



The Fifth Dominion

Clive Barker

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The magical tale of ill-fated lovers lost among worlds teetering on the edge of destruction, where their passion holds the key to escape. There has never been a book like *Imajica*. Transforming every expectation of fantasy fiction with its heady mingling of radical sexuality and spiritual anarchy, it has carried its millions of readers into regions of passion and philosophy that few books have even attempted to map. It's an epic in every way; vast in conception, obsessively detailed in execution, and apocalyptic in its resolution. A book of erotic mysteries and perverse violence. A book of ancient, mythological landscapes and even more ancient magic.

The Fifth Dominion Details

Date : Published May 10th 1995 by HarperTorch (first published 1991)

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Author : Clive Barker

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From Reader Review The Fifth Dominion for online ebook

Aimee says

I've read this book probably a dozen times. It never fails to disappoint.

Piotrek says

Fascinating and mesmerizing :)

Angel V Page says

»En ocasiones, se debe huir del mundo para poder verlo"

Lori says

essential clive barker

Beatriz says

Lo primero: qué agradable cuando se comienzan esas novelas tan bien escritas que su sola lectura es un placer, y donde para los lectores que preferimos el español, se descubre una traducción igual de cuidadosa.

Ahora la historia: el relato es realmente excepcional, de una originalidad extraordinaria, no repite ninguno de los tópicos del género. La evolución de los acontecimientos y los personajes son de una fluidez realmente fascinante, adentrando al lector en un entorno místico y sensual, con una carga emocional muy fuerte y una atmósfera poderosamente absorbente. Debo reconocer que hacia la mitad del libro, cuando se empieza a desentrañar el misterio, hay un cambio que me desconcertó un poco, ya que desde un entorno misterioso, sugerente y conocido, de pronto te ves arrojado a un universo que sólo habría podido desplegar la imaginación de Barker. Pero sólo son los reparos de cualquier lector, que como yo, sólo se había aproximado a fantasías comunes en este género.

Y el final: no hay final. Barker advierte en el prólogo que Imajica se editó en dos volúmenes (El Quinto Dominio y La Reconciliación) exclusivamente para comodidad del lector, admitiendo que el libro nunca fue creado para publicarse de esta manera. Así, el lugar elegido para dividir la historia carece de cualquier significado particular; se limita a partir el texto por la mitad, en un sitio en que se pueda dejar un tomo y, si la historia ha obrado su magia, coger el siguiente. En mi caso, la magia ha dejado estragos, por lo que ya tengo en la mira Imajica: la reconciliación.

Mike says

3 stars - I liked it. I loved it. BUT, somethings annoyed, enough to drop the rating to 3. The writing is VERY long winded. Every sentence that is written is done painstakingly so. And I'm not exaggerating when I say every sentence. If I read "In the fullness of time" one more time... well, I will have lost some precious seconds, that could have been recovered by simply saying, "eventually", or "all the time". That's just one example that has stuck out to me as it's one that gets repeated a few times in the fullness of these pages. The descriptions are great, you just need to get through Barker's verbosity to enjoy them. And I have, and I did enjoy most all of what's on these pages, it just takes a long time to travel a little ways. Looking forward to part 2 of this, as I've begun to get used to the writing style, hopefully this second half will go by a bit quicker.

Taneli Repo says

First part of Clive Barker's dimension-hopping fantasy novel. The protagonists, Gentle and Judith, journey, separately from each other, from Earth ("the Fifth Dominion") to the not-so-holy city of Yzordderex in the First Dominion, which is in another dimension. They find it in a state of civil war and it is found out that the identities of both Gentle and Judith are very mysterious indeed.

The book is meant to be Clive Barker's interpretation of the story of Jesus Christ. Thus, not surprisingly, there are many Biblical references. The story looks quite promising but the first half of the book gives very few answers to any of the questions raised.

I've owned the book for 20 years but only started reading it now, probably because it's very very long. Looking forward to finding out how the story will end in the second part.

Debbie says

For some reason, Clive Barker always takes me forever to read. I think he gets a bit lost in descriptives for my taste. Which isn't to say I don't like his writing, it just doesn't speak to me as much as others. This particular story was apparently chopped in half because of the size of the paperback and print involved in the whole story. Oddly enough, it seems as if the plot could easily be summed up in the next hundred pages from the end that part one had. But I guess that brings us back to the issue of description. Anyway, I can pretty much see where he's going with the plot, but will someday pick up the second half and finish it

C. says

My impressions trim to this: vast talent strained against overkill. "Family Guy" cartoonist *Seth McFarlane* leaps to mind. Both are boundlessly creative. Minute intricacy of settings is astounding. Vocabulary is elevated, with thought-stirring eloquence even in a bizarre concert of words denoting squalor. I grant three stars because the portions in which *Clive* excels, are staggeringly original. Both men amount to visionaries but topple the tower of cards with grotesque missteps. I was outraged when *Clive* incorporated - not serving the crux of this story in any way - violation of a child! Not sidelined but described! This would merit a zero

grading, if I didn't credit the skill elsewhere. That went too far, *Clive*.

Crafting a quintupled realm, how to move between them, sociology spurring them, are impressively achieved. *Clive* reinvented fantasy fiction, when new combinations are scarcely imaginable. It is commonly medieval but *Clive* presents modern Earth. There's no travel and few alien traces, until 60% through. Droppers of books that aren't instantly active, would miss the best attributes. I noticed employment of "he said"; when "he ASKED" should succeed the interrogative. Lovemaking in literature is fine and advocacy of pleasure heedless of gender. Ceaseless fixation on nakedness confiscated too many pages, making the revolutionary quest and compelling mystical dynamics secondary.

There was excess overall, such as scenes allocated to trivial characters, even unwarranted imagery of peeing. The rule "drop 10% in a final draft", would tighten this novel by 41 pages fewer. Settling on the three protagonists - Judith, John, Pie - is slow. There were personages I preferred to them who vanished! However, I'm keen to read part two. I want to learn the pasts Judith and John forgot, if Goddesses overthrow the warring males, and if Earth forges a thoroughfare to the other four dominions.

Rutha says

For some reason, Clive Barker always takes me forever to read. I think he gets a bit lost in descriptives for my taste. Which isn't to say I don't like his writing, it just doesn't speak to me as much as others. This particular story was apparently chopped in half because of the size of the paperback and print involved in the whole story.

Zak Johansson says

The language made it difficult to read but it was interesting nonetheless. And the jesus imagery is interesting as well. I look forward to the reconciliation

Kristen says

Imajica is the best of Barker's books! One of my favorite books of all time. Imaginative fantasy worlds are his specialty.

Rachel Pollock says

I first read Imajica maybe a dozen years ago, and i remembered liking it a lot at the time, but you know, sometimes tastes change. However, i was in the mood for a huge freaky epic reading experience, so i thought i might give it a second whirl, and i'm SO glad i did. I'm enjoying it just as much this time around as i did the first time. Barker's imagination is vast and bizarre in all the best ways. And we need more mystifs here in the Fifth Dominion, or maybe we just need to love the ones we have with a little more kindness. Bring on Book 2!

Nikos Sekeroglou says

His best work. Read!

Brianne says

It took me a while to get into it because I had trouble making sense of it. The plot is very complex, yet fascinating. And I've come to learn from reading Clive Barker's books... When you're confused, just go with the flow and keep reading, and it will make sense eventually. This book is a prime example of that.

The environment he created is absolutely enormous. I'm glad there's a glossary in the back or I would be lost.
