in a novel that takes the Blade Runner series into a new millennium.

Blade Runner has become one of the most recognisable and well-loved icons of SF and K.W. Jeter has only added to its reputation and impact.

Eye and Talon Details

Date : Published December 4th 2000 by Victor Gollancz (first published 2000)

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Author : K.W. Jeter

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From Reader Review Eye and Talon for online ebook

Chris says

Not the best book in the series and definitely not KW Jeter's best work. It revisits too many of the locations and specific scenes from the movie. So much so that it just feels like a way to capitalize on the cult following of the film and make a quick buck. I don't like making that accusation because I am generally a fan of Mr. Jeter and his work, especially Dr. Adder, Farewell Horizontal, and The Bounty Hunter Wars Trilogy. KW Jeter is an incredibly imaginative writer and while there are some fantastic ideas in this novel, it doesn't live up to his earlier work. The Blade Runner film itself and the owl seen in the movie play major roles here. The main character, Iris, is stubborn and not very bright with a short fuse. The most interesting twists appear in the middle third of the book. The Vogel and Carsten characters wear on the reader much as they do Iris. The final third of the book drags on as it attempts to discredit and disprove everything set forth in the film. The previous novel, Blade Runner 3: Replicant Night, was much more enjoyable.

Jonathan Davison says

This book is the third sequel to Blade Runner. It's best to see the movie first before you read Blade Runner 2, 3 and 4 novel sequel

Sydney Mugerwa says

For several days I have force-fed myself Eye and Talon by K.W. Jeter and day by day, I found myself caring less and less until finally I couldn't take it anymore! I don't know. Is it just me, or does the story drag as much as I think it does? It was a slow excruciating death by over description. Maybe it's just me who wasn't sold to the author's sci-fi setting and plot progression that I found the whole reading process such a chore. The pace is awful! The style was all jumbled in alien words and description that took away a lot from the story. After a bout of hyperventilation brought about by frustration, I am calling it a day. Not my cup of tea :(

Larry says

I'm going to describe this as brilliant but with some flaws.

Jeter has really nailed Philip K Dick's amphetamine-fueled paranoid writing style and at times I really felt like I was reading PKD.

There were a couple of interesting twists on the Blade Runner story here.

Some decent action in the first half but then the story gets mired down in several large expository lumps in the second half.

I found the Jim Thompson ending ambiguous and unsatisfying, like the author made his point about what was REALLY going on in Blade Runner and lost interest in telling the story about his protagonist.

Paul says

The sequel to the sequel of the sequel?

Again, nothing to do with the original Philip K. Dick book, Do Androids Dream of Electric sheep and nothing is really added to the Blade Runner mythos.

Basically just a well-written repetition (hick-up?) of the movie and sequel #2 & 3.

Fodder for the fans that just can't get enough, I guess.

Travis says

Meh, vaguely interesting, but ultimately unsatisfying...

Kin Newman says

Not as good as Blade Runner 2: The Edge of Human. Sadly the continuity is shot due to Ridley Scott's Blade Runner the Final Cut film and Jeter's reliance on the original 1982 film's faults/errors. It's better than 3, part 4 is incredibly imaginative with the paranoid style writing that echoes Philip K Dick.

Jeter knows how to create images, like in A. M. Esmond's Blade Runner like novel 'The Final Version' he creates a vivid world return to some form of part 2 The Edge of Human. Iris a female Blade Runner puts a spin on the story, which is essentially a side-quel. There's enough twists to keep things interesting (oddly a redo of the original film).

Fans of the Jeter's Blade Runner books will enjoy but because of film canon it's lost its edge that's not to say Jeter as an author has, it just with an ambiguous ending to set up another book because of the canon it feels a little moot. Hence why I recommend the aforementioned cyberpunk dystopian novel 'The Final Version' instead.

It's pity Blade Runner 2: The Edge of Human couldn't be revised to fit Scott's The Final cut, we can dream I suppose. There again it would possibly need too many tweaks.

Chris Thompson says

I don't understand why this title was not picked up for North American publication through Bantam (publishers of BR 2 & 3). Eye and Talon was hands down the best of Jeter's Blade Runner series.

We are introduced to new characters, most specifically Iris the new Blade Runner and lead character, and situations that spin out of the established world of Blade Runner, but offer so many new twists and turns

along the way to keep what could essentially be a rehash of the world fresh and new.

I will not go into too much detail regarding the overall plot and story, in case there are others who have not yet read the book, aside from advising to hang on. The story takes its time unravelling, and there are numerous confusing points set up throughout the story, however the pay off at the end is worth the wait.

Eye and Talon is left such that there should have been a Book 5 (Book 4 of Jeter's series) in the Blade Runner series which would bring both the existing world and the "expanded" world together. Unfortunate all around that this never happened.

Jonathan says

I remember seeing the movie form of this book in the ninth grade. I wasn't very clear on the movie because I wasn't really watching it closely but happened to get a good idea about what it was about. The story seemed interesting because it is about the future, robots and fighting. The story takes place on earth but there has been colonization of the planet Mars. There also appears to be differences among society in this book.

Animals are very rare and there are more services and technologies.

The main plot revolves around Rick, a wierd character in himself. He is a bit quiet but commands respect because of his ability as a bounty hunter. Rick's job is to hunt and kill androids, which are essentially robots. These robots are hard to kill because they look like humans and some even share common traits. The reason for destroying them is not very clear because it doesn't appear as if the robots are doing any thing wrong.

The book is high paced but it is a little hard to understand because of the new world that is talked about. The major themes include love and the breakage of division.
