

The story of Savannah Runner: An Atlantropa Articles Novel is well, mostly unknown. My search for it is a bit better documented because I lived that adventure, but let's start at the start. The Atlantropa Articles: A Novel was released by Cody Franklin and published by Mango Publishing on October 15, 2018. I was a huge fan (and still am) of "alt history," the big what-ifs. The Atlantropa Articles was Cody's answer to what if that literally impossible, impractical, bizarre, but really cool Atlantropa actually got built. This was a real plan by Herman Sörgel to dam off the Mediterranean Sea and "unite" Europe and Africa with a lot of reclaimed land. I feel it's important to mention that as this was the 20s, when he first came up with it, this would not be an equal joining of lands, and this was pretty much a project only supported by Germany and northern Europeans. Regardless, it was an idea. An insane one, but an idea that pretty much ended with Herman Sörgel's death in 1952. The idea was thrown around in alt-history media (and Star Trek for some reason; check the Wikipedia page for Atlantropa; I'm serious). From my research, the first time this was the main plot of an alt-history piece of media was The Atlantropa Articles. I followed this project from launch but wasn't able to get ahold of the book until a couple of years after release. When I finally read it, I was hooked. All the details, the world, the characters. These were people thousands of years from now who lived in a world alien to the reader. The conflicts were amazing. Not spoiling it, but the 2 main characters are brothers who have different views on the world until their whole view is broken by something they weren't supposed to find. The ending was heartbreaking and left me wanting more. So I looked. There was SUPPOSED to be a sequel out by now, and according to Walmart and a number of book sites, Savannah Runner: An Atlantropa Articles Novel was published 08/26/2022, but I beg to differ. It was nowhere; all I had was an ISBN number, a cover, and a synopsis: "As a result of the Atlantropa project, the Mediterranean was drained a millennia ago." The water from the monstrous project was sent south, into the continent of Africa, to create a vast inland sea. This area soon became a refuge for Europeans fleeing an increasingly fascist Europe and a dying continent. Yet, the people persevered with open borders and humanitarian efforts. In the years since the exodus, the region has remained autonomous. Not African and not European and, most importantly, not fascist. A unique bubble protected from a world of turmoil. A relic of a time before the Eternal Reich became synonymous with the West. However, this started to change in the last century as the nation fell into decadence. Corruption and isolated rulers left it open to outside influence. As border raids became more frequent, civilians took safety into their own hands. A civil war seems imminent."

Sounds cool, right? I sure thought so. So I looked at other places, Amazon, used bookstores, and anywhere, and still nothing. I feel like I'm going crazy; it's real; I'm looking at it. There's a release date and an ISBN. Cody said he was making it, but no one has a copy. I look at what I have. A review on the cover? Maybe this person has a copy, but then I look again. Lorem Ipsum there is dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry on the cover of the book, which according to these sites and people exists. This was Not a good sign, but I look further for any crumb of info about it. Then it hits me: Mango Media Cody wasn't going to respond to my email, but maybe Mango Media would, so I sent an email: "Hello! I am looking into the book Savannah Runner: An Atlantropa Articles. Novel sequel to the Atlantropa Articles By Cody Franklin I am unable to find a copy of this book or much info. Are you able to tell me anything about it? Thanks!" and waited for months. I was going to Florida in a few months, where their HQ was; maybe I could stop by, I told myself half-jokingly, then March 18, 2024, they replied. Dear (My name), I'm afraid that book has been cancelled. Thanks, (employee's name).

That was it; months of looking ended in one email. I couldn't find it because there was nothing to find. Why was the book canned? I'm not sure what could have caused it to be canceled. Burnout, low sales of the first book, or a lot of other things, but I can say for certain it was a fun journey, but this book was canceled, and there are no copies to find.