



Demons on the Dalton

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When hundreds of huge holes mysteriously appeared overnight in the frozen tundra north of the Arctic Circle, geologist Jack Oswald picked Angele Menendez, his climatologist wife, to determine if the record temperatures due to climate change was the cause. But the holes were not natural. They were unnatural portals for an invading army of demons. Together with Aileen O'Shannon, a 1,400-year-old sorceress demon-hunter, the three survivors of the research team sent to study the holes had only one chance: to flee down the dangerous Dalton Highway towards the relative safety of Fairbanks. However, the advancing horde of devils, imps, hellhounds, and gargoyles would stop at nothing to prevent their prey from escaping. It was a 350-mile race with simple rules. Win and live; lose and die...

Demons on the Dalton Details

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Author : Donald Firesmith

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From Reader Review Demons on the Dalton for online ebook

B. Sinsational says

? HELL-LUV-A BOOK!! ?

When you open this book you better NOT expect a slow lull, stereotype, slow read, because in that case your in the wrong book. This book has a delightful freshness, inventiveness, and holds high pace with characters that are vivid and appealing. It has a very intriguing storyline that captures the readers imagination and don't let it slip away even for a second. It's absolutely out of the question to even consider putting it down, regardless of what else might need attention, its far to thrilling for that. It is definitely a MUST read for paranormal addicts who want a fresh, very clever, fast paced read with quantum sized treasures of the hellishly unsuspected.

I must say I love the way the author has noted the anomaly of the holes, and that that triggered this very inspired series.

Gina says

Hell Holes: Demons on the Dalton by Donald Firesmith.

Dr. Jack Oswald tells of the first four days of their expedition to The North Slope, Alaska. Sent there to research the strange sink holes cropping up all over Alaska Dr. Jack Oswald tells of the events leading up to the expedition and once there the things that he and his team witnessed and endured at the location and continues until the team barely escapes from the Trans-Alaska Pipeline's Pump Station 2. You will find this horrifyingly emotional tale in Book 1, Hell Holes: What Lurks Below.

This is book 2 of Hell Holes and is given the title Demons on the Dalton, by Dr. Jack Oswald's wife, Dr. Angela Menendez. She continues from where Jack left off. The moment they escaped Pump Station 2 and started out on their harrowing 350 mile trek along the Dalton Highway heading to Fairbanks.

This book is full of fast-paced action, as well as emotional turmoil and a few times I found myself clutching my computer desk, unable to stop reading because I was so anxious about what would happen next.

There were definitely some surprises I didn't expect, that the book would have been fine without, but added another layer of amped up adrenaline which made it even more realistic.

I myself have never been a fan of sci-fi but after reading these two books by Donald Firesmith I am looking forward to checking out some more sci-fi books, and hopefully he will continue on with a third book of this series.

Brian's Book Blog says

Out of the frying pan and into the fire

4.5 out of 5 stars

Join the team after they have survived the attacks that the "hell holes" have brought upon the oil fields of Alaska. Follow along as they try to escape with their lives, but they will soon find out that they are out of the frying pan and into the fire.

First things first, take a look at that awesome cover. Really gives the read a feeling that they are going to be going for a ride when they pick this book out.

In “crossover” books like this (it’s fantasy and real-world) it’s easy to get caught up in the details. Trying to explain why someone has magical powers or where a character came from can really bog down a good story. Firesmith is able to skip these mundane details but still write a story that feels full and detail oriented. I love the fact that I don’t normally like books with fantasy elements in them, but the Hell Holes series has allowed me to enjoy a sprinkle of fantasy with my thrillers.

The fantasy elements (in case you’re curious) involve different demons: gargoyles, imps, and hell hounds. Along with a witch or curatrix as she is called in these books. There is also a secret society of people who have been keeping these demons at bay for centuries. Now, sprinkle these elements in with an extremely well thought out thriller and I’m intrigued.

Overall, Hell Holes: Demons on the Dalton was a wonderfully written book that had my heart pounding from beginning to end. A thriller through and through.

The length was really nice for me too. Sometimes I enjoy reading a novella or a shorter novel. Especially when you pack as much into them as Firesmith has with Demons on the Dalton.

I was given an early copy of this novel in exchange for my honest and unbiased opinion.

Did you enjoy this review? Find more like it at Brian's Book Blog

Nancy (The Avid Reader) says

The remaining members of the crew; Dr. Oswald a professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks along with his wife Dr. Menendez and Aileen O'Shannon; that were hired by ExxonMobil to check out these gigantic holes that are appearing on the North Slope near the Trans-Alaska Pipeline are speeding down the Dalton highway as if the demons of hell are hot on their heels wait they are.

They are speeding down the longest and most dangerous roads ever faster than his reasonably safe trying to out run the demons when Aileen shouts they have brought fire and brimstone. They are racing down the Dalton highway with imps, demons, hellhounds, gargoyles with fire and brimstone raining down upon them.

They are racing down the road hoping to run into the military and make it into Fairbanks and hopefully safety. Along the way they run into a convoy that was over taken by the demons of hell with vehicles and bodies of humans, gargoyles, imps and demons scattered all over the road, civilian vehicles and military as well. They pick up themselves a couple of bigger guns, assault rifles and load up their pockets with magazines. They find a couple of kids a little boy and his sister, nine year old Adam and six year old Amy who they take under the wing and promise to get them to safety.

Dr. Oswald is racing down the highway with imps and demons flying in all directions after being hit by their car when Dr. Oswald takes a 90 degree turn at thirty miles faster than is relatively safe. I can just see Dr. Oswald ducking as he makes this turn going way faster than he should be not only ducking because of fire and brimstone or even the demons chasing them but expecting his wife to start yelling at him and knocking him upside the head for taking the turn so fast.

It was just as intense with Demons on the Dalton book #2 of Hell Holes as it was with What Lurks Below book #1 filling as if I was in the car with them racing down Dalton highway with the demons of hell hot on our heels. It was so intense that I could feel the heat from the fire as it went sailing by the vehicle and I think I was jumping with the windows exploding from the heat and I was always worried about Adam and Amy wondering where they were at times during the battles and how they were dealing with it all. They were braver little campers. Adam took such great and loving care of his little sister.

This has been a long ride down one of the longest roads ever during a very short period of time packed with lots of heart pounding adrenaline pumping action that will leave you hanging on for more and wanting to know what is around the next turn.

I would recommend Demons on the Dalton to anyone who loves a fast driven, heart pounding, bodies flying ever where kind of action novel.

Helen Calder says

This is the second book in a series. I read and enjoyed the first book, Hell Holes: What Lurks Below. Like Hell Holes 1 this is a fast, exciting read and if you like books in which our world is not as it seems then you will probably like this.

The writer made the bold choice to use a different character as the first person narrator in this book. I think the choice worked to both extend the cliffhanger at the end of the first book and to give a slightly different perspective on the events of the first book. While I don't like to hand out virtual cookies to male authors for being able to write convincing women I think he's done an excellent job of writing from a female point of view. This narrator has a different narrative voice than the narrator of the first book but the feel of the world of the story remains consistent which is not necessarily an easy feat to pull off.

My only real criticism is that there's a lot of exposition. I think it's a mostly unavoidable side effect of being the second book of a series that has a lot of world building going on. At least this exposition is well written and fits naturally into the dialogue scenes. The reader is learning stuff at the same time as the characters are.

All in all an excellent sequel that sets things up well for the third book.

Angela Kay says

Hell Holes: Demons on the Dalton is volume two of What Lurks Below. It's another action/adventure written by Donald Firesmith. This time, we're in Dr. Angela Menendez's (Dr. Jack Oswald's wife) point of view. She picks up where we left off in volume one. Oswald and his team are desperately trying to escape the demons that are set on pursuing them.

The character development was a bit lacking. There were not a whole lot of conflict as I'd imagined there would be. After all, stress and fear make even the nicest person a tiny bit snippy, and I saw none of that in the story. However, I was eager enough to see what would happen next to not worry about the lack of

character conflicts. There was enough nail biting and plenty of surprises to keep me wholly satisfied as I read. The ending was left as though a continuation could come into play. Or possibly it's left for our imagination to work out. We'll see what Firesmith has in store for us next.

Laura Thomas says

It started with mysterious holes appearing overnight in the tundra of the North Slope in Alaska. A team of seven, including Jack, a geologist, his wife, Angela, a climatologist, Aileen, a reporter with a secret power, and four others are hired by Exxon Mobil to investigate. When the very hounds of Hell crawl out of one of the holes and start killing, the team races south on Dalton Highway, one of the ten most dangerous roads, trying to reach Fairbanks and safety. Soon, imps and gargoyles join the hellhounds in pursuit. Only three of the team members make it to the SUV and begin their escape. The Demon War has begun.

Jack told his story of how it all began in the first book. Now, Angela tells what happens next.

As the three survivors race down the highway, they encounter more and more demons. And the demons have some surprising tricks up their sleeve that don't bode well. It's attack after attack. Every time it seems like they've found safety, it goes to hell in a hand basket. Even the military, with all of their technology and weapons, don't stand a chance.

After what I've just read, I have now decided that if there's ever an apocalypse, I'll take zombies over demons any time. Some of these creatures are dumber than a box of rocks, but they are guided by higher demons, smart ones, and can inflict major damage.

The author sure doesn't give his characters a break. And he keeps the action and suspense at full throttle. How many demons are there? Do they have a weakness? And most important, how do we stop them? The answer is one you can't begin to imagine.

I take from the ending that there's more to come. I have an idea where it will go and sure excited to see how that works out.

Jessica Bronder says

After learning that the holes that have mysteriously appeared are gates to hell, what is left of Jack's investigation group decides to live to fight another day and heads to Fairbanks on the Dalton. But they seem to keep finding trouble in one way or another with flat tires, demons, and bathroom breaks. Thankfully they find the military and they have a plan.

Thank goodness Aileen is there to help save the group. They have faced so much loss so far but it is going to get worse before it gets better. I really enjoyed reading the narrative through Angela's eyes. It gave this story a fresh spin. I really liked learning more about the *Tutores Contra Infernum*.

This story is a rush at break neck speeds as the group tries to keep ahead of the demons and is searching for a way to stop them. You have action, violence, and a great paranormal twist. I love this series and can't wait for book three to get published.

I received Demons on the Dalton from Silver Dagger Book Tours for free. This has in no way influenced my opinion of this book.

April says

Book2 even better

Book 2 is the thoughts and actions of the 2nd main character Dr. Angela Menendez. The first book is Dr. Jack Oswalds words. Being thrown into her own hell on earth the 3 survivors of the first book must find a way to fight their way to a safe place from demons imps and hellhounds. The Dr.'s are married and are not in the belief that they will make it to a safe place alive but determined to fight to get there. They pick up one problem then trade it for 2 more. The book is a quick interesting read and the end is a small cliffhanger cant wait to see what will happen and who wins

Margaret says

Demons on the Dalton (Hell Holes #2) by Donald G. Firesmith is quite a thrill ride. Both #1 and #2 are quite cinematic and #2 is sure to be sequel once #1 is filmed and released. Very excited looking forward to seeing the movie, soon I hope! The married doctors of Geology and Climatology must escape the marauding demons which have emerged from the Hell Holes appearing on the North Shore of Alaska. Escaping with them is their photographer who turns out to be an ancient member of a secret group that has kept humanity safe from these demons who periodically try to conquer humanity. Using her secret amulet, she is able to tip the balance against the demons. The three of them are the last of just a few survivors fleeing south. #2 is the story of their traumatic trip south. Unrelenting terror, bravery and luck - very thrilling!

Kristine (A Cozy Booknook) says

This is a great second installment of this series! I really liked that a different character's perspective was given in this book. The story is fast paced and full of action and adventure. I was pleased to see more information and background given on one of the characters. While this book can be read as a stand-alone - the author does a great job of summarizing the first book - I highly recommend reading the books in order to get the full impact of the story. I'm looking forward to reading what comes next,

I received a copy of this manuscript from the author, my review has been voluntarily submitted.

Courtney says

After losing so many members, Jack Oswald's research team turns into a three person survival group consisting of: **a geologist** (Jack), **a climatologist** (Angie) and **a 1,400 year old curatrix / demon hunter** (Aileen). Faced with only two real options: **A)** Stay, fight and (most likely) die or **B)** Venture down the treacherous Dalton highway towards the relative safety of Fairbanks.

Deciding they would rather take their chances on the Dalton, **the three survivors take off and begin their 350 mile race to safety.** However, the dangers of traveling the severely worn and unpredictable terrain of *one of the world's most dangerous roads* is the least of their problems. **The hellish army of devils, imps, hellhounds and gargoyles are advancing, ruthlessly destroying everything and everyone in their path.**

Along the way, the group is faced with all kinds of life threatening situations. Between picking up tricky, hitchhiking devils, flat tires, demonic attacks and *much needed* bathroom breaks, and all in such a short manner of time, they just can't seem to catch a break. Two additions to the team are eventually made when they come across two young siblings, Adam and Amy Anderson, alone and in desperate need of help. Together they narrowly escape an enclosing forest fire, only to exit **right** into the middle of a battle field between the U.S. army and the demons.

Helping the army win the battle, they team up to formulate a plan that they hope will destroy the demons once and for all, or at the very *least* prevent them from returning to Earth indefinitely. They're going to go back to the the Hell Holes, find the demons' portal and move the battle to their world.

"If we are truly going to stop them, we will have to go into hell to do it."

Demons on the Dalton by Donald G. Firesmith is written in Dr. Angela Menendez's POV, starting where What Lurks Below ends. I like that in this series (so far), each book is written in a different perspective. While I still recommend reading book 1, Dr. Angela Menendez gives a great recap of her husbands account of the teams first four days, since Jack received that phone call from Kowalski until right before starting their trip down the Dalton highway.

I did notice a bit more spelling and grammar mistakes in this book and a couple of repeating lines, but not so many that they take away from the story.

I was glad to see that Aileen O'Shannon's character and the secret society she's apart of was explained more in depth. We even get to meet a few more members of the ***Tutores Contra Infernum***. Very interesting.

I enjoyed the second installment of the Hell Holes series and look forward to seeing where book 3 will take us. I recommend this series to any adult fan of: Fast paced and action packed Sci-fi's and Paranormal stories.

****** I received an eBook copy of this title in exchange for my honest review. Thank you to Booktasters for introducing me to this author and thank you to Donald G. Firesmith for giving me the chance to read and review his books. ******

Jessica Worthington says

Awesome Read

This book was even better than the first. All of the fighting, mixed with all the new information about the hell holes, demons, and their world was outstanding. I really liked the new twist about demons and Hell. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who loves fantasy and horror books.

Amy says

I love that the author used a different point of view in story! Join the remaining group from Pump Station 2...the 1700 year old Demon Hunter, the Climatologist, and the Geologist as they continue to battle their way through the occupants of hell! Now they are joined up with with army. Will they be successful in their mission! Can't wait to read the next book!

Patricia Kaniasty says

Just as good as the first one. Excitement, gore, lots of beasts.....etc. I love the characters. The author makes everything seem normal.
