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'Out Of The Silent Planet'



Synopsis

'Out of the Silent Planet' was first published in 1938. It is a science and religious fiction and a turn about from the downfall of English literature in early decades of twentieth century. The story is mainly centered on a journey of Ransom to Mars where he sees its very thin 'fifteen feet long' inhabitants.

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Customer Reviews

I am a huge C.S. Lewis fan and have read almost everything he has written. I love his fiction and think his Till We Have Faces is my favorite book of all time. Out of the Silent Planet is the first book in what is commonly called "The Space Trilogy." It is a compelling piece of fiction on its own but finds its real value in the narrative of the whole trilogy. As science fiction it is definitely dated. Lewis made some guesses about what space was like which have since proven to be false, but if you take it as pure fiction and give it the benefit of "suspended disbelief," it has still aged well, as its insights were not primarily scientific but philosophical - as an exploration of human nature. I have read this trilogy three times over the years and my appreciation for it has increased with each reading. While I enjoy Out of the Silent Planet (a necessary set-up to the rest of the series) and That Hideous

Strength, the second book in the trilogy, Perelandra, may actually rival my affection for Lewis's best book. It is profoundly insightful and will light up your imagination.

Lewis wonderfully makes you think about you and the world you live in. But he also makes some parallels with the Bible and references to Christianity that open eyes and expand upon the glories and the work of God. I highly recommend these stories and the depth of thought they bring to the reader. There are a few places where it is hard to read, but it's worth it to work through it to the end--just like life.

This review is for the particular edition with the seal on the cover. I thank who ever typed out this classic but - really where is the proof reader? Why are numbers randomly in the middle of the text? And the last few pages are they in the mysterious language of the planet or just carelessly typed? Many of the reviews of the book were great and I might agree if I was not so distracted by the layout. After reading the other reviews I was very disappointed. This is a story stopped in the middle. I am not sure about getting the next book if the copy quality is the same.

Not at good at the Narnia series. The first 2 books are space adventures. The 3rd book is earth bound with good vs evil. Not much has changed from the time of this writing to today's events. Evil is evil using the same tactics. Good will always win in the end, just make sure you're on the winning side. (JESUS is LORD)

First of the C.S. Lewis Space Trilogy; Out of the Silent Planet was published in 1938, 5 years into the Nazi regime. Besides the wonderful visions imaging intelligent extraterrestrial species and beings, Lewis gives a period snapshot into how possible good intentions can fuel fascism. The whole series allows for ongoing insights into authoritarianism and the drive in humans to dominate species and lands. Perelandra, second in the series, was published in 1943. That Hideous Strength (the last and 3rd of the series) in 1945 - the year the Nazi regime collapsed. Like Orwell's 1984, these are timely books to read even now.

Still trudging through this second novel in the Space Trilogy. First, I loved "Out of the Silent Planet". Naturally I immediately searched for and purchased the following books in the series and began digging into Perelandra as soon as I could. What happened next was almost completely unexpected, however. I began noticing that my interest in the story was waning and I then found

myself pushing to read on just to reach the next chapter - and this is where I am at in writing this review. I want to be fair, not only to C.S. Lewis, but also to his avid fans (me being one of them). The book is well-crafted, the prose is excellent as expected from Lewis' writing, and the characters and settings are vibrantly detailed and imaginative as ever. For some reason the pacing of the book and perhaps the setting and the fact that some of the elements of traveling into space and visiting an odd place have lost the magic or newness so-to-speak, and, subsequently, I have found myself less interested and captivated by the story. Perhaps this is also because the first book of the series was a complete mystery to me and had more (or at least seems like it did) sci-fi-esque elements? Regardless of what the reason is, I just cannot find myself being able to say that I love this second chapter in the Space Trilogy. I will attempt to finish it at some point in order to be able to carry on to That Hideous Strength and, if nothing else, be able to say that I have read through the complete trilogy - but for the time being, I'll be somewhat forcing myself to do so. I am sure some would completely disagree with me and think me insane for only giving Perelandra 4/5 stars - and others may be thinking it quite appropriate. I suppose this is the nature of personal opinion on such matters.*Update: I finished Perelandra today and must say that somewhere near the latter half-way mark of the book the story began to pick up and I once again found myself intrigued and it difficult to put the book down. There was still several pages here and there that I quickly skimmed through, but for the most part the latter half of the book was, at least to me, far more enjoyable than the first. With that said, I still hold fast to my 4/5 rating for the second entry in the Space Trilogy, but I am now more optimistic about starting the final entry, "That Hideous Strength".

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