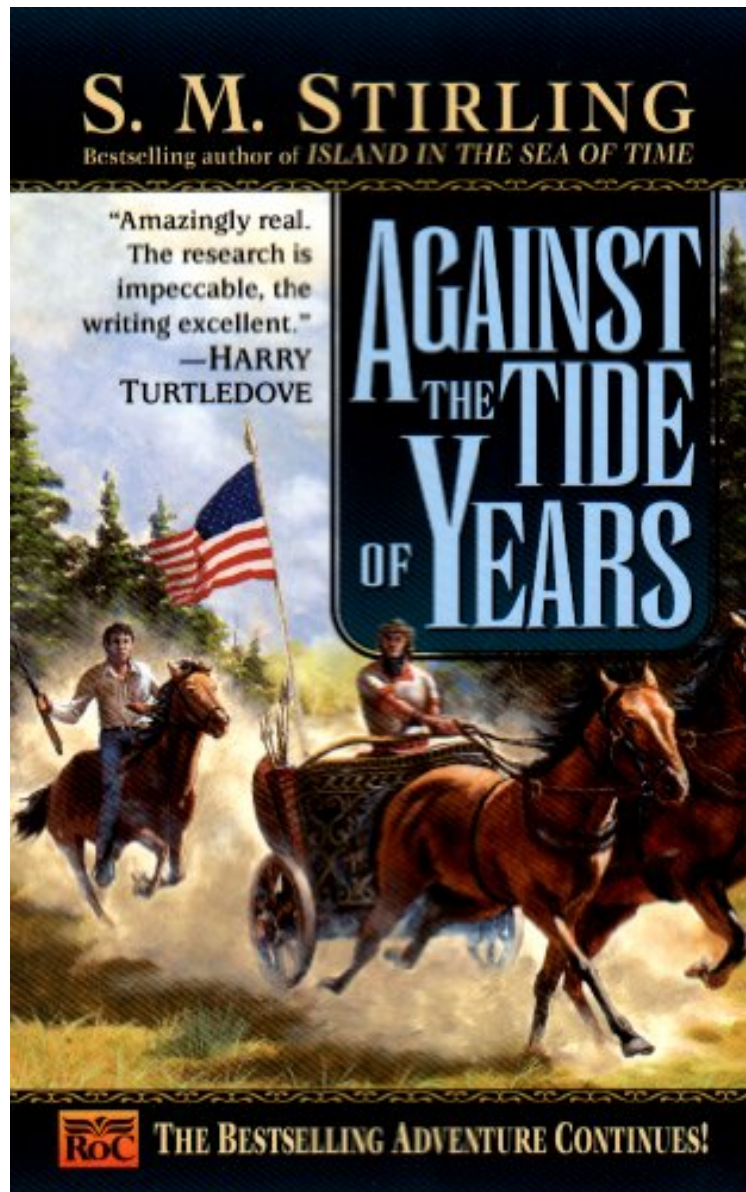


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## Against the Tide of Years: A Novel of the Change (Island)

Von *S. M. Stirling*

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**Von S. M. Stirling : Against the Tide of Years: A Novel of the Change (Island)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Against the Tide of Years: A Novel of the Change (Island):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Erstaunlich gut, aber mit den Problemen eines Mittelbandes einer Trilogie behaftet Von Oliver Von Spreckelsen Nach dem furiosen Ende des ersten Bandes sind mehrere Jahre vergangen. Die Amerikaner der Insel Nantucket haben ihre Wirtschaft etabliert und berlegen, wie sie am Besten gegen die Abtrnnigen um Walker vorgehen knnen. Dazu wird ein neuer Auenposten in Babylonien aufgebaut, um Walkers Position in Griechenland von mehreren Seiten angehen zu knnen. Es wird natrlich wieder viel gekmpft und es gibt auch wieder die eine oder andere militrische "Weiterentwicklung" zu bestaunen, aber dieses Mal sind die Bsen nicht so ganz abgrundtief bse, als dass ein Dampfhammer dagegen wie ein Wattebuschen anmutet. Auch wenn sie mit wirklich stahlharter Hand ihre Herrschaft zementieren und auch vor abschreckenden Manahmen nicht zurckschrecken, ist diesmal aber auch die Intelligenz dahinter zu erkennen (und das sind viel beeindruckendere Bsewichter als die absolut Irren, mit denen man beinahe sogar noch Mitleid hat). Das Hauptproblem des bandes liegt darin, dass er den Konflikt fr den nchsten Band vorbereitet. Das macht Stirling zwar sehr gut, aber man merkt schon, dass hier kaum einer der Handlungsstrnge zum Abschluss gefhrt wird. Ich mag es lieber, wenn auch ein Mittelband einen schnen Schluss bildet. Daher nur 4 Sterne (und auch wegen der Lautmalereien der Explosionen mit BADAMM! Co.).

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Flawless Through and Through Von Victor Laserna Other reviewers have complained of the feminist stuff. I bet they would have not complained of a different novel even if machismo is exploding out of its pages. I don't know who is that supposed "engineer" who faulted the technical stuff in this novel as unrealistic. He probably got his engineering degree from a universe different from our's (or Nantucket's). I mean what was he complaining about? The Civil War style rifles or the Winchester like Westley-Richards or the Gatlings? Come on! What did he want, Mausers and Maxim machineguns? I admit that the steam ram is a bad idea (those resources would have been better used on building a seaworthy version of the steam-powered ironclad warship like the Monitor in our time line.) Bill Cody's rocket artillery was well-deployed in battle. Rocket artillery had almost the same effect at several hundred meters as a triple-load case shot from a Napoleon at 25 paces. The only thing I strongly disagree with is regarding the siege of Troy. The marines there said that the city will be doomed because enemy siege guns can be brought at night close enough to bombard the city. I disagree with this. The technology needed to make flares was available (flares were used extensively in night battles of the American Civil Wars.) Thus the movement of siege guns (awkward and time consuming even in the best of times) will be made impossible under the guns and mortars of the marines. Even if Walker's forces get the siege guns close enough, the marines and Trojans could have easily defended the city with an earthen rampart which would absorb most of the kinetic energy of the cannonballs from the siege guns. The people of Troy can also dig trenches and bunkers if Walker uses siege mortars. So what if the city gets pounded into rubble? The value of Troy lies in its strategic position commanding the sea in the region. Walker would have to spend is rifle brigade in to take Troy. No way he could succeed using his barbarian allies. Case shot, mortars, and Trojan warriors will make short work of them. Walker's riflemen have at best a 50-50 chance of winning. Whatever happens, that rifle brigade will be pretty decimated by the time everything is over.

6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good light reading Von Ein Kunde This is one of the better "Americans lost in the past" books, and certainly more realistic than Eric Flint's =1632=. I'm puzzled, however, by the number of reviewers who seem to believe that a strong female character, like Marian Alston, automatically means that the male author hates his own gender. I'm also puzzled by the references to Alston being "a psychotic lesbian." If being career oriented, strong minded, and loving toward her family is "psychotic," well, I'm a psychotic heterosexual and have been for forty years. It's too bad that a decent female military lead is still intolerable to so many. I also do not understand this "Stirling is left wing" business. The only way I could see any "leftist influence" is that the female characters were portrayed as equal to the men rather than being stereotypes. Compared to the average military SF book, this \*is\* liberal, but ultimately this is much more damning of the right wing/libertarian strain in science fiction than of S.M. Stirling. Or maybe the idea of one person, one vote at a New England town meeting is a bit much for some people? Finally, the "reviewer" who brings up the subject of Bronze Age combat being reliant on brute strength is forgetting a few things (just a few). First, this book is about Americans changing the paradigm by introducing less strength oriented tactics and weapons. Second, modern Americans are larger, stronger and healthier than Bronze Age Mediterraneans. That includes women, believe it or not. Third, Bronze Age warfare depended on brute strength because the tactics and weapons were extremely primitive. The Nantucketers may be \*in\* the Bronze Age, but they are not \*of\* the Bronze Age. Their weapons are steel, not Bronze (and thus stronger and lighter), they eat a better diet and are in better shape, and they have the benefit of several thousand years' worth of later military tactics and battle accounts. Of course they would cream the Bronze Agers in battle. Stirling has done a nice job with what is rapidly becoming a cliché in science fiction. Definitely worth reading.

Kurzbeschreibung Against the Tide of Years continues the adventures of the Nantucket residents who have been transported through time to the Bronze Age. In the years since their arrival, the fledging Republic of Nantucket has striven to better the primitive world in which they now exist. Their prime concerns are establishing a constitution and

handling the waves of immigrants from the British Isles. But a renegade time traveler plans his own future by forging an empire for himself based on conquest by modern technology. The Republic has no alternative but to face the inevitable war brought on by one of their own.....deIn Stirling's bestselling *Island in the Sea of Time*, modern Nantucket found itself trapped in the Bronze Age. In the sequel, *Against the Tide of Years*, the renegade William Walker forges a dangerous alliance with the ancient Greek kings Agamemnon and Odysseus; Commodore Marian Alston faces terrible sea storms and cannon-armed Phoenician ships in an anachronistic Age of Sail; and the outnumbered Nantucketers race Walker to make contact with the Babylonian Empire. Of course this ambitious, action-packed series is perfect for time-travel, alternate-history, and military-SF fans. But epic-fantasy readers, Burroughs and Haggard fans desiring a modern update of the lost-civilization adventure novel, and anyone who ever read Patrick O'Brian for the terrific sea-battles will enjoy it as well. --Cynthia Ward.com

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