

BLACK LIBRARY

ESSENTIAL READING GUIDE















Explore Warhammer Fiction with Black Library!

There are loads of ways to engage with Warhammer, and reading tales of the characters and settings is fun and rewarding, while also adding depth and context to other aspects of the Warhammer hobby.

This guide provides a rundown of some books that will help you learn more about the 41st Millennium, the Horus Heresy, and the Mortal Realms alike.

WARHAMMER 40,000



AVENGING SON

Guy Haley

This explosive series begins in the midst of the Indomitus Crusade, as Roboute Guilliman attempts to push through the Great Rift that has torn the galaxy apart. His success or failure will determine the fate of the Imperium itself.

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Space Marines



THE LION: SON OF THE FOREST

Mike Brooks

Lion El'Jonson, Primarch of the Dark Angels, awakens after ten thousand years locked in stasis at the heart of his shattered home world. In a galaxy wracked by war, he seeks to protect humanity from one of his Fallen sons – by gathering others to his banner.

RFI ATED PRODUCT: Lion Fl'Ionson



DARK IMPERIUM

TRILOGY



DARK IMPERIUM

Guy Haley

The reborn Primarch of the Ultramarines, Roboute Guilliman, launches a mighty crusade to reclaim star systems on the far side of the Great Rift that has divided the galaxy. Meanwhile, his traitorous brother Mortarion sets plans for revenge into motion.

RELATED PRODUCT: Roboute Guilliman



PLAGUE WAR

Guy Haley

Mortarion, the Daemon Primarch of the Death Guard, turns his pestilent eye towards the realm of the Ultramarines – now undermanned whilst Roboute Guilliman leads vast armies far away from home. The trap is set, but will Guilliman take the bait?

RELATED PRODUCT: Mortarion, Daemon Primarch of Nurgle



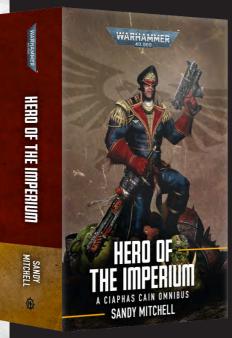
GODBLIGHT

Guy Haley

The stage is set for an epic confrontation which has been 10,000 years in the making. Roboute Guilliman's army faces off against Mortarion and his Death Guard in a struggle for the fate of the Imperium. Will the treacherous forces of Chaos prevail?

RFI ATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Death Guard





CIAPHAS CAIN: HERO OF THE IMPERIUM

Sandy Mitchell

Discover the life and exploits of a legendary Astra Militarum officer in this hilarious series. As Ciaphas recounts his own memoirs, the reader sees what really goes on behind the scenes as he panics, bluffs, and bumbles his way through one deadly encounter after another.

If you're looking for an irreverent and absurd take on the Imperium of Mankind, Ciaphas Cain is perfect for you.

RELATED PRODUCTS: Officio Prefectus Commissar



EISENHORN

WARHAMMER 40,000 SERIES



EISENHORN: THE OMNIBUS

Dan Abnett

This series takes place among the everyday citizenry of the Imperium, giving readers a glimpse of life in the 41st Millennium. A legendary Inquisitor, granted almost limitless power, attempts to protect the Imperium from traitors, the forces of Chaos, and aliens alike.

RELATED PRODUCT: Eisenhorn

GAUNT'S GHOSTS

WARHAMMER 40,000 SERIES



THE FOUNDING

Dan Abnett

Led by Colonel-Commissar Ibram Gaunt, the Tanith 1st Regiment of the Imperial Guard was recruited just before their planet was utterly destroyed. This storied force would go on to take part in some of the most important battles of the 41st Millennium, with a cast of characters that's both endearing and relatable.

RFI ATED PRODUCT: Gaunt's Ghosts



WARHAMMER 40,000



THE INFINITE AND THE DIVINE

Robert Rath

The leaders of the mechanical necrons are far from automatons. Their biggest personalities have survived for thousands of years – and sometimes they find themselves at odds with each other. Explore a rivalry many millennia in the making.

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Necrons



BRUTAL KUNNIN

Mike Brooks

This Orks novel told from their perspective – by turns both amusing and horrifying – follows Warboss Ufthak Blackhawk's quest to loot a planet, only to find some rival Orks have beaten him to it. Can the factions keep their guns aimed at a common enemy instead of each other?

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Orks



HARROWMASTER

Mike Brooks

An ambitious warlord of the Alpha Legion seeks to exploit the chaos sown by the Great Rift and make his mark upon the galaxy. Can his skill and cunning bring the splintered remnants of his Legion together, with him at their head?

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Chaos Space Marines

WARHAMMER

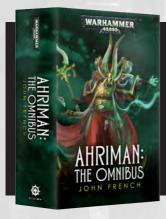


STEEL TREAD

Andy Clark

The crew of a mighty tank in the Astra Militarum is joined by a commander from a different regiment. All serve the Emperor, but each member must trust the others with their life. Will they come together in the face of a dangerous foe?

RELATED PRODUCT: Leman Russ Battle Tank



AHRIMAN: THE OMNIBUS

John French

Three novels in one, following the greatest sorcerer of the Chaos-worshipping Thousand Sons Space Marines. 10,000 years ago Ahriman made a grave mistake, and now he seeks a way to reverse the spell that turned his brethren into empty shells.

RELATED PRODUCT: Ahriman



WARHAMMER 40,000

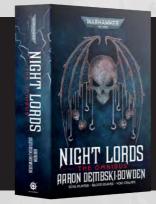


LEVIATHAN

Darius Hinks

Lieutenant Castamon of the Ultramarines rallies his warriors to thwart a tyranid invasion. When this new tendril of Hive Fleet Leviathan proves unpredictable and deadly, Castamon and the First Company must harness all their skill, might, and zeal, or face utter annihilation.

RELATED PRODUCT: Warhammer 40,000 Ultimate Starter Set



NIGHT LORDS: THE OMNIBUS

Aaron Dembski-Bowden

The incredibly popular Night Lords trilogy is collected together in one book, detailing the exploits of a warband of vicious and ambitious killers. Against all expectation, the reader ends up rooting for these anti-heroes to win, despite the unthinkable horrors they perpetrate.

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Chaos Space Marines



BELISARIUS CAWL: THE GREAT WORK

Guy Haley

The tech-priests of the Adeptus Mechanicus maintain the machines and wargear of the Imperium. Now Archmagos Cawl, their greatest mind, goes off in search of forbidden technology – and mastering it could mean a breakthrough in the battle for the galaxy.

WARHAMMER 40.000



MINKA LESK: THE LAST WHITESHIELD

Justin D Hill

A raw recruit's military service begins as her home is destroyed by the forces of Abaddon the Despoiler. This omnibus follows Minka Lesk's meteoric rise through the ranks of the Astra Militarum as she seeks vengeance for the loss of Cadia, and everything she knew.

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Astra Militarum



KRIEG

Steve Lyons

The Death Korps of Krieg are an Astra Militarum regiment like no other, masking their humanity as penance for their treasonous past. Now deployed to a soul-crushing siege in the Octarius War Zone, will they pay the terrible cost of victory?

RELATED PRODUCT: Kill Team: Veteran Guardsmen



ASSASSINORUM: KINGMAKER

Robert Rath

A mighty Knight World is on the verge of declaring independence from the Imperium as their ambition spirals out of control. This calamitous series of events warrants the attention of two very different Assassins – but can they work together to complete their mission?

RELATED PRODUCT: Vindicare Assassin





DOMINION

Darius Hinks

Something stirs in the Realm of Beasts, and the Stormcast Eternals are dispatched to protect the faithful of Sigmar from a sinister new foe. This novel shows us what an epic war looks like from the eyes of a common citizen of the Mortal Realms.

RELATED PRODUCT: Warhammer Age of Sigmar Harbinger Starter Set

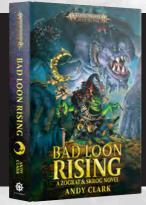


THE ARKANAUT'S OATH

Guy Haley

Drekki Flynt is a skyvessel captain, an adventurer, a wit, a self-proclaimed genius... and in trouble. Having accepted a lucrative contract, this Kharadron rogue now finds himself up against giant air-beasts, grot pirates, and terrible storms – not to mention a conspiracy with links to dark powers and an ancient empire.

RELATED PRODUCT: Drekki Flynt



BAD LOON RISING

Andy Clark

Born the weakest runt of his Moonclan tribe, Zograt was only ever one beating away from a nasty end... until the Bad Moon bestowed upon him its blessing. To seize power, Zograt must use his razor-sharp mind, unpredictable magic – and his loyal troggoth, Skrog.

RELATED PRODUCT: Vanguard: Gloomspite Gitz





GODEATER'S SON

Noah Van Nguyen

The invading Azyrites brought arrogance, cruelty, and a god who seemed blind to it all. Held just wants solitude, but they have destroyed his peace. To defeat the Stormcasts, he must embrace older, darker powers that threaten the very freedom for which he fights.

RELATED PRODUCT: Vanguard: Slaves to Darkness



GHOULSLAYER

Darius Hinks

Once a renowned Slayer in the destroyed World-that-Was, Gotrek sought a glorious death at the hands of a mighty enemy. Now roaming the Mortal Realms and stronger than ever, he tears through the Realm of Death seeking Nagash, the Great Necromancer.

RFI ATED PRODUCT: Gotrek Gurnisson



THE HOLLOW KING

John French

Cado Ezechiar is a Soulblight vampire who has outlived his people and kingdom – indeed, the very memory of the age that made him. Now he roams the Realm of Death, seeking retribution and salvation for those he failed. Can the Hollow King make good on his revenge, or will he truly lose everything?

RELATED PRODUCT: Cado Ezechiar - The Hollow King



GRITTY DRAMA SET IN THE WARHAMMER 40,000 UNIVERSE



BLOODLINES

Chris Wraight

In the 41st Millennium, an investigator living in an immense city searches for the missing child of a wealthy, elite patron. He soon realises he's in way over his head, as he unravels a complicated web of established power and dark secrets.

RELATED PRODUCT: Palanite Enforcer Patrol



BONE-CHILLING TALES FROM THE FAR FUTURE AND THE MORTAL REALMS



GOTHGHUL HOLLOW

Anna Stephens

A fallen noble house in the Realm of Death buried a twisted secret decades ago. When their ancestral home is threatened, the tranquillity they have hidden behind is violently disrupted. Father and daughter must settle their differences and unravel the ancient curse.

RELATED PRODUCT: Battletome: Cities of Sigmar

THE HORUS HERESY



VALDOR: BIRTH OF THE IMPERIUM

Chris Wraight

Constantin Valdor led the elite Legio Custodes before the Imperium even existed, standing at the Emperor's side through the brutal Unification Wars and beyond. His loyalty and skill made him the ideal candidate to undertake secret missions – no matter how unsavoury...

RELATED PRODUCT: Combat Patrol: Adeptus Custodes

THE HORUS HERESY SIEGE OF TERRA



THE SOLAR WAR

John French

The traitorous fleet of the Warmaster Horus enters the Sol System, the seat of the Imperium, in a brazen attempt to overthrow the Emperor. But the loyalist forces are prepared, and Terra itself has been transformed into a nigh-impregnable fortress.

> RELATED PRODUCT: Warhammer: The Horus Heresy - Age of Darkness



THE LOST AND THE DAMNED

Guy Haley

The siege of Terra begins in earnest as the forces of the Warmaster make planetfall. The bombardment, chemical warfare, and sheer savagery of the attack are unlike anything the galaxy has ever seen.

RELATED PRODUCT: Spartan Assault Tank



THE FIRST WALL

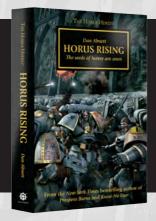
Gav Thorpe

The outer walls of the palace have fallen, and the brilliant siege breaker Perturabo of the Iron Warriors must defeat the incredibly complex network of walls and gates built by his brother, Rogal Dorn of the Imperial Fists.

RELATED PRODUCT: Rogal Dorn, Primarch of the Imperial Fists Legion, Perturabo, Primarch of the Iron Warriors Legion

THE HORUS HERESY

BRUTAL GALACTIC CIVIL WAR

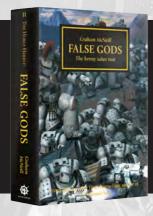


HORUS RISING

Dan Abnett

The longest-running series in Black Library fiction begins as the Great Crusade to unite humanity approaches its end. Here we see the Legions in victory – proud, but beginning to fracture as the Emperor returns to Terra and leaves the Warmaster Horus in charge.

RELATED PRODUCT: Horus the Warmaster, Primarch of the Sons of Horus Legion



FALSE GODS

Graham McNeill

Horus is injured in battle, even as the divisions between the Legions begin to widen. An influential advisor to the Warmaster leads him down a path that will ultimately end in betrayal, sowing the seeds of a conflict that will tear the galaxy apart.

> RELATED PRODUCT: Lorgar, Primarch of the Word Bearers Legion



GALAXY IN FLAMES

Ben Counter

The Warmaster shows his true colours as the Legions attack the rebel world of Isstvan III. Space Marines turn openly against each other, entering a new phase in the treachery of the Horus Heresy. This bloody, heart-breaking novel sets the tone for the rest of the war.



Explore the worlds of Warhammer!

The Warhammer hobby is vast, and its settings are deep and nuanced. Black Library fiction is a great way to gain a deeper understanding of the characters, factions, and environments you'll find in the game.

From the grim darkness of the far future, to the fantastical Mortal Realms, there are many stories to be told. No matter which army or character you're drawn to, you're bound to find stories that help you understand who they are, and why they fight, in the pages of a Black Library book.

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Get out there and explore, then see what you're inspired to create and collect for your games of Warhammer 40,000, Warhammer: The Horus Heresy, and Warhammer Age of Sigmar!

