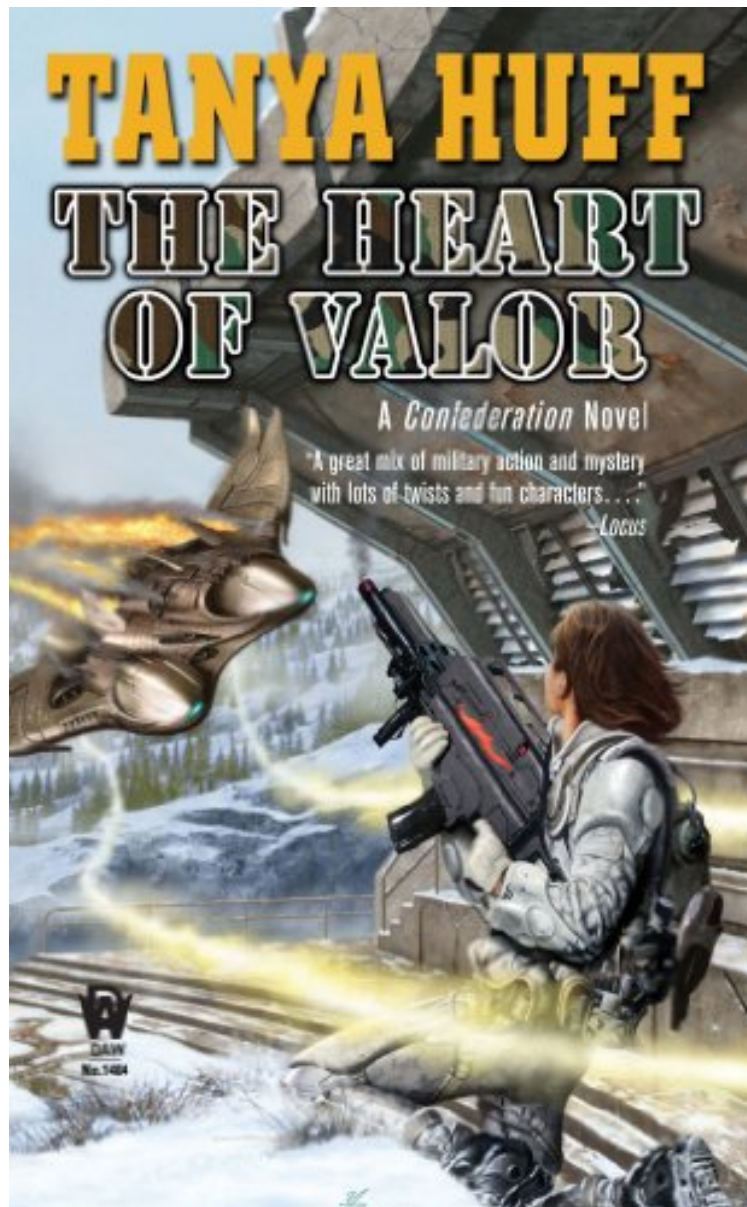


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The Heart of Valor (Valor Novel)

Von Tanya Huff

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Von Tanya Huff : The Heart of Valor (Valor Novel) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would

be worth my time, and all praised *The Heart of Valor* (Valor Novel):

Kurzbeschreibung The third installment in Tanya Huff's action-packed military sci-fi adventure Confederation series *Gunnery Sergeant Torin Kerr* was a Confederation Marines marine. She survived more deadly encounters and kept more of her officers and enlisted alive than anyone in the Corps, and she was determined to keep the record intact. But since her last mission, she had been sidelined into endless briefings and debriefings with no end in sight. So, of course, she jumped at the chance to go to the Crucible, the Marine Corps training planet as temporary aide to Major Svensson. The major had been reduced to little more than a brain and spinal cord in his last combat, and he and his doctor were anxious to field test his newly re-grown body. It should have been an easy twenty-day run. After all, Crucible was only set up to simulate battle situations so recruits could be trained safely. But they were barely on-planet when someone started blasting the training scenarios to smithereens. And suddenly Kerr found herself not only responsible for the major and his doctor, but caught in a desperate fight to keep a platoon of Marine recruits alive until someone discovered what was happening on Crucible....

From Publishers Weekly The fast-paced third military SF novel in Huff's Confederation series (after *Valor's Choice* and *The Better Part of Valor*) examines how an interplanetary confederation might unite several distinctive species into an effective military organization despite widely differing physiologies, customs and mores. Marine Gunnery Sgt. Torin Kerr, recovering from injuries suffered in a first contact situation, accompanies a recruit platoon into the Crucible, a training planet where they apply their lessons in a realistic live-fire exercise against robotic drones. While the exercise is underway, the drones begin acting aggressively, without regard to fail-safes or their programming. Has the platoon come under attack by the mysterious Others, or is this related to the alien escape pod that everybody has forgotten exists except for Torin, her lover and an obnoxious reporter? The intriguing and well-designed aliens and intricate plotting keep the reader guessing. (June)

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From Booklist Gunnery Sergeant Torin Kerr, newly promoted because of her handling of combined diplomatic and combat duties in *The Better Part of Valor* (2002), discovers that her lover has made off with a life pod from a captured alien ship. Suddenly Torin and her convalescent commander, Major Svensson, are shipped out to a training planet with a company of recruits. Crucible turns out to be aptly named when the life pod shows up in the hands of hostile forces, including unknown alien races and some marines. *Interstellar peace and Gunny Kerr survive just. Expect more of this military sf saga, which is a vast improvement over Huff's earlier, mostly fantasy, fiction.* Green, Roland