

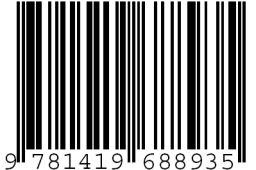


01 saltare cüm diablo

Jacob Graves, a smart underachiever, quite by accident finds his niche with the Steel Annex—a military organization in the Pleiades Cluster—and no matter how much he looks at this job as just a job, through the years he has earned a reputation that has instilled unimaginable fear in the heart of their adversaries. Now, being a straight male (an oddity these days) has its share of drawbacks, but Jacob's life is more complicated than most. Torn between his ex-wife, Maria, and his on and off again lover, Nicole (front cover), as well as all his children, Jacob soon finds out that even he can be redeemed from the indiscretions and collateral damage of his past.

In worlds without hunger, disease and poverty—where wealth is abundant and want is for naught—it is in the exclusive A-List of politics, industry and society where ambition, avarice and debauchery are redefined. In this instance children cloned for the sex and military trade have been discovered, and it is up to Field Marshal Graves and his people to rescue them...only to learn that it is a young girl, playing a very dangerous game of manipulation, who is pulling the strings and guiding mankind to the abyss of interstellar war.

ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



9 781419 688935



jacc in the box 01 saltare cüm diablo

nicholas ralph baum



01



02 pearls before swine

Maria Ramirez, a chola from the Lincoln Heights, after decades with the Steel Annex she now finds herself in charge of the whole damned mess. Not exactly the expected outcome when at twenty-one she wandered into One-Klick all sliced up and bloody but those were the cards she was dealt. Now with an ex-husband who she loves but hates all in the same breath, a cherished son who has become their daughter, a stepdaughter in league with her as if they were blood, and a cloned batch of fifty-two megalomaniacal pre-teens who have come to see her as their mother figure—all Maria can do at this juncture is to step back and drink it in. Oh, to be so loved.

Now in command of the most powerful military force in history Maria secretly wishes to return to the simple life—like those knife wielding days in East LA. Maria is looking to start a fight, an interstellar war in fact, and she doesn't want to do this but to control the outcome there is no choice. How many will die on this go round? Could it be tens of thousands or maybe even billions? It all depends on the first few hours and so far it's not looking good.

Oh, yea, and then there's the aliens...

ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



9 781419 688935



jacc in the box

02 pearls before swine



nicholas ralph baum



pearls before swine

nicholas ralph baum

jacc in the box

02





### 03 diet of worms

Nicole Burke, on the lam at eight, her deliverance was by a slim chance encounter with Robert Jackson, a Deputy Marshal from the Steel Annex. Raising her as his own when Nicole comes of age she joins the SA looking for payback—and it takes all of thirty-six years before she gets to dish it out in full.

Heads rolled, people died...In all it was a good day!

With her children, Jessica and Seth, old enough to fend for themselves, and looking to cut ties with Jacob and Maria out of self-preservation, Nicole finally finds a sense of belonging with the most unlikely of people, Scott Rutledge.

Now, with this new war in full swing the Annex is purposefully losing ground to spread the forces of the Co-op thin. Problem is that the media is actually covering it this time, and with all the nations pushing to bring this conflict to a swift end the last thing anyone in the know wants is peace. A negotiated peace will only put off the inevitable, which is war, and seeking peace against the tide is suicide.

ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



9 781419 688935



jacc in the box 03 diet of worms

 nicholas ralph baum 





#### 04 sunk cost fallacy

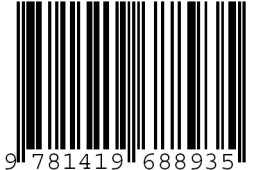
Scott Rutledge, formerly an Ashanti warrior named Abeeku, his freedom and birthright was taken from him off the Gold Coast of Africa by the Islamic Slave Trade. Ending up in the sugar cane fields of Jamaica—he was having none of that.

Abeeku escapes and joins the Maroon but, as thing go, they catch him and flay him and leave him for dead. Rescued by the Nefer Key he was offered a new lease on life in a world full of curious pleasures and new possibilities...

Virtually immortal, Abeeku now wanders through the centuries at the behest of these startlingly beautiful creatures. For all of his successful undertakings he is left empty but in this latest mission, to infiltrate the Steel Annex, he blunders into purpose, belonging and family.

As this second war with the Cooperative comes to a head, he is torn between his duty to these aliens and a new found love of humanity. Now approaching the turnaround battle at Polaris, Scott comes to the self-realization that his loyalty to both never wavered.

ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



9 781419 688935



jacc in the box

04 sunk cost fallacy



nicholas ralph baum



sunk cost fallacy

jacc in the box

nicholas ralph baum

04



#### 05 violent delights

Jessica Burke, a snarky loner at twelve, finally sticks her neck out and it pays off big. Allied with the Steel Annex, as Jessie grows into adulthood her abilities, along with her brother's, are being channeled towards a greater purpose. Only a few know the truth about Jessica, and fewer still know about her brother, and from the nebulous shadows they direct the war and guide it towards a permanent end of hostilities.

All because of their machinations over a billion lives have been saved, but the thing that still haunts Jessica and her brother to this day is that they couldn't save their mother.

Fact is, they arranged for Nicole's untimely end.

Throughout the war everyone in the Annex watched as Jessica used their tech and flew their ships, going from one secret intel or interdiction mission to the next, and not one of them had the slightest idea what she was about. It wasn't until close to the end of the war that she finally became one of them.

ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



9 781419 688935



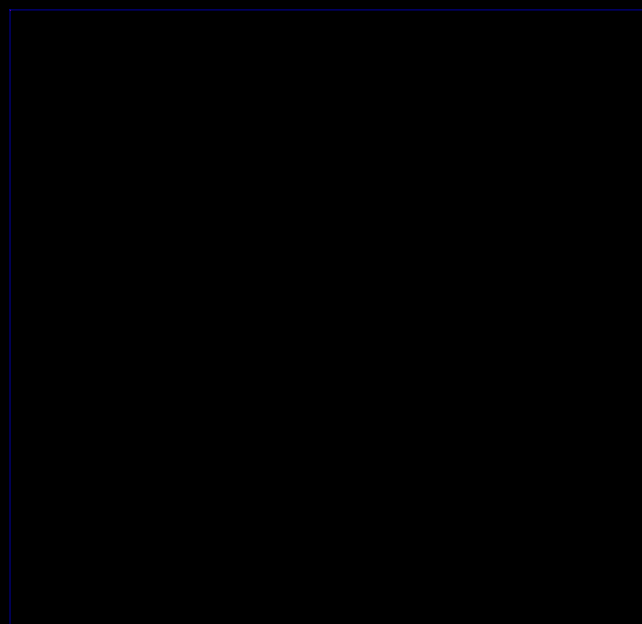
jacc in the box 05 violent delights

 nicholas ralph baum 

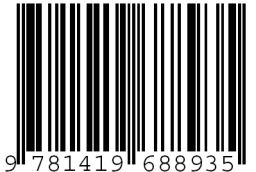




06 until peace and then



ISBN 978-1-4196-8893-5



jacc in the box

06 until peace and then



nicholas ralph baum



until peace and then

nicholas ralph baum

06

jacc in the box