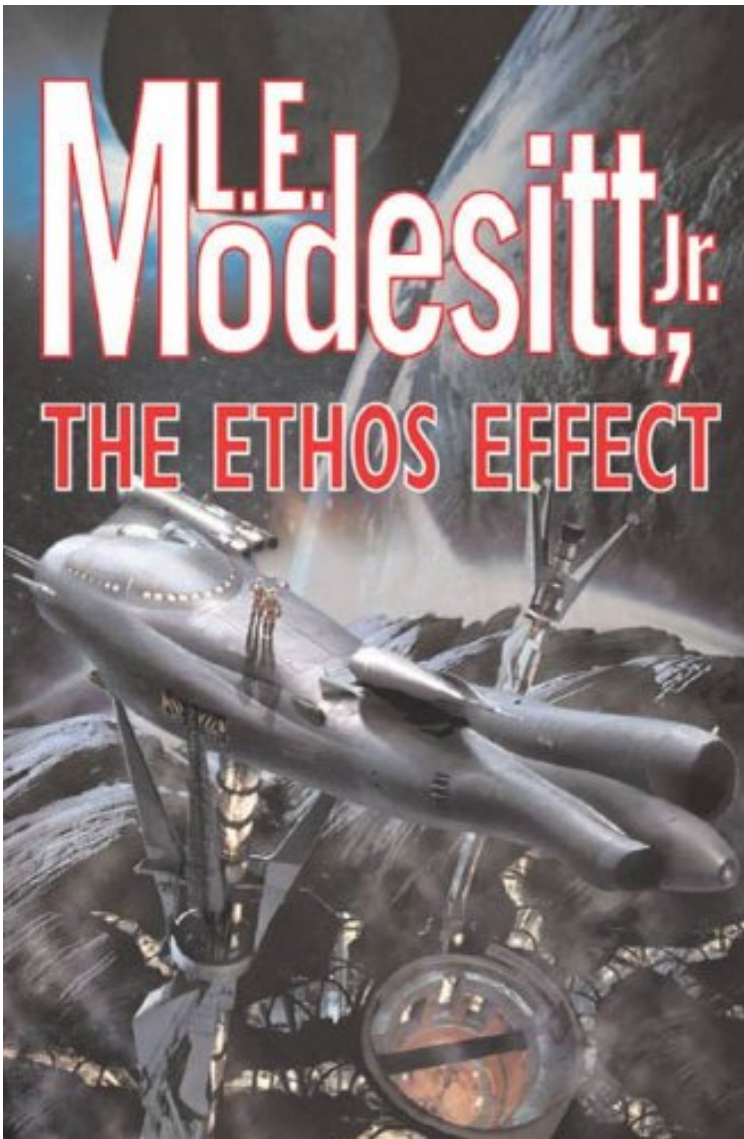


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The Ethos Effect



*Par L. E. Modesitt Jr.
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Description : Description du produitSet in the same universe as The Parafaith War (but two centuries later, and intended to be read independently), The Ethos Factor is the story of Commander Van C. Albert of the Republic Space Force of Taran, a brave and resourceful officer who once defeated a larger enemy ship but indirectly caused the loss of a civilian liner in the process. Cleared by the board of inquiry, but an embarrassment to the high command, he retains his commission but is given only dead-end assignments. For a time, he must watch helplessly as cold war among economic, religious and political rivals evolves toward interstellar open warfare. Assigned as a military attach at the Taran embassy on Scandya, Van is seriously wounded foiling an assassination. Decorated, promoted and summarily retired while still in a coma, he wakes to find himself honorably but intolerably unemployed. Then the harmless sounding Integrated Information Systems foundation of the Eco-Tech Coalition recruits him to fly a starship, Van finds he now has a powerful new vantage point not just for observation, but for action. The IIS has interests everywhere

and Van is not just a pilot, but their point man in a conflict that will shake the worlds. Modesitt uses a distinctive blend of space battles, political and economic intrigue, and issues of race and religion to address deep questions of good and evil, ethics and self-interest. Van Albert makes his decisions; it is for you to decide if he is a hero.

Prsentation de l'diteurA military science fiction adventure from, L. E. Modesitt, author of the bestselling Saga of Recluce series, set in the universe of The Parafaith War. The Ethos Effect combines hard science fiction adventure with an insightful examination of the relationship between the sacred and the secular. Set two centuries later, after the events of The Parafaith War, Commander Van C. Albert, the resourceful officer who once defeated a larger enemy ship, indirectly caused the loss of a civilian liner. Cleared by the board of inquiry, but an embarrassment to the high command, he finds himself in dead-end assignments. Seriously wounded foiling an assassination, Van awakes from a coma to find that he's been decorated, promoted and summarily retired. Looking for new employment, Van will find that a simple piloting job turns him into a point man in a conflict that will shake the worlds. Other Series by L.E. Modesitt, Jr. The Saga of Recluce The Imager Portfolio The Corean Chronicles The Spellsong Cycle The Ghost Books The Ecolitan Matter The Forever Hero Timegod's World Other Books The Green Progression Hammer of Darkness The Parafaith War Adiamante Gravity Dreams The Octagonal Raven Archform: Beauty The Ethos Effect Flash The Eternity Artifact The Elysium Commission Viewpoints Critical Haze Empress of Eternity The One-Eyed Man Solar Express At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied. From Publishers Weekly Set 200 years after the events in The Parafaith Wars (1997), Modesitt's complex, fast-paced stand-alone offers a traditional space-adventure hero and heavy doses of philosophy laced with ethical issues. Commander Van C. Albert, of the Republican Space Force of Taran, moves with bewildering speed from command of the Fergus, a light cruiser where he's serving under a cloud, to military adviser to the Taran ambassador on the planet Gotland, Scandya system. Feeling both confused and inadequate to the post, he sets out to research the untimely death of his predecessor and uncovers mortal intrigue among three large planet clusters. He gets the chance to display his ability to both reason and act when he saves the Scandyan leader from assassination. While recovering from near-fatal injuries, he realizes the complicity of his own interplanetary government in acts of war and oppression. He later becomes a sort of "fixer" for the mysterious IIS (Integrated Information Systems), a private organization that's backed by the even more mysterious Farhkan race. As ever, Albert tries to make the best decisions in tragic situations. Despite some expository lumps and wooden characterization, thoughtful SF readers will appreciate this weighty tale of humanitarian intentions and social speculations. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. Booklist The story of Commander Van Albert of the Taran republic makes a quite entertaining sermon. Once indirectly responsible for the loss of a civilian liner in a battle in which he defeated a larger enemy ship, he was cleared by a board of inquiry but still has nightmares, and his superiors no longer trust him. Is that the only reason why, after he is seriously injured in preventing an assassination, he is promoted with honors and retired? Anyway, he signs on with a small foundation that turns out to possess many hidden assets. In the meantime, an uneasy interstellar situation turns into a military, economic, and, worst of all, theocratic war, and its aftermath is worse, with changes from tyranny to anarchy in some systems, from independence to tyranny in others. Van Albert must move quickly to preserve the foundation's independence and his life. Modesitt knows well how to keep this kind of soup at a boil. Frieda Murray Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved