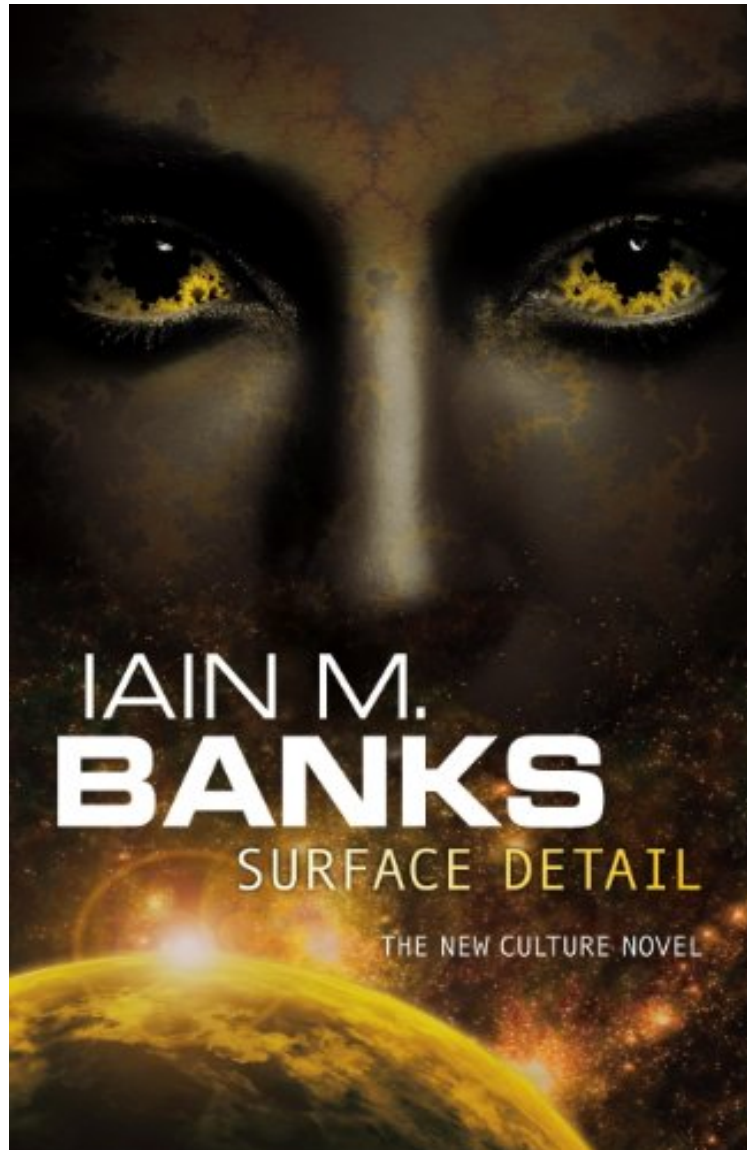


[Download pdf ebook] Surface Detail (Culture series)

Surface Detail (Culture series)

Von Iain M. Banks

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Von Iain M. Banks : Surface Detail (Culture series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Surface Detail (Culture series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Excellent epicVon deermountainThis is by far my favourite Culture novel. It has a lot going for it - great writing, really interesting characters (most of the other Culture novels have throw-away characters, but I cared about every single POV character in this book even though there are so many), imaginative sci-fi with high stakes on a very human

level, a fast pace and a tight plot. Here are a number of my personal highlights:1) The main character is female and I have to say, Banks does an amazing job given that he's a male sci-fi writer (sorry, my fellow nerds, but sci-fi and great female characters aren't always a natural combination). Lededje is well-rounded, sympathetic, badass but not unbelievably so, and romance isn't her main motivation. She's also an exception among Banks's characters because there's a real urgency behind everything she does - unlike, say, Horza in *Consider Phlebas*, you understand why she keeps doing what she does even when it is irrational and you root for her to get her revenge.2) There are a couple of Minds in this novel and they're all good. One of them, *Outside the Normal Moral Constraints*, is your typical Banksian bad-guy-working-for-the-good-guys hero and it is pretty awesome - immature, gleefully violent, nasty, arrogant, snarky but ultimately the best ally our heroine could hope for. I almost expected a romance between the two, but instead there was a solid friendship which was even better.3) *Surface Detail* is about the artificial afterlives (Heavens and Hells) people are capable of creating at this tech level, and also about a war being fought in virtual reality, and Banks lets his amazing imagination run free. Instead of vast space stations with impressive architecture, this book has vast mindscapes with impressive (and horrible) architecture. One of the most interesting things he does with the concept of virtual reality is the idea that people can experience many lifetimes within the span of seconds or minutes, which leads to one of his characters - another female protagonist! - growing from a broken, traumatized shell into a wise old woman and then a deity within hell. Surprisingly, this is a believable and touching plot! I would have loved to read more about these characters, which is something I can't say about many of Banks' novels. Plus this is a pretty good ending for the Culture series because it is all about life after death.

16 von 16 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Banks in alter Frische Von Patrick Borer Banks ist hier ganz auf der Höhe seiner Kunst und wirft wieder einmal mit wilden Ideen um sich (gut, die Wildheit von "Feersum Endjinn" ist schwer zu bertreffen). Mit dem Leser wird recht rcksichtslos umgesprungen, indem einem zuerst ein paar Kapitel hinge knallt werden, die keinen erkennbaren Zusammenhang haben und usserst unterschiedliche Schicksale beschreiben: eine Leibeigene auf der Flucht in einer technisch offenbar relativ entwickelten Zivilisation, ein Soldat in einer mittelalterlich bis frhneuzeitlich anmutenden Umgebung, eine Brgerin der Culture auf einem knstlichen Himmelskrper und zwei fremdartige Personen in... eh... der pavuleanischen Hlle. Jawohl. Ausserdem sterben die Hauptfiguren der beiden ersten Kapitel gleich mal. Natrlich verkn pft der Autor dies alles, nachdem man zuerst mal grndlich verwirrt wird, im weiteren Verlauf des Romans, und es entspinnt sich eine fr Banks typische Culture-Gedankenspielerei, die nebenbei interessante philosophische und moralische Fragen berhrt. Meines Erachtens wieder besser und runder als sein letzter Culture-Roman "Matter" - der auch gut und interessant zu lesen war, aber gegen das Ende hin berhetzt wirkte. Ziemlich beunruhigend ist Banks' Vision einer virtuellen Hlle, die er in den schauerlichsten Farben ausmalt. Auch das ist ein Weg, den virtuelle Realitten nehmen knnen... - Fr Leser, die sich mit Banks als SF-Autor vertraut machen mchten, ist "Surface Detail" sicher keine schlechte Wahl. Wenn es nicht unbedingt das "Culture"-Universum sein muss, knnte ich alternativ auch zu "The Algebraist" raten, whrend das oben genannte "Feersum Endjinn" doch sehr experimentell ist - ganze Kapitel sind in einem lautmalerschen Englisch gehalten, das dem Titel entspricht (in normales Englisch "bersetzt": Fearsome Engine). Unter Banks' Culture-Romanen wren noch "Consider Phlebas" und besonders "The Player of Games", wohl mein Favorit, als gute Einstiegsoptionen zu erw hnen. Aber mit "Surface Detail" macht man sicher auch nichts falsch - jemand, dem dieses Buch berhaupt nicht gefllt, wird wohl auch mit Banks' anderen Werken wenig anfangen knnen.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. War in Hell Von Anonym This novel is not nearly as gaudy as Feersum Endjinn was. But I liked this book nevertheless. Banks may have used some of his by now quite large variety of already touched elements. But the topics rebirth, mind-backups, heaven, hell, ghosts, slavery, and whatever I forgot were not thoroughly discussed in Banks universe, until now. What makes this novel worth reading furthermore, is the again large number of independent factions that follow their own agendas. There are still fresh pieces of imagination, like the subterranean world and their special lakes. I really enjoyed it. Iain (M.) Banks is definitively one of the best Sci-Fi authors today. And what may be important as well: he is both imaginative and productive. The genre can be lucky to have a good classical author find his interest in Sci-Fi. Sci-Fi usually isn't a very demanding genre, so it sees many mediocre entrepreneurs. Banks has a rich imagination, rich vocabulary and is just a master writer. He does action scenes as well as giving a whole impression of societies, he can be funny at times as well as giving you very sobering insights, he can overwhelm you with richest unseen scenes and make hopelessness palpable just by describing a bleak scene. There are few things that are constant about his works - besides their quality. Namely his strange interest in shit, what seems to pop up now and then. And then there's is aversion against religion. The more religious someone is, the more amoral is character will act.

Kurzbeschreibung It begins in the realm of the Real, where matter still matters. Lededje Y'breq is one of the Intagliated, her marked body bearing witness to a family shame, her life belonging to a man whose lust for power is without limit. Prepared to risk everything for her freedom, her release, when it comes, is at a price, and to put things right she will need the help of the Culture. It begins in the realm of the Real. It begins with a murder. And it will not end until the

Culture has gone to war with death itself. Balances high concepts and macrocosmic scale with deft characterisation and the kind of excitement expected from his acclaimed Culture series. SURFACE DETAIL is Iain M. Banks' new Culture novel, a breathtaking achievement from a writer whose body of work is without parallel in the modern history of science fiction.