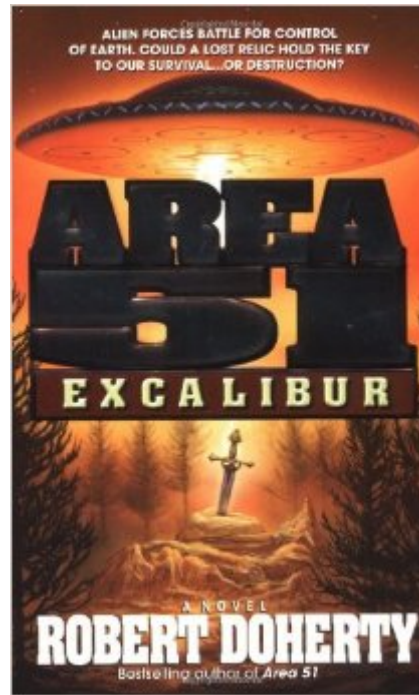


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Area 51: Excalibur



Synopsis

EXCALIBUR: LOST RELIC. LEGENDARY TALISMAN. ULTIMATE WEAPON. Once thought of as myth, the legendary sword of King Arthur is now a fiercely pursued reality--the most important artifact in a worldwide chess game for control of man's destiny. Two rival factions have made their move for domination of the planet. And now former Green Beret Mike Turcotte and his elite team must answer the call of duty. Their dilemma: Which army to align with? Choose wrong and evil holds domination over what's left of humanity. Only by tracking down the mythic artifact can Turcotte hope to resolve the crisis. His search will take him to the top of the world, to the summit of Mount Everest. But he has more to fear than bone-chilling cold and the thin air of the Death Zone, for he is not alone in the search for Excalibur. From the Great Wall of China to a fortress on Easter Island, the players span the globe in this ultimate high-stakes game. They'll have to decipher complex clues from deceptive sources to find the key that unlocks Excalibur's power --a secret that has been carefully, meticulously hidden for five millennia. But one thing is clear: Excalibur is more than a myth. It may be the key to our survival --a powerful and sophisticated weapon that, if mastered, will determine the fate of humanity....

Book Information

Series: Area 51

Mass Market Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Dell (March 26, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 044023705X

ISBN-13: 978-0440237051

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.8 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (103 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #803,093 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #190 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Arthurian #1012 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends #2702 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Fantasy

Customer Reviews

More plot twists, and surprising new facts. In the tradition of the Area 51 series you are left at the end of this book feeling confused, excited and concerned. At least there will not be another 12 month waiting period until the next chapter in this saga. 'The Truth' will be revealed this summer.

have been reading this series of books since it began in 1997 and have yet to be disappointed. The books are all quick, easy reads and yet the story gets increasingly complex. To me this is the greatest strength of this book and the entire series. If you are new to the Area 51 series do yourself a favor and start from the beginning otherwise you will be lost.

Robert Doherty's sixth book in the Area 51 series, "Area 51: Excalibur" is an excellent addition to the series and, as usual, filled with plenty of action and interesting characters. Doherty does a great job re-introducing characters providing background information to the series in the first 40 pages of this novel. Former Navy SEAL, Mike Turcotte and his eclectic group of cohorts again lead the fight against an alien takeover of the planet. But which of the alien races is our friend and which is our enemy? That is only one of the questions that Doherty tries to answer in this installment of the series. Faithful readers of the series will soon find the unique "tie-ins" with Earth's history that Doherty provides. His vivid imagination does a fantastic job linking The Sphinx, Noah's Ark, The Black Plague, The Arc of the Covenant, The Holy Grail, the rise of the Nazi SS, and Excalibur together as activities and events that were either caused by, or affected by the alien cultures. In this installment, Turcotte and his band attempt to quell the attacks of the Kortad and Airlia as they each try to take over the globe. The adventure stretches from Area 51 to Pearl Harbor and from Mt. Ararat to Mt. Everest. If you are a fan of the series, you'll love "Excalibur". If you are new to the series you need to go back and start with "Area 51". Either way, you can't go wrong with this series. The series (as we know it, anyway) culminates with the 7th and last installment, "Area 51: The Truth" later in the year.

As usual, this book starts off where "The Grail" leaves off. Lisa Duncan has been shot and the aliens are starting to get organized to fight each other with humans in between. Mike Turcotte and his small collection of very different people are trying to find a way to stop the coming war and prevent the annihilation of humanity. He knows that neither side in this conflict gives a rat's ass about the humans that will be slaughtered or turned into nano virus driven zombies. He must find two things: 1. Excalibur and 2. The second mother ship which has the Master Guardian Computer. It's believed that getting those two items together or working will prevent either Airlia side from controlling Earth. Of course finding these two items isn't going to be easy. They are hidden in almost completely inaccessible places on Earth and several previous attempts to recover them have ended in the death of all involved. Yet Turcotte cannot fail. He also struggles with the idea that something has happened to Lisa Duncan which might change their relationship forever. Additionally,

we get a hint that nobody in this book is really who we think they are; not Mike, not Mualama, not Lisa Duncan. So who are they?

Great climbing scene on Everest! I met one of the top climbers in the world, Dougal Haston, in Leysin, Switzerland, where he was based. Someone had almost killed me by pulling me off the wall of a glacier. That and Haston's account of how people die on climbs was the end of my Alpine career. Sadly, he died in an avalanche above Leysin. Oh, right! And the book was great, what fun. Thank you Bob, I forgive you for the badly placed digression on how Spooky works in the last book.

The Area 51 series is not what I expected after reading Bob Mayer's Nightstalker series, but I've really enjoyed it. The blend of aliens fighting over our planet with ancient legends was very entertaining and thought provoking. It was also refreshing to have the story take place in unique settings that were fun to go and learn more about myself. Mr. Mayer has his own style of writing that keeps you engaged from the beginning. I'm looking forward to reading more of his work.

It was a good book need to read the entire series from first to last even though the first chapter goes over the last book to catch you up if you didn't read the prior book. I did find it a little slow at times and you have to like the style he has for going back and forth through time which I got tired of after the 3rd book in the series. The first book in the series was nothing like the rest and really liked it was far more fast paced and action packed. But it was still a good book worth the time to read the series they did keep the story line going through all the books with the characters.

To say the least, I was somewhat dissapointed with his last book: Area51: The Grail. Now that I have read Excalibur though, I am able to grasp why the grail only brings more questions and little answers. In Excalibur, Doherty finally gives more answers than questions without being repetitive. The battle scenes live up to his knack for realism and page flippign suspense. He continues to demonstrate that the bad guys arnt just a bunch of idiots firing like crazy and missing the good guys, and that the good guys don't just stand with an M-60 and take out their opponents with no sweat. Although some areas of the story are still sketchy, it is manageable to put two and two together. Doherty definately lives up to a description of the plot given on his website. The outcome is truely decided by the human spirit, and sense of sacrafice.

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