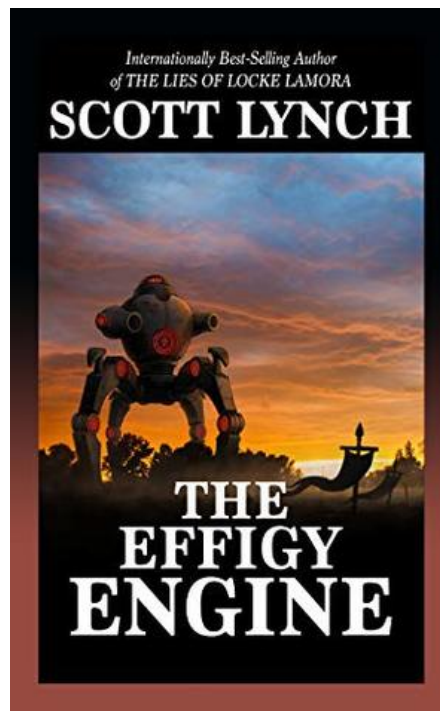




The Effigy Engine: A Tale of the Red Hats

Scott Lynch

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Meet the Honorable Company of Red Hats. Misfits, eccentrics, pranksters, nonconformists... and professional killers without peer. Mercenaries for hire in a war-torn world, the Red Hats always seem to end up fighting for sides that are more righteous than strong, for clients who are more desperate than wealthy, in circumstances that are more exciting than survivable.

In this, the first excerpt from the chronicles of the Red Hats, as told by their self-appointed historian, the sorcerer called Watchdog, the company faces an armed and armored war machine that threatens to crush a free republic beneath its steel tread.

Originally anthologized in 2013, "The Effigy Engine" is a black powder fantasy of magic, musketry, and mercenary banter from internationally best-selling fantasist Scott Lynch, creator of Locke Lamora and the Gentleman Bastard Sequence. "The Effigy Engine" appears here for the first time in a standalone digital edition, with a new introduction from the author.

The Effigy Engine: A Tale of the Red Hats Details

Date : Published September 9th 2018 by Scott Lynch

ISBN :

Author : Scott Lynch

Format : Kindle Edition 40 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Fiction



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From Reader Review The Effigy Engine: A Tale of the Red Hats for online ebook

Doug says

Entertaining as always, this is a short episode in what I hope is a longer series of stories that is clearly inspired by *The Black Company* (I mean, there's a dedication to Glen Cook!), but with Scott Lynch's own unique writing style and sense of humor.

Miranda says

Unsurprisingly awesome given it's written by Scott Lynch. I do wish it had been longer and included more detailed world building and explanation - we're thrown in with the bare minimum, and the story is focused to the point that I felt I missed out somewhat on Lynch's notoriously good worlds.

John Lester says

Really nicely drawn characters in non-stop action. You just can beat fine writing. The only gripe I have is that I wanted to be much long. This was a enjoyable read for me.

Charley Robson says

I owe Mr Lynch republishing so many of his wonderful short works for getting me to read anything this month.

I didn't enjoy this one quite as much as *In The Stacks*, perhaps because I didn't enjoy the narrator quite as much (Watchdog was, perhaps, a little too dour and traditional for what I'd come to expect from Mr Lynch). However, this is definitely classic Lynch; inventive, evocative settings with a lovable bundle of rogues dashing about wreaking merry havoc in it, littered with magic and history, and all conveyed with his unique and unmistakable humorous streak. The fruit metaphor got a little old, but Rumstadel in particular made up for absolutely all of it and then some.

If more Red Hats projects appear in future, I could almost certainly be coaxed into investigating them.

Joseph Vanucchi says

Of course,greed!

Definitely enjoyed this. I'll repeat the I'm sure broken record just wanting MORE. The novels were great, this world very interesting also. The paragraph with the arcane bracelet could spawn many books by itself! I

guess it's good that I've never highlighted anything, I personally enjoy lines like "shaking like a barstool with delusions of grandeur" . Guess that's not as literally appealing, classically, or some such thing. LOL. I would definitely recommend it.

Also I, along with my dog Goblin and cat One-Eye, appreciate the shout out given in the dedication! I'm sure it was appreciated and rightly so.

Apologies for this horribly rambling review!

Katie says

A quick and enjoyable read

Battlefield story of mercenaries and wizards, well told, with characterizations that are engaging. I would read more of this world.

Jon Adams says

Lynch can do no wrong.

Evan says

Quality over quantity

Scott Lynch is not a prolific author, but he is a fantastic one. This study is no exception and I was sorry to see it end. It was well worth the paltry sum removed from my purse. Its length was the only reason it didn't get five stars. I want more of this world.

Eric says

Wow! I would absolutely read more about the red hats! Extremely imaginative story with Lynch's trademark twist on the familiar. Quite good!

Mikhail says

Fun, but I feel like Lynch can do better.

(Also no idea why this is an audiobook default)

Quianna Archambault says

Excellent as always. Scott Lynch never fails to deliver a good tale.

Noarev says

A short story with a few very interesting ideas, The Effigy Engine had me hooked throughout. It would be interesting if Lynch would develop the universe further through other stories of either similar or even larger scope. I did like the magical system quite a bit. Here's to hoping for more!

jedbird says

It was an entertaining sketch. It could lead to interesting stories in the future. Unfortunately, and probably unfairly, it is not Locke Lamorra, and I suspect everything by Mr. Lynch is going to suffer in comparison to the series that I love. However, I would read more stories about these characters in the future in hopes that they'd be fleshed out somewhat.

Mary B. Grove says

just okay for me

I think I just don't particularly like this genre, so it would have to be very good for me to like it, and this isn't. It's okay and I liked the characters, but the story is short and not enough happens in it to really make you care. The Watcher almost gave me enough, with his mother being the Red Hat leader, but it just missed, IMO.

Barbara says

My only complaint is that it is much too short. I want to read more about the Red Hats company.
