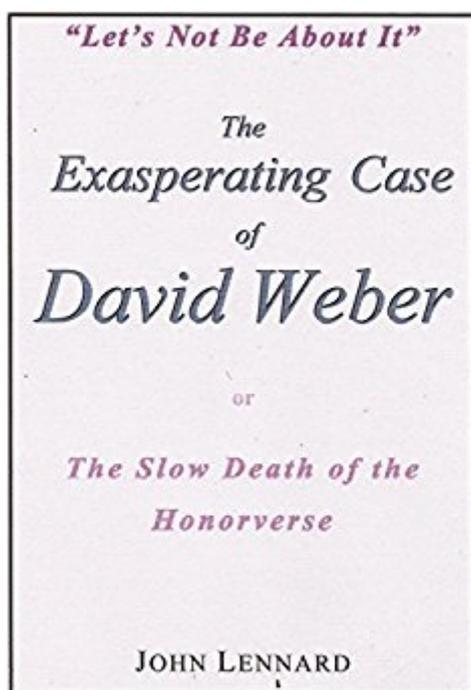


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The Exasperating Case Of David Weber, Or, The Slow Death Of The Honorverse



Synopsis

"Let's Not Be About It" Twenty-two years ago David Weber created the Honorverse, and in the last ten he has broken it. In 663 paragraphs, comprising 3,314 lines, 36,932 words, and 196,403 characters, including a ToC and a bibliography, an increasingly despairing fan looks hard at how he did both, considering 'Un/Economies of Scale', 'Prose and Cons', and 'Dropping the Ball', as well as 'The Virtues of Editing'. Not for the faint-hearted.

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Customer Reviews

I want to say something at the beginning: having purchased 90% of the Honorverse, I feel entitled to agree or disagree with John Lennard's cogent and exquisitely-researched criticism. Many of the reviews here, summed up as, "Has this clown ever written anything himself," do Lennard a disservice. It is obvious that Lennard is a longtime fan, and has carefully read every page of the work he criticizes; he doesn't deserve to be insulted for proffering carefully-written criticism. Identifying oneself as a longtime Honorverse fan doesn't mitigate the crime; you can be a Weber fan, disagree with Lennard, and still manage to keep one's mouth firmly closed. Alternatively, respond elegantly and with argument rather than invective. Simply insulting him for your

disagreement only makes you the clown. Also, one doesn't have to pay to read this work. Utilize the Kindle library and borrow the book. Alas, I find I agree with the vast majority of Lennard's points. I won't belabor them here, but for years I found myself wondering if I was the only person who would flip through Weber's novels looking for the next chapter – even on first reading. On Basilisk Station made me an instant fan (I read it in softback purchased at the PX in Hawaii in Dec 1997). Since then I have grabbed every single Honorverse work the instant it hit the shelves (or Baen online store, and then). And I have noticed Weber's tendency to increased verbosity and increasingly extended conversations, overly-convoluted plots, and quirky literary devices. Lennard addresses these better than I can here – borrow or buy his critique and read in detail – but I wish to add a couple of things that he missed.

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