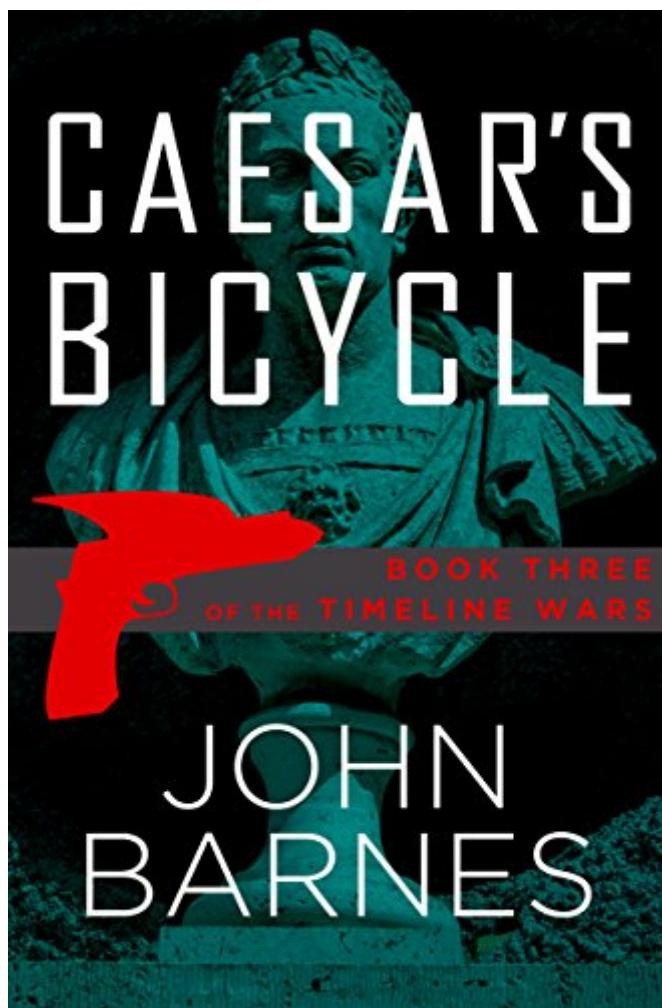


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Caesar's Bicycle (The Timeline Wars Book 3)



Synopsis

In an alternate Roman Empire, the ultimate battle is being waged for domination of the multiverse in the epic conclusion of the war for a million Earths. There are a million different Earths across an infinite number of timelines, and every one of them is in peril. John Barnes' ingenious science fiction saga the Timeline Wars reaches a breathtaking climax in Caesar's Bicycle as former Pittsburgh private investigator turned Crux Op agent Mark Strang pursues the alien Closer enemy to a new battleground: an alternate ancient Rome of Caesar and Pompey. Strang's investigation into the disappearance of a fellow ATN operative has carried him along a new timeline to a Roman Empire at once strikingly similar and remarkably different from the one recalled in history books on his own Earth. What he discovers is a world in the process of radical transformation through the introduction of new technologies, centuries before their time, by both sides in the war for the multiverse: enemy Closers and ATN alike. And this time, Strang's mission carries a new urgency, for the timelines are becoming dangerously unstable and mysteriously starting to close. To prevent the total enslavement of every one of the million Earths, Strang himself will now have to make history. But by ensuring that an infamous assassination actually does take place, Mark Strang could be condemning himself to the most horrible death the Romans ever devised.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The twist at the end made the book well worth reading. It did drag in spots and of course the clutz to super hero and back to clutz detracts from the action, but helps with the plot I guess. I guess this means he still human.

Author continues to use the introduction of 'new' technology as a *duex ex machina* for examining the political culture of an historical era.

The conclusion to the somewhat harrowing Timeline trilogy by Barnes, this is perhaps the weakest volume. The ubersadistic Closers go out perhaps a bit too easily, and this book should be definately read only after the first 2, but it is a satisfactory conclusion. The protagonist's leftist political outlook is perhaps more strongly underlined in this volume too, but does not substantially figure in the story. Recommended, especially for fans of the subgenre, and for others who enjoy laconic heroes in an ultraviolent setting.

I loved the story, but was disappointed at the typos. Here's one that will have you shaking your head:tempt divine audiority.I found that about 40 pages before the end. FYI: I'm reading this on my I-Pad. Don't know if the same mistake appears on the printed version.Audiority? Really? A writer with so much talent and creativity keeps handicapping his stories by allowing these careless mistake. If I was the author's friend, I would offer help in proofreading. Where were your friends and family? Nobody there to spot typos?

Barnes captures the essence of the human spirit, good and bad, in this tidy adventure into old Alternate Rome. A great take on what we see in an individual and circumstances that cause us to question our goals. A great ending to The Timeline Wars. You may find the first person narrative wearying, but worth the read. Barnes' Training wheels came off in this one.

I was given this book, so I have started the series here. I thought that is was a really good mix between going fast enough to keep you interested, and going slow enough to explain what was

happening. I really like alternate history, but I get sick of reading about WWII all the time, and so this book was a nice break. The book is written in such a way that if you didn't read the previous two, you can still understand what is happening and not feel lost. That is probably the reason for the other reviewer feeling that it repeats too much. But for someone who didn't read those, it is really helpful. The only thing that I didn't like about this book was that it felt as if it ended too quickly. Almost as if the author decided that he was done writing, and slapped an ending onto it. I hope that this series is not finished, because I would really like reading more of these books.

This book did a decent job of wrapping up the series, and was probably the most entertaining of the three. The ending explained why the book(s) were written the way they were. Though I still don't like having info from previous books explained in detail over-and-over again, the ending helped clear that up. The whole series was different than any other I have read, and I think this is because it had a lot more of an action feel to it. I would say it was not the best I've ever read, but it kept me interested and was fairly entertaining.

I thought this book was passably good, if a bit short. I love the characters and the overall universe he created in this series. Read them in order and enjoy yourself. BTW, I'm not sure if this is the end or not it seems like it though, but it is open for a sequel. Overall this series was a lot of fun and I would recommend it to anyone.

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