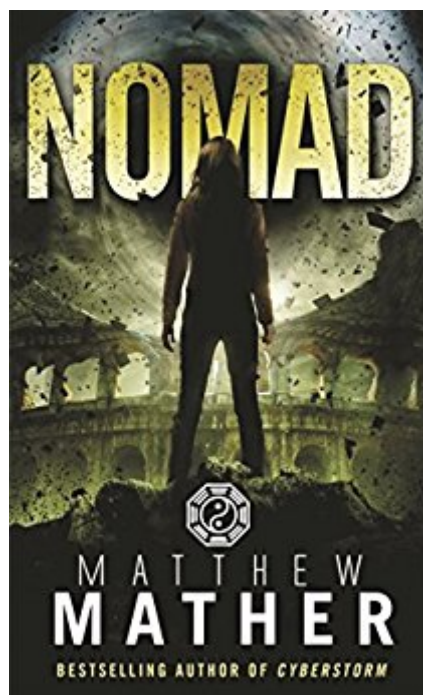


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Nomad



Synopsis

Voted 2015 Science Fiction Book of the Year - Authors on Air Global Network, 2 million listeners
Something massive is coming...And it's heading for Earth. That's what astronomer Ben Rollins is told by NASA after being dragged out of bed in the middle of the night. His first instinct is to call his daughter, Jessica, who's vacationing in Italy with his wife. "Something is coming," he tells them, "a hundred times bigger than the sun. We can't see it, don't know what it is yet, but they're calling it Nomad--and in just months, the Earth may be destroyed." But what is it? And how did they miss detecting it until now? In a frantic race against time, Dr. Rollins must unravel Nomad's secrets. A mysterious clue surfaces in his old Cold War-era research papers, from more than thirty years earlier...The world erupts into chaos as the end approaches--and Ben discovers his wife and daughter are trapped in Europe. The key to humanity's survival rests in the final answers he pieces together, in the midst of his desperate scramble across continents to find his family before Nomad swallows the planet.
FROM THE BACK COVER
Nomad is a story of family and redemption set amid a brand new category of cataclysm--all the more plausible as the science behind it is vetted by a team of world-class astrophysicists from CERN, SETI, the Keck Observatory and more. This award-winning epic comes from bestseller Matthew Mather, whose books have been translated into sixteen languages, with 20th Century Fox developing one of his latest novels, CyberStorm, for film.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Where to start. The premise of the book is terrifying, especially when the story starts with intermittent radio contact with limited survivors. You know right from the beginning that things are going to go really bad at some point. The writer does an excellent job of creating characters with depth and developing the story through their interactions with others. Many of the characters have personal agendas that lead to multiple conflicts that drive the story forward. It held my interest throughout the story, causing me to read during lunch, during TV shows that couldn't hold enough of my interest and late into the night long after I should have shut the lights off. There is a satisfactory conclusion, although there is another future follow-up book to this one that will continue the adventure. I plan to read that one as soon as it is available. I don't always like stories that continue on over the span of several books but this is one well worth following. For any who have read S.M. Stirling's "Change" series or Anne McCaffrey's dragon series, you know there are some books well worth investing in the time and money to get them all. I believe this book is the start of a linked series well worth collecting. I was offered the opportunity to read the story free and give my honest opinion. This writer has the ability to take readers on a great ride and I intend to purchase these books in hardback once they are available. As an avid reader for over 60 years, I now use a Kindle quite a bit, usually reading a story and then promptly forgetting about it.

Mather has been fascinated with black holes when he was a teen. He wrote this book as a means of delving deeper into his adolescent dreams, having researched it well and deeply, and even convinced a team of students to write him a simulation breathing life into his imagined scenario of two black holes circling each other while passing through the solar system. His admiration and research shows. The book excels in all aspects of science (as far as the layman can tell) and this is what keeps the story alive, somehow. Unfortunately, Mather decided to pimp the good science with an unconvincing story of love, betrayal, and action. It is a story of a beautiful yet handicapped girl (missing a foot from an accident) being impulsive yet loving ponderous self-reflection (pages after pages of yawn-inducing babble) meeting an Italian baron who manages to incarcerate her only to have sex with her a few pages later. There's also the odd Turkish (?) refugees who speak Arab

(don't ask) and, for no conceivable reason whatsoever, rescue the heroine and her mother not once but twice. I still am dumb-struck by this "twist" which did not seem to have any other purpose than to provide a totally unconvincing means for Mather to keep the story going. There is more of that sort, which left me hoping for more details on the Nomad and less on the humans. The book also tries to give the whole end-of-the-world scenario a grander, even geopolitical scale by adding acts of terror and even nuclear war, yet fails entirely in providing convincing reasons for this rapid degradation of humanity. There is talk of 6 or 7 stages that humans go through when facing the ultimate catastrophe that Nomad is supposed to bring upon them, but we only learn about the first two, the rest gets lost.

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