

Dogs of War (Dogs of War, #1) By Adrian Tchaikovsky Only recently I read Adrian Tchaikovsky's Children of Time and it is clear from these two books that the author has a wonderful sense of bringing the thoughts and feelings of animals (sorry bioforms) to life. The book uses multiple POVs from doctors to lawyers to all kinds of bioforms in order to explore topics such as the role of artificial intelligence in society (there is a history of robotics too) responsibility and guilt what exactly we humans define as humanity the ethics of conflict resolution and the manufacturing of sentient biological life. And he shows that there are never easy answers easy solutions and we often revert back to the old ways just because their familiarity offers comfort while new ways are often scary. making choices is the price of being free Nevertheless at some point I was wondering where the author will take this because I had thought we had reached the end of the narrative. well cats (there was an enormously funny moment in the book when a character actually said Even chipped to the eyeballs you can't get cats to do what you want them to do. It would have been easy to end this book after the events in Campeche / Retorna but we went much further because the topic is and would be complex and winning one battle does in no way mean you'll win the war. Moreover as far as I can tell from conversations with veterans he's really done a great job in realistically portraying what it means to be part of something bigger wanting to protect and having a purpose - and being stripped of it later. A true gem in this book was his criticism of current social and political problems in the world: Perhaps the idealism of the Anarchistas had decayed into the sort of backbiting rabies that such popular movements so often devolved into not fighting for just fighting against. To me this is one of the most important books when it comes to considering the future of bio-tech human engineering and the ethics that should not be forgotten but go with the territory and the author has quickly become one of my favourites simply for having a fantastic way of making the reader THINK. Now does anyone have the author's address so I can send him the bill for all the tissues I needed? :PThanks go to Netgalley and the publisher / author for giving me the opportunity to read this early.

Adrian Tchaikovsky What at first appeared to be a straight tale of totally augmented dogs and other animals refitted with all the glorious technology of war designed to be true monsters completely obedient to their masters eventually became a tale of ethics and morality couched in legal-drama societal commentary and complicated decisions. It's a full-blown discussion on what makes humanity transhumanism rights and the pitfalls of certain kinds of tech focusing more or less on those that remove free-will but it's not always about the tech. It's similar to Tchaikovsky's other novels in that he's got a big thing going on about personified animals or a wide variation on the theme but like his other SF novel Children of Time I really like his SF much better than his fantasy. His evolving situation from military asset to something more means he must ask himself questions he was never programmed to consider: what is the right thing to do? And what happens when his Master orders him to go against this burgeoning understanding? Told through multiple perspectives including some of the other bioforms the books presents a complex picture of humanity especially when being human does not necessarily mean you are humane. I don't want to spoil anything but the way the author chose to show us that is fantastic!Less thought-provoking than Children of Time but still an excellent book with some really interesting ideas and discussions. But who exactly are the enemies? What happens when Master is tried as a war criminal? What rights does the Geneva Convention grant weapons? Do Rex and his fellow Bioforms even have a right to exist? And what happens when Rex slips his leash? Dogs of War (Dogs of War #1)Dogs of War was not the book I was expecting to read - in a good way. In Dogs of War Tchaikovsky turns his talents towards sci-fi with genetically engineered bioforms - animals enhanced by weaponised technology and given the smarts to communicate with humans on near like-for-like levels. Along with his team of bioforms which includes bees a bear and a reptile named Dragon Rex is subjected to brutal combat on near-suicide missions fighting in a war he knows nothing about. Intelligent is his own right it takes Honey the enhanced bear to release Rex and co from the confines of their masters' pull strings for him to see a world beyond violence a world where bioforms can be more than weapons. I loved the way these characters evolved from combat team to individuals with their own goals each with a unique voice to go along with their unique physical attributes and all with a surprising amount of character depth.

Dogs of War isn't all about combat; it's a novel which takes war and broadens the concept to include peacetime ramifications of this new frontier technology through sociopolitical commentary which in turn gives the characters and theme a 360 feel delivered through a multi POV narrative. Rex is a smart dog but he's bred and programmed to obey his Master who is busy prosecuting an illegal personal war using horrific methods and is using Rex's squad to cover it all up. In the last few years the focus of a lot of serious works in the field have shifted from space aliens as the likely intelligences that we will interact with to the looming and ever more likely Artificial Intelligence. I am a good Dog" At first Rex was a dog that worried about not pleasing his master and not making the right decisions but am glad that I got to see him getting over those fears and being himself. The writing was a little bit difficult to get into at first but I got used to it whenever it was Rex speaking but anytime it was humans I found their whole dialogue boring:

But he's also recognizably non-human with a lot of basic behavior coming from his canine ancestry. He's also a very relatable character who over the whole book has to contend with his programming and whether what he does is moral or not, A really wonderful book from an author who has become a must-read for me, Adrian Tchaikovsky e-arc given to me via netgalley in exchange for an honest review "Life is constant creation and destruction. The trick is knowing one from another" This book is about a group of engineered bioform animals. They're used as weapons in the war cause they can carry out orders given to them by their master, Rex is a dog.

My thoughts in a nutshell I don't read sci-fi I can't enjoy it but I'm always trying to find an exception. What makes us human? What if the bioform (half human/half animal) are intelligent species with emotions: Do they have rights or they just weapons? Rex is a dog and he wants to be a good dog, His master wants Rex to kill the enemies but who is the real enemy? What makes someone an enemy? Lots of ethics lots of mortality. I won't rate this book because I'm not the right audience but I highly recommend it to sci-fi lovers. Adrian Tchaikovsky I finished this late last night (has been a while since I stayed up so late to finish a book) but had to seriously ponder how to write this review: It is also clear that the author doesn't consider animals to be just animals but sees them on the same level as humans if not even one above: This book then is about Rex a dog-like bioform engineered for war, He combines canine senses with sentience human DNA and then also got cybernetically integrated weapons systems. He is the leader of one of the first few multi-form squads meaning teams that consist of more than one kind of animal/bioform, It is also about what the engineers designed him to be and be capable of and what he actually is and is capable of, The different angles allow the author to give the reader many different perspectives with which to identify or not and allow for an objective as well as emotional exploration: However the author had a lot of threads that he weaved into a complex web of a lot of other important questions. Thanks to the fact that the entire book was interspersed with all kinds of wars and conflicts it never got boring or too preachy / theoretical: What I loved about this book was in what detail the author described each individual bioform and therefore gave them actual life and personality: We have the typical mammals but also marine bioforms reptiles and even hive-minds (a very intriguing concept). Rex has a lot of canine traits while Dragon is a typical reptile Bees' consciousness is literally buzzing all over the place and the felines are : However this realistic portrayal of the bioforms' characters was also what was very difficult to read and especially after / because of their development I cried more than once: Last but not least I like how thorough the author is with his exploration of a topic. What are any of us? Truly? We hide behind entities and justifications just as damning as the operant conditioning so tightly discussed in this novel: :) There's a lot more depth that I can sink my teeth into IMHO: It's not as epic as CoT either but it's certainly a very interesting ride, Don't go into it expecting the same thing it starts out with: Adrian Tchaikovsky Bioform Rex is trying to be a Good Boy the kind of Good Dog his Master wants him to be: But when he is cut from that hierarchy he must make his own decisions with the help of his friends in the Multi-form Assault Pack: Bees Dragon and Honey, Reminiscent of Flowers for Algernon Rex's story is one of self-discovery changing perceptions and the building of

personal morality. It gives the larger issues of the book a real vibrancy and immediacy, And there's lots in there: the right to life the viability of artificial intelligence genetic manipulation the rights of animals ethical warfare: The sci-fi setting only enhances the ability of the author to ask these big questions they are our current concerns writ large. On top of all that it's full of action and has a serious emotional punch: My only criticism is that the end section felt overly long even if the climax was both moving and apropos: Adrian Tchaikovsky is becoming one of my favourite authors! After reading Children of Time I knew I needed to read something else from the same author: But what makes someone/something an enemy? The development of Rex throughout the story is phenomenal: Adrian Tchaikovsky Alternate cover edition of ASIN B06XXJ4P9H My name is Rex: Rex is also seven foot tall at the shoulder bulletproof bristling with heavy calibre weaponry and his voice resonates with subsonics especially designed to instil fear. With Dragon Honey and Bees he's part of a Multiform Assault Pack operating in the lawless anarchy of Campeche south-eastern Mexico: Rex is a genetically engineered Bioform a deadly weapon in a dirty war: He has the intelligence to carry out his orders and feedback implants to reward him when he does, And to do that he must do exactly what Master says and Master says he's got to kill a lot of enemies. I've long been a fan of Adrian Tchaikovsky his Shadows of the Apt epic fantasy series is great and I really enjoyed his fantasy/adventure novel Spiderlight. The protagonist is Rex a genetically enhanced dog who carries out deadly missions as instructed by his master, 5 stars Excellent near future SF that delves deep into the ethical questions that arise from augmenting animals and transforming them into a state of personhood, I was born an animal they made me into a soldier and treated me as a thing: Servant and slave leader and follower I tell myself I have been a Good Dog, Adrian Tchaikovsky Dog-loving sci-fi fans this is it!! Run don't walk to get your hands on this book, Here is a look at what happens if humans create sentient AI made partly out of animal DNA and in animal form. AI rights risks potential all with a side helping of humans being nasty nasty. I didn't give it 5 stars even though the first half was definitely 5-star worthy because towards the end I admit to getting a little bit bored. but I still highly recommend it and will definitely continue the series, He's also a nearly eight-foot tall bio-engineered cybernetically-enhanced dog soldier with access to heavy weaponry and networked to a whole squad of other artificial bioweapons. (Being introduced to each of them is a really well-done in text - I won't spoil it here): Most of the humans who are hiding are the small humans the immature ones, But while Rex is smart he's not the smartest person on his team nor is he without friends even if he doesn't know they exist or why they care. An enduring theme in science fiction is the way humans are going to interact with non-human intelligences: I made this point in other recent reviews (of Autonomous and Sea of Rust) and there are certainly lots of great books about AI in science fiction at the moment, In this Adrian Tchaikovsky postulates uplifted animals as another likely contact between humans and non-humans and he does so with brilliant self-consistency in his extremely believable world. Rex is far more human than animal also the leader of the group which consists of a bear a giant lizard/dragon and bees, Something about this book is that you will find the animals more intriguing than the humans: I loved reading from Rex's perspective and anytime it was a person's POV I got very bored: The author did a great job with the animals they had emotions thoughts and different personalities: They even went through an intense character development especially Rex: The reason am not giving this book five stars is because it was so boring at times: I don't even think they should have their own point of view it wasn't too necessary: I'd recommend this book to Sci-fi fans looking for something different and animal lovers, Adrian Tchaikovsky ADRIAN TCHAIKOVSKY was born in Lincolnshire and studied zoology and psychology at Reading before practising law in Leeds. He is a keen live role player and occasional amateur actor and is trained in stage fighting, His literary influences include Gene Wolfe Mervyn Peake China Miéville Mary Gently Steven Erikson Naomi Novak Scott Lynch and Alan Campbell. I loved Rex. I loved his squad and the people who befriend him. I understood why people love this book. It has a lot of important questions. Brilliant. A notion with which I completely agree. The same goes for the rest of his team. and it definitely nails their best-known character trait). He teaches the reader about integrity and sacrifice. flavour-of-the-month outrage Technology is not Good Tech or Bad Tech. It is

the Master who is guilty for what it does. Sounds like comments to very current topics to me. I'm quite impressed. This isn't just a war-dog story taken literally. Good boy Rex you're a good dog. lol yeah indeed. The novel changes with the MC. or I should say the MCs. Damn I love Honey. It's worth reading just for her. Overall a fun and thought-provoking read. ARC via Netgalley Adrian Tchaikovsky 4.5*Ok. Rex just wants to be a Good Dog. Rex has a Master. Rex kills enemies because his Master says so. I am a good dog. All he wants to be is a Good Dog. My rating: 5/5 stars. In short this book is great read it. Adrian Tchaikovsky 4. It is just as heartwrenching as you might expect. I was made to be a weapon but I have lived a life. Nobody else can decide that for me. But killing machines. Our main character AI is a dog named Rex. Rex is a Good Dog. And by far the best book dog ever. Adrian Tchaikovsky My name is Rex. I am a Good Dog. Rex is definitely a Good Dog. Master says we must kill all of them. "My name is Rex.

