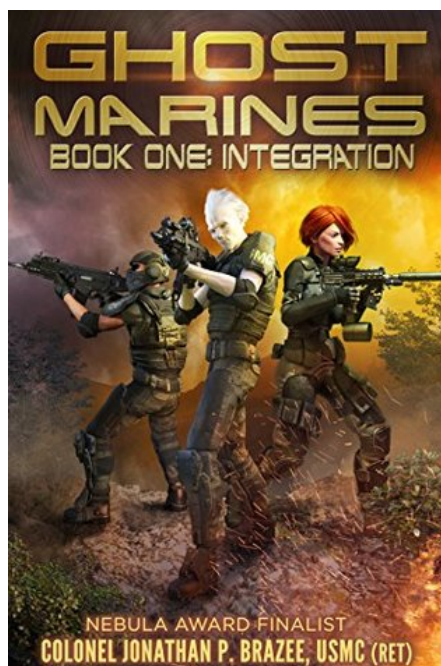




Integration

Jonathan P. Brazee

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Human slavers attack. Despite trying to fight back, there is nothing the young Leefe can do to save his family and friends. But he doesn't have to. The Imperial Marines arrive in the nick of time, and they hate slavers. Three tri-years later, when the new emperor issues a proclamation to integrate the imperial military with non-human citizens, Leefe is among the first to volunteer.

Integration to resurrect the empire as a force for good is challenged by centuries of prejudice against the "dung races." Leefe and the other Wyntonans only want to prove their worth and fight for the empire, but their greatest battles are closer to home.

With threats to the empire from both within and without, this grand experiment has the potential to save it . . . or tear it apart.

Integration Details

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From Reader Review Integration for online ebook

Vesa Ylitolva says

Ghost Marines is more about this day's USA than aliens, as aliens and humans are a bit too similar to my taste - but there is reason for that. The story does have many military scifi elements like aliens, pirates, spaceships and is enjoyable reading up to a little joke in the final chapter. If you like space marine books then you probably like this one, too.

PETER F DEKAM says

Out Frik'n Standing!

If you're into a thoughtful story line then this title is the one for you. The author has one upped his wildly successful stories with this title... He has embraced a subject that has been a source of friction for at least the last 75 years within the military. What is normal and how do I best respond when someone is not normal. The truth is exactly as the author portrays... Can an individual perform as expected when required according to the dictates of the mission... I will continue to enjoy this series in the future...

Pat Patterson says

2018 Dragon Award Finalist in 'Best Military Science Fiction Novel' category

I obtained this book through the Kindle Unlimited program, because it's a finalist in the 'Military Science Fiction' category. A more exhaustive treatment of the book may be found on my blog, Papa Pat Rambles.

It works GREAT as a straight up, pure fiction book. The reliance is not on gadgets, but on the stuff that men are made of. As such, if you think of Captains Courageous or Starship Troopers, and think of the path those characters followed, then you'll see where this book derives its' main strength.

What that strength CARRIES, however, is a bigger burden: the story of the admission into all ranks of the military of blacks. While the author's experience is as a marine, and mine in the army, the problems of going from an all-white service (the marines), or a service which refused to allow blacks to serve in combat roles (the army), to full integration are remarkably similar.

He addresses the institutional resistance to the integration of services. At the highest level, the last person to hold the title of 'Secretary of War' was relieved and forced to retire, due to his refusal to proceed with the ordered desegregation. He also addresses the well-intentioned meddling on the part of political figures, which never works well, and often brings results exactly the opposite of what was intended.

The greatest struggle, however, was that taking place in the squad bays. Individual troops HAD to be able to trust the person they were fighting next to, and some simply couldn't make the accommodation. Those who could, however, found fellowship in an identity that transcended all lesser forms. It's not as simple as saying 'they are all green to me;' because there is much more to a trooper than the uniform. Brazee uses the spice that wyntonsin flavor their food with to make that point. No, they AREN'T all the same. It's the job of the people running the show to determine what matters, and what doesn't.

The young main character never loses his first impression formed of the Imperial Marines, as they descend on his village to rescue his people from slavers. Without that image, he might never have been able to make it through the wretched treatment he often received. However, he DOES make it through, and we have the hope that future generations of desolate children will find an armed rescuer there to assure them of safety. One person found this helpful

Rosemarie G Thomas says

Another winner for Col. Brazee.

The author continues to enhance his reputation for excellence in this gripping new novel, the start of a new series. The characterization is well rounded and the treatment of prejudice in military/social situations is realistic but not overblown. I look forward to the next installment. (Write faster!)

Arnie Snow says

Introducing a multispecies Marine Corps

I really enjoyed seeing how another species is integrated into the the Marine Corps, the struggles and prejudices and how it work out in the end.

Kath Ibbotson says

What a super book!

Just finished reading the FIRST Ghost Marines book - thanks for the clue that there will be MORE. So enjoyed this book, could not put it down. Jonathan Brazee has a wonderful gift of transporting the reader into the worlds he creates with such great skill that it almost feels like you are there taking part in the adventure. Loved every minute!

Dan Mibourn says

Absolutely kick ass

This was SIFI, universe building, tall tales at its best, our human society is in the toddler stage of life, but these folks are one step up in the scheme of life, solidly walking and able to learn from their mistakes at least most of the time, if we dont kill ourselves off we will make it there also. Good job Jonathan good read

Richard Carl says

Choices

Inspirational reading of the reasons soldiers make the choices they do. Ultimately it is to defend what they have sworn to do preserve and defend the constitution and those under its borders

Jim Guldner says

Really enjoyed this one

Although the story focuses on the imperial marines, I can certainly see overtones of the integration of our US military in the 50's through the 80's, confirmed by his reading list of 2 books at the end. I appreciated his making me aware of the political ramifications for his and his people's service, of the awareness that sex, racism, group dynamics, etc all come into play as part of his story. I also want to point out a similar issue with the British army in India, or its integrating the commonwealth forces into its army throughout the 18th thru the 20th century.

If there is one thing that set a warning buzzer for me, it was the practice of virtually approving execution of the pirates at both the beginning and the end. Personally, I don't have an issue with it, but it runs counter to my own indoctrination into the U.S. Military, which adheres to the Geneva convention. Apparently, the imperial marines have deleted that portion of their history.

Still, good story, likable characters, interesting personal dynamics, looking forward to next book.

Diana Hanson says

Outstanding book

I found The first few chapters extremely slow and dull but... from there on I found this story very accurate and why the Marines are a brotherhood and a tradition few can really understand. Once through training and though battle, a bond, a closeness that all feel regardless of all differences.

This was book expressing just some of the problems, feelings and bonds, one goes from boot camp end of service.

As a retired Msgt. USMC, This book is worthy of five stars

Vedran says

Pretty good "boot camp" story, with additional twists. Good editing, believable characters.

One big problem (for me at least): after reading the book, I still don't know how the ghosts actually look. Some details are in the book, but the actual look (and reason why they are called ghosts) is not mentioned anywhere.

Sylvia Spruck Wrigley says

A fast-action military SF story with a refreshing perspective: a not-so-thinly-veiled look at the integration of the first Black Marines in the US during World War 2. This was nominated for Best Military Science Fiction in the Dragon Awards and I can see why: it gives an interesting perspective on the US Marine Corps from the point of view of an outsider.

William Webb says

Some writers produce literary wonders that nobody ever voluntarily reads. Others produce fun, fast books that you don't want to end. Colonel Brazee is the latter. Integration deals with the problems of minorities in the military in a new and fresh way, and a fun way, and I'm damned glad he wrote it.

David Beck says

Integrating other races into the Imperial Space Marines is tough, but the Wyntonans are tougher. Leefe and his companions endure a lot of racial BS but win over their fellow Marines and eventually kick some butt together.

Lisa says

A feel good story!

It reads almost like a fairytale in that you know how the ending will be but the path to that ending leaves a nice warm feeling behind. The story itself was well written and flowed smoothly. In itself it was a fairly simple tale but the integration of different groups into a single working force was well done.
