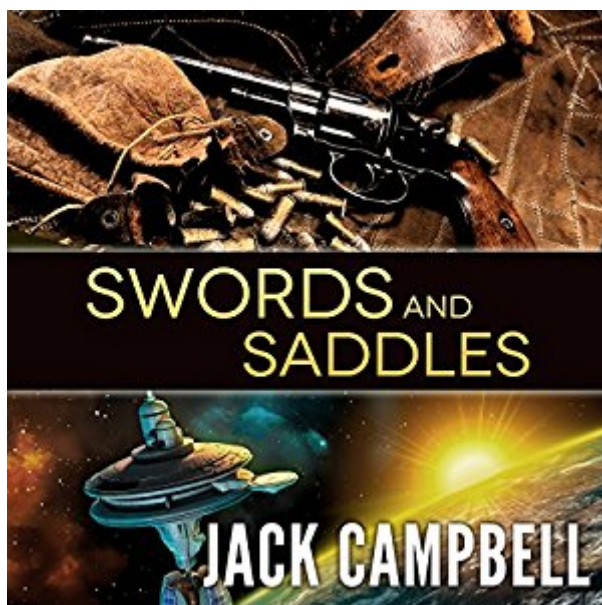


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# Swords And Saddles



## Synopsis

Swords and Saddles is a must-listen collection of three novellas from New York Times best-selling author Jack Campbell. *The Rift*: Answering a distress call from a colonized planet, a combat team finds themselves ambushed. They manage to scabble their way to a remote research facility in the countryside, joining a group of schoolchildren that have holed up with the researchers - three groups united in fear that their lives will last only as long as they can avoid discovery by the aliens that have come to their planet. *Swords and Saddles*: When lightning strikes Captain Ulysses Benton and his US Cavalry Fifth Regiment, they recover to find an ancient structure in the desert that they've never seen before - and writing in a language none of them recognize. It soon becomes clear that wherever it is they are, it isn't 1870s Kansas. *Failure to Obey*: When Lieutenant Jen Shen saves the day after a terrorist attack on a space station, she gets a medal, but Ivan Sharpe, a fellow officer and Paul's former master-at-arms, gets a court martial. In a classic court martial scene that rivals the best in American literature, Paul has to work behind the scenes to save Ivan's military career.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 6 hours and 58 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: September 27, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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## Customer Reviews

This is a collection of three longer-than-short science fiction stories (does that make sense?), and these are pretty good. I usually don't read that many short stories, but Campbell is a science fiction writer I like, and I've read his space opera series called *The Lost Fleet* and decided to pick this compilation up based on how much I liked the *Lost Fleet* series: I wasn't disappointed as these are perfect for reading, for example, after work when you are wanting to relax and finish something vs.

waiting for the next day (usually in suspense) to pick the book up and read. If you enjoy a good science fiction tale without all of the goofy and strange aliens, and are looking for a collection of shorter reads for your commute or after work vs. investing hours in a novel, I'd recommend this one. At \$4.99, science fiction lovers (and Jack Campbell fans) should receive more than \$4.99 of value.

Three quick reads following some of the possibilities available to speculative writers. All the stories developed an idea from dealing with aliens, (whose thought processes aren't as obvious as we might like to think), and how to handle unusual situations, (and possibly answer some of time's mysteries, to why following orders EXACTLY is not always the best way to do what needs to be done. Having some military experience will help with all these short stories but it's not necessary to have that background to enjoy and learn from them. A good, quick, and fun read. An easy book to relax with.

Three more stories from a skilled and careful author. These are longer than most short stories, allowing more development of characters other than the main one. And the author's note at the end of each story - essential at the end of the second one, describing the Benton Massacre, which is an episode I had never heard of before. A good read, with some well-placed humour and intriguing situations. I recommend it to everyone who has any of the Stark's War or Lost Fleet series books.

I enjoy Jack Campbell. I have read all of the Lost Fleet series. Campbell understands that science fiction is at its best when the main characters are fleshed out as real people placed under circumstances that only science fiction permits. I am always fascinated by stories involving military units of a certain era placed into different and interesting worlds. Campbell's story about a Kansas cavalry unit finding itself in a different world was worth a reread. The real story - the interesting story - is about characters that seem real, characters that the reader can relate to, and how they react when dropped into a different and incomprehensible world.

A well-worn plot idea, but told in true Jack Campbell style - well written, paced, and interesting twists. He really takes the time to analyze and present the details of how the insertion of "modern" technologies would impact more primitive societies. As is always the case, his characters are well drawn and easy to believe. This is a relatively short work - I read it in one sitting - but I enjoyed it and recommend it to anyone who likes escapist literature. You need not be a hard SF fan to like this one.

excellent collection of short stories

I liked the Lost Stars series and decided to take a flyer on these short stories. They were mildly entertaining. The collections felt like a 3 and half star, edged to four stars because of the very reasonable price. I thought Failure to Obey was boring and overly dramatic, trying to emphasize the authors knowledge of military procedures, without a true plot of excitement. Swords and Saddle steh title story was OK but very nostalgic of older genre where the author says it just happened, and runs with story. An alternative world with no explanation of how the cross over occurs was reminiscent of Edgar Rice Burroughs Mars/Barsoom series.

...documenting John's/Jack's early science fiction forays and ending with a continuation of the Sinclair saga, and a maddening teaser for more. Especially maddening now that many years have passed, and the elucidation of that teaser in the form of a book has not appeared! John's (Jack's) early writing was every bit as good as his later, as well. Bravo!All were very enjoyable.Thanks! Looking forward to your next books!

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