



The Airship Aurelia

Courtney Grace Powers

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Headmaster Eldritch is dead. The Grand Duke is safe. It's time for the airship Aurelia to go home.

Reece made Nivy Noemie a promise. He told her he would pilot his dream ship, The Aurelia, back to her people in return for answers about the body-snatching Kreft. But when The Kreft come to call a little early, Reece and his mismatched crew are thrust headlong into a deep space race from planet Honora to the mysterious Ice Ring that forces them to find allies in unusual places and watch for enemies where they least expect.

Reece is finally going to get the answers he's been asking for.

He never thought the cost would be so high.

The Airship Aurelia Details

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Author : Courtney Grace Powers

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From Reader Review The Airship Aurelia for online ebook

abbicus rex says

In a world filled with sequels, it's still (to be quite honest) pretty hard to find a sequel that even sort of lives up to the first book. Well, I've got news for you. The Airship Aurelia without a doubt lives up to (and possibly surpasses) its predecessor.

Palatine First made us fall in love with the characters, the world and the mad haberdashery that ensued. It cracked the door open for us, revealing the beginning of a mystery but still leaving a lot unanswered. But unlike other books which set up a mystery (I'm looking at you, Raven Boys. Oy vey.), I didn't (don't) have any doubt that Courtney Grace Powers would and will continue to deliver satisfying answers.

The Airship Aurelia raises the stakes. Reece and his crew are no longer on familiar ground. Everything is new and strange and dangerous, and they have to deal with it as best they can – and usually with a good amount of surprising humor that will make you laugh even when the characters are in imminent danger. There is more darkness, more tension, more responsibility. Everything one could want from a sequel.

The story is rich with detail. There are so many little, surprising moments that make these characters real. Tiny little things that you almost miss, but add up until you find yourself thinking about these characters as if they were living, breathing people. As they travel to each of the new worlds, we see them tested both by external events and by each other, and we learn more about them through these trials. Each new world is exciting, but not always as it appears. For instance, the clearly dark and dangerous Leto might actually be easier to understand than the beautiful but deceptive Oceanus. The Ice Ring, which we have to wait nearly the entire book before we encounter, is (without giving anything away) unexpected and intriguing.

In addition to the three boys hurtling through this adventure, we have Scarlet, Po, Nivy and Mordecai. Most thrilling of all, to me, was the chance to learn about some of the other characters more. Scarlet, in particular. Nothing made me happier than Scarlet stepping in to handle a situation when any one of the others had fumbled, or her acidic corrections of grammar or her banter with Gideon. She is a wonderful mix of clever, vulnerable, snarky and charming. Po and Mordecai get their moments to shine, and often provide a much-needed solid ground for the other characters. Nivy, still mysterious, becomes Reece's trusted second-in-command of sorts, and has plenty of opportunities to show her mettle and fantastic non-verbal humor. The end of the book – again, without revealing anything – sets up for what is going to be looks incredible third book that will hopefully dive deeper into Nivy.

This book is really about what the characters do when they hit bottom. Maybe it's not rock bottom, but there are moments when it's pretty darn close. This book is about the pressure of responsibility, strain on friendship and ever-increasing danger. Reece has to deal with being a leader, and being a leader that doesn't always know the right choice to make. Gideon has to recognize his own fallibility. Hayden has to face, as is hinted at near the end of the first book, his uselessness (in his own eyes, anyway). They're all growing up. There is pretty much nothing that makes me happier than well-executed character development, and this book has it in spades.

As I'm sure you can tell, I just flat-out love these books. They are fun, they are enthralling and engaging and wonderful and deserve to be read by more people. I absolutely cannot wait for the third book, whenever it does come out.

Stephanie - Adventures Thru Wonderland says

I received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads. Thank you for the chance to win!

Sharayah Lucas says

I really loved Palatine First (1st book in this series- read it before you read this one). The characters, the plot, the world building... but I love Airship Aurelia more.

Airship Aurelia picks up shortly after the conclusion of Palatine First, with Reece and the crew gearing up to take the Aurelia to her original home, the Ice Ring. The book spans four (five if you count Honora and her moon separately) planets and a great combination of whirlwind adventure, tension, and character growth. For me, the best two parts are the characters and seeing different planets. The characters, all the ones I fell in love with in book one plus some new ones, are just so well written. You love them, you love to hate some of them, and I laughed, groaned, and got teary at the various adventures and interactions of the characters. They're completely fascinating, but their emotions are so real and believable that even when in your mind you're screaming for a character not to do/say something, you understand why they do. Even at the surprise twist and turns, you can see the character arcs really developing, and it has me salivating to see what happens in book three. Really, you could put these characters in a boring plot, and I'd still enjoy it because of the depth and personalities they each have.

Happily, it's not a boring plot, which leads me to my other favorite part of the books- seeing all the new planets. There's a planet called Leto, which is dark, creepy, and no lie when I say I had to stop reading that part at night because it was giving me the shivers. There's Oceanus, an ocean covered planet with underwater cities. It's much more refined, advanced, and 'civilized,' but then you get to see that all the pretties are covering up some dark stuff. Finally there's the Ice Ring, the final destination of the book. I won't give anything away, but meeting the people of the Heron was definitely not what I expected, but totally satisfying. There's just enough detail you help you paint a picture of each planet in your head and wish you could see more, but the world building of each planet doesn't go too far and distract from the main story. It's a much darker book than the first one, but with plenty of humor and touching moments as well- and a couple gut-wrenchers.

One final thought- you could probably pitch this book as a young adult story, but I think it appeals to all ages. The only reason I'd even say it's like young adult is because the characters are teenagers. But the characters and plot are written at a depth that I think is lacking in a lot of young adult stuff you see. If I were to compare to a well-known series like Harry Potter (another fave), age-wise I'd say think books 4 and later.

I'm not sure how much more I can rave about this book. My last words- if you like excellent characters, adventure, a bit of mystery, tension, humor- this is for you. If you're also a fan of sci-fi or steampunk, that will make you love this even more, but I think the story kinda goes beyond that and will appeal to just about anybody. You should definitely read it!

Tywyll says

Reece finally dons captaincy and we see how he and his friends do in the perils of space on their own. The planets they visit on their way to returning Aurelia were interesting. Each was thought out and very different.

Leto was a rough place, and that's an understatement. However I felt that they spent too long on these planets, away from their original mission. Both planets had their own stories that mostly got resolved (or sadly worse by the time they left.) I held off reviewing this sequel until I'd read the last novel to see whether or not there was a bigger reason for their time on Leto and Oceanus. And needless to say, there was. Yet not knowing it at the time made me feel like they had lost their sense of urgency, especially Reece's actions (or rather inaction) on Oceanus. I understand his reasoning but still.

Overall though it was interesting. I did fear every time he tried to drop Owon off somewhere that Reece would end up bloodguilty by the Vee. However things kept turning out differently than I expected.

There was a random name spelling change with a minor character and a handful grammatical errors but nothing that couldn't be overlooked. It was a good in between novel but it could have possibly been a bit tighter.
