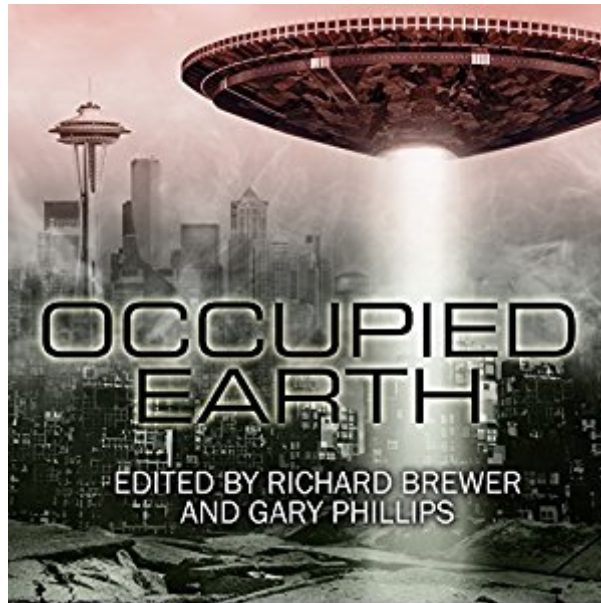


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Occupied Earth: Stories Of Aliens, Resistance And Survival At All Costs



Synopsis

For years, writers and filmmakers have speculated about the possibility of the Earth being invaded by aliens from another planet. But what if the aliens have been watching us, infiltrating us via human collaborators, or even surgically altering themselves to look human? *Occupied Earth* is a groundbreaking anthology that explores the idea of what the world would look like years after its conquest. Twenty years after a successful invasion by the Makh-Ra, human beings still exist, only they have become subservient to a new race of occupiers who now govern the devastated planet. But, as much as things continue with some sense of normalcy, something has happened in the Makh-Ra's empire. Earth, once considered a strategic beachhead of major importance to the empire, has been downgraded in its value. Things are starting to degrade. Our planet is the last place any self-respecting Makh-Ra officer wants to be assigned. Yet, despite everything, life continues. *Occupied Earth* brings us face to face with annihilation - and shows how we can pull ourselves back from the brink.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Every now and again I like to step away from the horror genre and read something different. I saw this one and thought it might be a nice change of pace. It was exceptional. *Occupied Earth: Stories of Aliens, Resistance and Survival at all Costs* is a shared world anthology where the earth has been conquered by an alien race and is now under their rule. Each story is a slice of life and what it's like living under the authority of the Makh-Ra. There weren't a lot of familiar names in this

anthology, at least they weren't familiar to me, they may be to you, and they certainly are to the writers themselves. Each writer manages to tell a solid story of life in the aftermath of an alien invasion, and at the same time keep the overall mythos of the new Earth consistent throughout. Kudos to editors Richard Brewer and Gary Phillips who, no doubt, played a big part in pulling that off.

Hunter X by Richard Brewer and Gary Phillips
Richard and Gary are the editors of the anthology. Richard is a native Californian, has always been a lover of stories and storytelling. He has worked as a writer, actor, bookseller, story editor, book reviewer, movie and television Development Executive, and audiobook narrator. Gary has family roots in Texas and the Mississippi Delta, he's a native of L.A. and was editor of the bestselling *Orange County Noir*. His graphic novel about a money launderer, *The Rinse*, has been optioned for television.

The Hunter X story is split into three parts. It starts and ends the anthology and there's another piece about midway through the book. In this story FBI Special Agent, Paul Hunter, and his partner, JoHannas-ra, make up the first Mahk-Ra-human investigative team. "...a shining symbol of interspecies cooperation. Harmony among the species and all that." Told with a touch of humor, this story sets the stage for the rest of the anthology.

Do No Harm by Rachel Howzell Hall and David W. Hall
Rachel Howzell Hall is the author of the critically-acclaimed mystery series featuring LAPD Homicide Detective Elouise Norton. David Hall is the Design Director for the digital arm of the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN). This is his first story collaboration with his wife writer Rachel Howzell Hall.

Years after the Mahk-Ra occupation two EMTs just doing their job stumble upon a scene which will change their lives again. Just because the Mahk-Ras can do whatever they like doesn't make it right.

Pike Street Pick-Up by Adam L. Korenman
Adam Korenman has been dabbling in writing for most of his life, but only recently began spilling the crazy thoughts down on paper. Adam is also a Captain with the Army National Guard, serving with a company of tankers in California.

Pike Street Pick-Up is a fine story of a street urchin and pickpocket who lifts more than he bargains for from a Mahk-Ra official.

Union Day by Lisa Morton
Lisa is a six-time winner of the Bram Stoker Award, a recipient of the Black Quill Award, and winner of the 2012 Grand Prize from the Halloween Book Festival. She also knows more about Halloween than just about anyone in the world.

Union Day is a Halloween story, of sorts, set in this shared world of alien domination.

How the Game is Played by Rob Hart
Rob Hart has been a political reporter, the communications director for a politician, and a commissioner for the City of New York. His debut novel, *New Yorked*, was published by Polis Books in June 2015.

How the Game is Played shows how even with the occupation it's politics as usual.

Strange Alliance by Cliff Allen
Cliff is a lifelong fan of the space program, and that has led to an avid interest in science fiction as a literary form.

Strange Alliance

features clever storytelling and good writing. It's about a merciless human who rises high in the ranks of the Mahk-Ra.

Hope by Matthew V. Clemens
Matthew V. Clemens is a long-time co-conspirator with Max Allan Collins, the pair have collaborated on over twenty novels including CSI and Criminal Minds TV tie-in books. *Hope* is another well-told story of occupation and resistance and how one should never jump to conclusions.

Location, Location, Location by Howard V. Hendrix
Howard Hendrix is the award-winning author of six novels, as well as numerous non-fiction books and short stories. A prime example of how life goes on after the occupation. The story of an ex-astronaut turned real estate agent working to make a sale of a movie making property to the Mahk-Re.

Letting Go the Ghosts by Marsheila Rockwell and Jeffrey J. Mariotte
Marsheila (Marcy) Rockwell and Jeffrey J. Mariotte have written more than 60 novels between them. They've also written dozens of short stories, separately and together. For the *Occupied Earth* anthology they've written a powerful story of the Taovayan native American tribe continuing to make their way under Mahk-Ra occupation. Now comes an offer for the mineral rights to their land that the Taovayan cannot refuse, but not everyone believes they should sell.

A Day in the Life by R. M. Johnson
Richard M. Johnson is a screenwriter, copywriter, playwright, and poet. His short stories can be found in several anthologies. He is also a performer and photographer and uses both avocations as excuses to occasionally get out of the house and into the sun.

Another solid story. This one set in occupied L.A.

Second Coming by Craig Faustus Buck
Craig Faustus Buck is an LA-based writer for both print and screen. He is President of Mystery Writers of America SoCal chapter, a member of the board of Sisters in Crime LA, and an active member of the Writers Guild of America and International Thriller Writers. This was my personal favorite story in the anthology. Quite an original tale. I would love to see this given a longer treatment someday.

The Devil You Know by Jessica Kaye
Jessica Kaye is a partner at Kaye & Mills (www.kayemills.com), a law firm specializing in publishing and entertainment. She is an audiobook producer of hundreds of audiobooks, more than a few of which have been nominated for Grammy Awards.

Another well told story of Mahk-Ra and humans working together, with a nice twist.

Johnny and the Warehouse Women by Nathan Walpow
Nathan Walpow is a prolific writer, a past president of the Southern California chapter of Mystery Writers of America, and a five-time Jeopardy! champion. A simple warehouse robbery uncovers a prostitution ring involving Mahk-Re women. From there, things get a bit complicated.

Traitor by Adam Lance Garcia
Adam Lance Garcia was raised on comic books, movie serials, and lightsabers. In addition Adam has also worked as a full-time television producer and a part-time screenwriter.

A brilliant story of revenge.

Occupied Earth: Stories of Aliens, Resistance and Survival at all Costs is out now from Polis Books and is available

in paperback, e-book, MP3, and Audible formats. Recommended.

The first two stories, Hunter X and Do No Harm were excellent. So were the others but several contained a great deal of info dumps. Overall, the stories were original. I read really fast the info dump parts, they were boring. I'm sure as good as the writing was, the writers could have relayed pertinent information without turning an entertaining reading experience into paragraphs and paragraphs of tedious prose.

I thoroughly enjoyed the short stories, even though I generally don't prefer the short story format. Some of the authors are old hands at science fictions, others specialize in other genres (forgive me for using genre!), but together they built an interesting view of a common future! I definitely recommend this collection - perfect for a summer beach read or a winter's day in front of a roaring fire!

Could use some proofreading. Errors make the story stop cold for some readers...especially proofreaders. More than once. Good story when it keeps going. Some writers are perfect but the first story and the third or fourth stopped me cold.

I'm not a big short story fan, but I gave this one a try based on reviews as a Kindle Daily Deal. I enjoyed the book, but it was difficult to keep track of the short stories because the different authors set very different tones between the stories, but they all deal with the same world and often even draw in some of the same characters. One of the stories even is split into multiple parts and sprinkled throughout the book and seems to suffer for it because once you've read the several intermediate stories, you've forgotten the characters a bit and lost the pacing. Some of the stories were very interesting and others not so much. Some seemed to suffer from short-story syndrome where introductions are rushed and characters must be super-competent to allow progress to occur in a short space because there's no time for failure and growth in a short story. Also, I know story twists are great, but you can't have almost ever short story have all the important human characters belong to the resistance and still expect it to be a surprise. Background: I typically buy my Kindle books as part of the Kindle Daily Deals and plan them for airplane reading or times when I am away from home and cannot do more exciting or responsible tasks. This means that my standards are not too high and I am looking for books in the beach read category under the fantasy/sci-fi genres. I try to rate fairly on the star scale and personally consider anything 3 stars and up to be fine.

"Occupied Earth" is an engaging collection of stories about a post invasion world that always feels realistic and intriguing. My personal favorites were "Second Coming" and "Traitor". Kudos to Richard J. Brewer and Gary Phillips for gathering a great collection of writing talent. You will not be disappointed. Resistance is all!

Written by some of today's best SF authors, some of whom excel in the mystery field as well, "Occupied Earth" is full of unexpected twists. It races with excitement toward a surprising yet satisfying conclusion. The authors develop the tale's heroes and villains with equal respect, giving the story an affecting touch of "humanity." Highly recommended.

I was surprised. I did not think an anthology written by multiple writers covering a common plot line would be any good but I was wrong. I have been a fan of science fiction for over 45 years and I really liked this book. Not since 1988's "Alien Nation" starring James Caan and Andy Patinkin have I followed a story of Alien and human policemen working together that really kept my attention. Each writer takes a different aspect of the alien occupation of Earth and builds a believable story be it terrorists, co-conspirator's, underground resistance, and individual survivors. I really think this has potential for a series of movies or a mini series on the small screen. I really enjoyed the experience.

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