



The Stars Are Also Fire (Harvest of Stars Book 2)

By Poul Anderson

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The Stars Are Also Fire (Harvest of Stars Book 2) By Poul Anderson

Humans and their genetically altered descendants struggle to find their place in a universe controlled by a benevolent artificial intelligence in this brilliant classic of future speculation

On a far-future Earth, a linked system of artificial intelligences called the cybercosm runs the planet and the universe far more efficiently than any flesh and blood ruler ever could, in essence rendering the human race obsolete. On the Earth's moon, genetically engineered Lunarians carrying the DNA of Dagney Beynac—a descendant of the legendary Anton Guthrie, founder of the powerful and visionary Fireball Enterprises—struggle to preserve their lives, their freedom, and their satellite's resources in the face of threats posed by encroaching humans and controlling machines. Over a span of five centuries, tensions have increased in the wake of the political and technological revolutions that reshaped their universe. And suddenly radical change is in the offing once more, as a secret kept hidden since the earliest days of Lunar colonization is about to be revealed—one that could effectively shut down the cybercosm and plunge the universe into chaos.

Poul Anderson advances the worlds-shattering circumstances he so brilliantly introduced in *Harvest of Stars*, creating a vision of the future that is at once astonishing, provocative, and troubling. A true science fiction classic, *The Stars Are Also Fire* explores deep questions about the nature, complexity, and worth of humankind in an unforgettable novel considered by many to be Anderson's masterpiece.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this semi-sequel to last year's *Harvest of Stars*, Anderson, winner of seven Hugos and three Nebulas, gets back on track. Where its predecessor was disjointed, unbalanced and clogged with capitalist-libertarian preaching, this novel offers suspense, vivid writing and appealing characters wrestling with a big philosophical problem: Is a peaceful, stable life under the benign rule of superintelligent machines a utopia--or comfortable slavery? To explore this question, Anderson traces two converging plot lines. In one, Dagny Beynac--a descendant of Anson Guthrie, founder of the vastly powerful Fireball Enterprises--devotes her life to preserving peace on the Moon, in the process becoming the progenitor of a new race of genetically engineered "Lunarians." Centuries after her death, the solar system is governed by the "cybercosm," a network of machine intelligences--but a secret preserved since Dagny Beynac's time could threaten the cybercosm's hegemony. Ian Kenmuir, a space pilot in the service of the Lunarians, and Aleka Kame, a human ally of the genetically engineered "metamorphs" of Earth, race against time, their own consciences and the deadly pursuit of the cybercosm's agent Venator to bring the secret to light. Though Anderson's politics still color the tale, Kenmuir and Kame are never so certain of themselves or the answers as were Guthrie and others in *Harvest*, and the result is an engrossing story that leaves the reader wondering about the human need for fresh horizons, adventure and danger.

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From Library Journal

As human governments labor to construct a habitat in space that will enable Earth's population to exploit the mineral resources of its moon, a small group of Lunarians, genetically altered for survival in low gravity, search the past to find a way to preserve their way of life and their independence. Spanning 500 years, Anderson's latest novel offers a tale of dynastic intrigue and high adventure as two distinct visions of human destiny struggle for ascendancy. Combining complex, believable characters with a skillfully orchestrated plot, the author of *Harvest of Stars* (Tor Bks., 1993) continues to demonstrate his storytelling excellence. Recommended for most libraries.

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From [Booklist](#)

A sequel or companion to Anderson's ambitious *Harvest of Stars*, in which the prototypically capitalist Fireball Corporation does battle with the odd, rationalist cult of Avantism, at last escaping to the stars. The unorthodox intelligence of Anson Guthrie dominates the first novel, and he's present here, too, in his descendant Dagny Beynac's genes. Her genes are vital, in fact, for the revitalization of humankind on the moon and beyond. Beynac's lunar origins and unique connections to Anson Guthrie help to foment rebellion against the cybercosm, a network of machine intelligences that is not exactly hostile to humankind but renders it obsolete. On earth, the cybercosm has demonstrated it can manage the planet far better than humans ever did, raising once more one of sf's most persistent questions: if machines do everything humans do and do it better, what are humans for? With this grand speculation, Anderson poses many lesser ones: what swimming would be like if one were weightless; how one might deal with the enforced inactivity of a long spaceflight; the nature of crossbred, bioengineered species (one of which Dagny Beynac may be the mother of); and the difficulty of mining operations on the lunar surface. Not as swiftly paced as the classic *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*, rather more clever and speculative than the Foundation novels, Anderson's new epic owes clear allegiances to both Heinlein and Asimov and will appeal to their many fans. *John Mort*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Roger Bennett:

The reason why? Because this *The Stars Are Also Fire* (Harvest of Stars Book 2) is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret this inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such amazing way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I have been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Miguel Ross:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love *The Stars Are Also Fire* (Harvest of Stars Book 2), it is possible to enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout people. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Donna Cauley:

Reading a book to become new life style in this season; every people loves to learn a book. When you study a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information upon it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you want to get information about your study, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself read a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, and soon. The *The Stars Are Also Fire* (Harvest of Stars Book 2) provide you with new experience in reading a book.

Josephine Draughn:

E-book is one of source of know-how. We can add our information from it. Not only for students but additionally native or citizen want book to know the up-date information of year for you to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside we all add our knowledge, may also bring us to around the world. Through the book *The Stars Are Also Fire* (Harvest of Stars Book 2) we can consider more advantage. Don't that you be creative people? To become creative person must want to read a book. Just choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't end up being doubt to change your life at this book *The Stars Are Also Fire* (Harvest of Stars Book 2). You can more inviting than now.

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