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In The Dust Of This Planet: Horror Of Philosophy Vol. 1



Synopsis

The world is increasingly unthinkable, a world of planetary disasters, emerging pandemics, and the looming threat of extinction. In this book Eugene Thacker suggests that we look to the genre of horror as offering a way of thinking about the unthinkable world. To confront this idea is to confront the limit of our ability to understand the world in which we live - a central motif of the horror genre. In *In the Dust of This Planet* explores these relationships between philosophy and horror. In Thacker's hands, philosophy is not academic logic-chopping; instead, it is the thought of the limit of all thought, especially as it dovetails into occultism, demonology, and mysticism. Likewise, Thacker takes horror to mean something beyond the focus on gore and scare tactics, but as the under-appreciated genre of supernatural horror in fiction, film, comics, and music.

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Customer Reviews

As a writer, this book has helped me flesh out a few interesting ideas surrounding horror and magic. The idea of the "world-without-us" is something that has rattled in my brain for a few years now and I

was happy to have Thacker validate and give structure to the illusive black ocean always lapping just around the next corner of my thoughts. A few of his arguments become dense and confusing, and there are moments where he leaps for his conclusions; but there are more fun, provocative, and mind-bending moments than not. Also, the simple cover art is bizarrely iconic and really drew me to the book. It's great. It's a wonderful book, and not nearly dark or depressing as its recent reputation has it pegged as. "In The Dust of This Planet" is a beautifully weird read.

If you're a horror or black metal fan with an interest in philosophy, you're going to enjoy this short book immensely. You can tell the author really loves the subject and he treats it serious, with an appropriate amount of cheekiness. Hardcore analytic philosophy fans might find this to be less rigorous than they might like since it kind of has a comp lit close reading approach (which is what the author's PHD is in), but it's provocative and enjoyable. I'm a pretty deep fan of this stuff and I found page after page of new books and music to explore that I'd never heard of. True Detective super fans should check this out as it served as inspiration for the development of Rust Cohle. Read this book with Tomas Ligott's Conspiracy Against the Human Race, Albert Camus' Myth of Sisyphus, and a few of your favorite H.P. Lovecraft stories for the full effect.

This book will engage you the minute you read the first two pages. Eugene Thacker has a way with words, this book will definitely keep you up at night!

Esoteric in every sense of the word. This book is a very niche exegesis on the intersection of horror and philosophy. The analysis of cultural horror genre lead this work into some theological labyrinths that require the acceptance of several layers of illusive elucidation. I enjoyed the book, but began reading under the assumption that its subject matter would deal more with general nihilistic, solipsistic themes only to learn that the focus is almost entirely on that of what our creation of horror says about us. Eugene Thacker has written an incredible book here. His thorough understanding of the subject matter is evident. I look forward to reading his "Cosmic Pessimism," as perhaps that book is what I anticipated from this one.

Excellent!

Only for those readers who expect this planet is doomed to extinction.

The book title is appealing, but reading it is a grueling task. I was expecting something similar to Ligotti's, "The Conspiracy Against The Human Race".

Comprehensible, intelligent, and fascinating introduction.

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