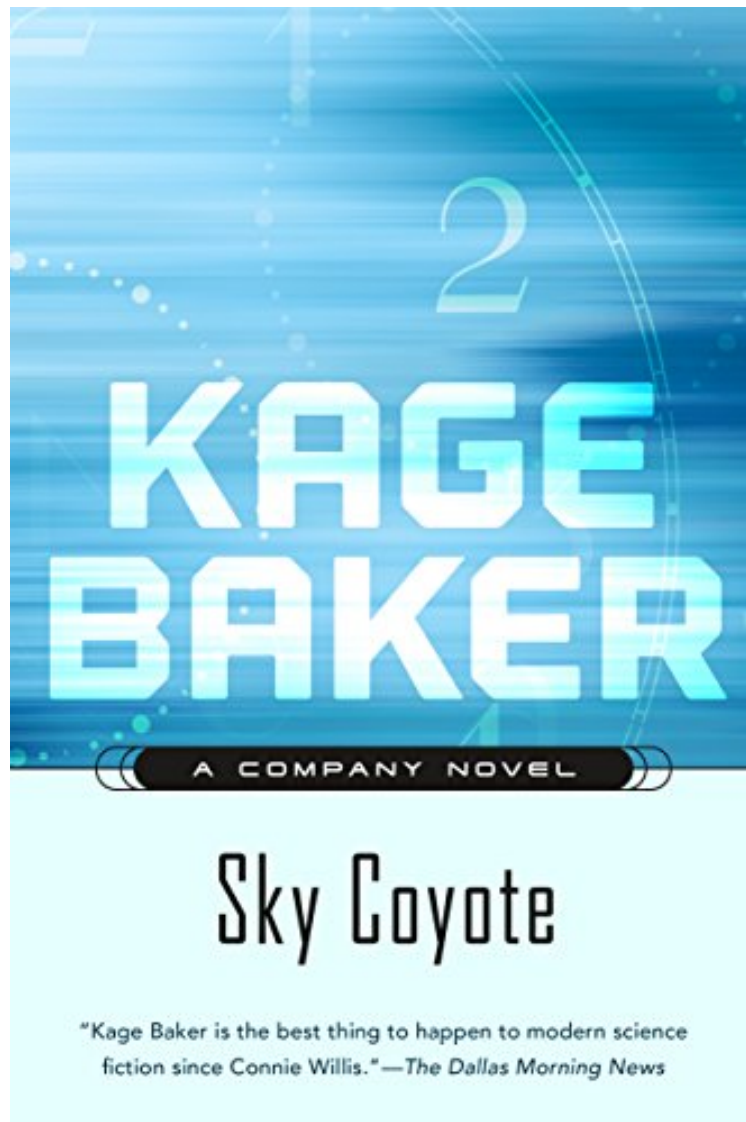


[Ebook free] Sky Coyote: A Company Novel (The Company)

## Sky Coyote: A Company Novel (The Company)

Von Kage Baker

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**Von Kage Baker : Sky Coyote: A Company Novel (The Company)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sky Coyote: A Company Novel (The Company):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A real let-down.Von L Blunt JacksonAlthough Baker tried to spice up this flop of a novel with the introduction of a metastory to attempt to carry our interest beyond the confines of the present narrative, this book was lacking in almost every positive attribute her debut novel offered. Mendoza, the intriguing protagonist from the Garden of Iden, mysteriously flattened into a two dimensional throwaway. When dealing with large spans of time, it may be tempting

to throw 150 years into a character's life, but it is just not plausible that she was the same character in this book as in the first: in the first place had even five years passed in the life of that character -- much less 150 -- we would expect to see her grow and evolve from the girl of the first book. But she has not. But either way, one would expect something more interesting than the shadow of herself from the first book. The main character in this novel is Joseph, who was a truly engaging figure in the first novel: powerful, wise, a little careless, a little more passionate than he wanted to let on, and very, very good at what he does. In this book, perhaps from too close an inspection, none of these attributes shines. Finally, there is the take on the native American tribes. Whether or not there is any historical basis for this pre-columbian capitalist culture, the portrayal is painfully jarring. In sharp contrast to the Garden of Iden, the language in this title swings from having no character to having the wrong character entirely. It is simply not persuasive. By the last third of the book, one feels that Kage is as tired of the story as we are, and she pretty well ties it up and throws it away in the last couple of chapters. What little tension ever existed in the novel sags away, and the cardboard cutout characters are shuffled into their final positions: a big sigh of relief is uttered and we thank goodness that book is over. Nonetheless, the overall concept remains compelling, and I will give Kage one more chance to redeem this mistake. She has certainly opened enough doors for future work to indicate that she intends to continue the effort, and there is every possibility that, with a better story she will find her voice again and return to the form of her first work.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Unsatisfying entry in a strong series  
Von Ein Kunde  
Paul McCartney once said that he didn't know where the idea came from that he and John Lennon were anti-money. The two of them, he said, would sit down and "write ourselves a swimming pool". One hopes that Kage Baker is getting considerably more than a swimming pool out of her "Company" novels. The first one--"In the Garden of Iden"-- had it all: neat premise, historical accuracy, interesting characters and an exciting plot. Baker claims to have taught Elizabethan English as a second language, and it showed. The second novel (of eight? nine?) has the same neat premise, now somewhat stretched, but a dud of a plot and none of the historical interest of the first installment. The entire book would make an interesting chapter, perhaps some kind of flash-back, in a more satisfying novel. The fishy plot involves moving a village of native Americans out of what will become the San Fernando valley to safety in Canada, just ahead of Spaniards, smallpox and slavery. The villagers are an interesting bunch, but they have all the historical verisimilitude of an ABC After-School Special. (The men all talk like land developers and the girls all talk like valley girls! Get the joke? They're the original Californians, ha ha!) Furthermore, Baker's premise is getting a little shopworn. Throw-away lines from the first book now are now major plot elements. Remember the crack about the "Great Goat Cult" in the first book? I'm sorry to have to tell you this, but it seems that those Goat Cultists are major players. And it's best not to pay very much attention to the time-travel premise as explained here. When we look back at this series in about ten years, we'll have trouble remembering what the hell the second book was about. It passed the time on a rainy day, and that's enough. "Sky Coyote" is worth a swimming pool. Hopefully the rest of the series will be worth considerably more.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Even better than the first  
Von Ein Kunde  
I thoroughly enjoyed Kage Baker's first novel: dramatic, historical, thought-provoking, romantic, even funny. But "Sky Coyote" is better still. This is a darker, more mature work - as befits a tale told from the viewpoint of Joseph, Facilitator and general all-around slimy little guy. The Company is beginning to show feet of clay, and there are hints of huge and far-reaching plots that are definitely not to the benefit of either humanity or the immortal Operatives. Ms. Baker's take on human needs, aspirations and machinations shows a wry, tender realism that is much more refreshing than the usual science fiction despair. I especially enjoyed the detailed portrait of the native Chumash as a real people, and as the prototypical Californians: a culture with spas, entertainment, entrepreneurs and all the economic glitz now associated with the Golden State. And the plot simply rocks! The cast of characters spans 20,000 years and at least two species of Homo Sapiens. We get a disturbing hint of the evolution of modern humans in general, and of the feckless Mendoza in particular, as she matures into a sort of ecstatic botanist nun under the shadows of the redwoods. Though there are also hints that her passions are only in abeyance ... as they say of Hollywood, I laughed, I cried, I loved it. Read this right away, and pray for more!

Kurzbeschreibung  
Facilitator Joseph has outlasted entire civilizations during his twenty-thousand years of service to Dr. Zeus, the twenty-fourth century Company that created immortal operatives like him to preserve history and culture. The year is 1699 and Joseph is now in Alta California, to imitate an ancient Native-American Coyote god, and save the native Chumash from the white Europeans. He has the help of the Botanist Mendoza, who hasn't gotten over the death of her lover Nicholas, in Elizabethan England. Lately though, Joseph has started to have a few doubts about The Company. There are whispers about the year 2355, about operatives that suddenly go missing. Time is running out for Joseph, which is ironic considering he's immortal, but no one ever said that it was easy being a god. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied..

deKage Baker's first novel, In the Garden of Iden, was a smart, funny, top-drawer read. Fans will be happy to find out that Baker avoids a sophomore slump with Sky Coyote, the second novel of the Company, and another superbly witty and

intelligent book. Baker switches focus in this sequel to Joseph, the immortal cyborg who rescued Iden's heroine, Mendoza, from the dungeons of the Spanish Inquisition. Joseph and Mendoza work for Dr. Zeus, otherwise known as the Company, a 24th-century operation devoted to getting rich off the past. To accomplish this, the Company turns orphans and refugees from the past into super-smart, nigh invincible cyborgs and sends them on missions to save or hide precious paintings, cultural treasures, and genetic information useful to the future world. Sky Coyote begins in pre-Columbian Mexico, where Joseph and Mendoza are reunited at New World One, an extravagant Company retreat. When European explorers are scheduled to arrive in the New World, the Company dismantles operations, and Joseph is sent to California in 1699 to save a Chumash village lock, stock, and barrel, before Europeans arrive with smallpox and slavery. To prep the Native Americans for their voyage to a Company enclave in Australia, Joseph poses as Uncle Sky Coyote, a trickster-god of the Chumash, and tells them he's there to save them from certain doom at the hands of white men. But can Joseph convince the wary, savvy Chumash labor unions, lodges, and entrepreneurs that he has their best interests at heart, all without screwing up history? And will he patch things up with Mendoza, who still hasn't forgiven him for everything that happened in 1500s England? Kage Baker delivers a terrific story and a worthy sequel with Sky Coyote. --Therese Littleton.com

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