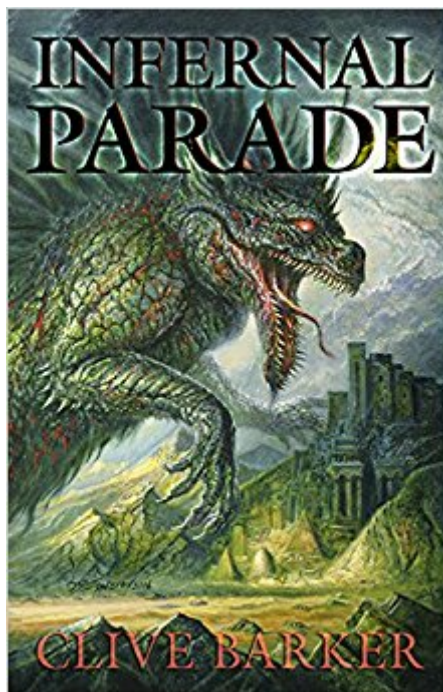


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Infernal Parade



Synopsis

From the beginning of his distinguished career, Clive Barker has been the great visionary artist of contemporary dark fantasy, a form that Barker himself has termed "the Fantastique." Through his many novels, stories, paintings and films, he had presented us with unforgettable images of the monstrous and the sacred, the beautiful and the grotesque. His body of work constitutes a great and varied contribution to modern popular culture. This astonishing novella, *Infernal Parade*, perfectly encapsulates Barker's unique abilities. Like the earlier *Tortured Souls*, an account of bizarre "and agonizing" transformations, *Infernal Parade* is tightly focused, intensely imagined, and utterly unlike anything else you will ever read. It begins with the tale of a convicted criminal, Tom Requiem, who returns from the brink of death to restore both fear and a touch of awe to a complacent world. Tom becomes the leader of the eponymous "parade," which ranges from the familiar precincts of North Dakota to the mythical city of Karantica. Golems, vengeful humans both living and dead, and assorted impossible creatures parade across these pages. The result is a series of highly compressed, interrelated narratives that are memorable, disturbing, and impossible to set aside. *Infernal Parade* is quintessential Barker: witty, elegantly composed, filled with dark and often savage wonders. It proves once again that, in Barker's hands, the Fantastique is not only alive and well, but flourishing. This is vital, visionary fiction by a modern master of the form.

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Customer Reviews

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many novels, stories, paintings and films, he had presented us with unforgettable images of the monstrous and the sacred, the beautiful and the grotesque. His body of work constitutes a great and varied contribution to modern popular culture. This astonishing novella, *Infernal Parade*, perfectly encapsulates Barker's unique abilities. Like the earlier *Tortured Souls*, an account of bizarre and agonizing transformations, *Infernal Parade* is tightly focused, intensely imagined, and utterly unlike anything else you will ever read. It begins with the tale of a convicted criminal, Tom Requiem, who returns from the brink of death to restore both fear and a touch of awe to a complacent world. Tom becomes the leader of the eponymous "parade," which ranges from the familiar precincts of North Dakota to the mythical city of Karantica. Golems, vengeful humans both living and dead, and assorted impossible creatures parade across these pages. The result is a series of highly compressed, interrelated narratives that are memorable, disturbing, and impossible to set aside. *Infernal Parade* is quintessential Barker: witty, elegantly composed, filled with dark and often savage wonders. It proves once again that, in Barker's hands, the Fantastique is not only alive and well, but flourishing. This is vital, visionary fiction by a modern master of the form.

This is the most enjoyable thing I've read from Clive in 2 decades. Sadly, it only took 50 minutes to read. If he could maintain that level for a full novel, I'd be excited again. He was one of the best writers by my standards of modern times and then it just stopped.

Huge Fan of Mr. Barker's works. Wish that someone would make a movie of: *Abarat*, *Imajica*, *Weaveworld*. Hollywood I guess is too boring, but I'm still hoping!

This can't be the same author who wrote *Weaveworld* or *The Great and Secret Show*! Can't say it was even a story but more like a string of thoughts or fables that he tried to connect. If you are a Clive Barker fan don't buy this. It will leave you with a great feeling of loss or death.

I always love the details Clive gives his characters, it helps one to more see in or through their eyes. Though I don't believe this story is at its end, but is in continuous, which is the hardest part is in the wait, which is both a love and hate. But if there is a sequel to this then...may the infernal parade continue...xxx

Very GOOD BOOK. Clive is at his best as always

Amazing as always

Incredibly disappointing and disjointed. Some of the characters are fleshed out but others feel incredibly flat. There is hardly any connection between the stories and the world Barker is attempting to build is never really fleshed out. It would have been nice if Barker had taken the time to expand on these stories (they were originally written as tracts to go with McFarlane Toys action figures) and connect them, flesh out the characters and still keep the book novella sized. This just seems like a cash grab and as a fan I know Clive Barker is capable of much more than this.

This isn't a book it's a series of introductions of characters that would be in a story. But there's no story.

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