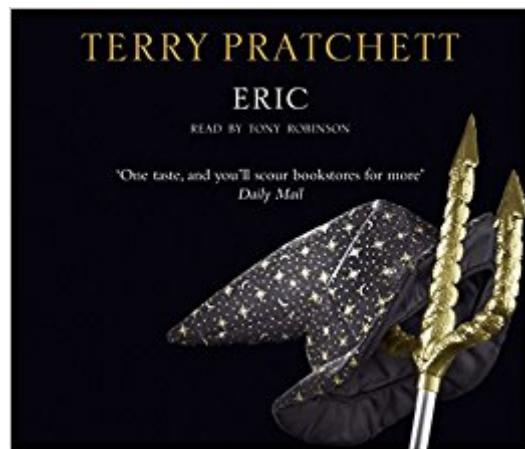


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Eric (Discworld Series)



Synopsis

Eric is the Discworld's only demonology hacker. Pity he's not very good at it. AllÃ¢ÂÂ Eric wants is his three wishes granted—to be immortal, to rule the world, and to have the most beautiful woman in the world fall madly in love with him. But he ends up withÃ¢ÂÂ Rincewind, the most incompetent wizard in the universe, and his extremely intractable and hostile travel accessory, known asÃ¢ÂÂ the Luggage. With them on his side, Eric's in for a ride through space and time that is bound to make him wish that he'd never been born.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The latest in Pratchett's Discworld series plays a variation on the Faust theme. Eric is a singularly inept sorcerer who conjures up an even more inept wizard, Rincewind, and a sentient (also treacherous, vindictive, and unruly) footlocker named, of course, the Luggage. Not having got anything like what he bargained for, Eric is fated to go through the usual zany ordeals of a Pratchett protagonist, until he wishes he'd never been born. Nor do things really all work out in the end, even if Eric is better off than he expected to be through most of the book. The Discworld books are building a following that is beginning to resemble that of Piers Anthony's Xanth stories, although it can be said that Pratchett is rather more sophisticated than Anthony. In any case, there should be a lot of readers for this one. Fantasy collections, provide accordingly. Roland Green --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Like Jonathan Swift, Pratchett uses his other world to hold up a distorting mirror to our own, and like Swift he is a satirist of enormous talent ... incredibly funny ... compulsively readable" * The Times * "The great Terry Pratchett, whose wit is metaphysical, who creates an energetic and lively secondary world, who has a multifarious genius for strong parody ... who deals with death with startling originality. Who writes amazing sentences" -- A.S. Byatt * New York Times * "His spectacular inventiveness makes the Discworld series one of the perennial joys of modern fiction" * Mail on Sunday *

Eric, the 9th Discworld book, chronicles the adventures of the inept wizard Rincewind, who is summoned by a 13-year-old demonologist named Eric. Eric has 3 simple wishes, which he hopes his newly conjured demon can grant. 1. To be the ruler of all kingdoms, 2. To have the most beautiful woman who ever existed and 3. To live forever. What follows is a Discworld parody which draws upon Faust , Dante's Inferno, Homer's Iliad and the Trojan War. The book is laugh out loud funny at times but short and it does end rather abruptly. If you read it on a Kindle, you will probably get to somewhere at about 93% and find that everything is wrapped up and abruptly ended. Seems a bit incomplete but pretty good reading. 3/5

Eric turns out to be another fun story by Terry Pratchett in the Discworld, and is the froth in the Rincewind series. This particular one really jumps around a bit, and not only just around the Discworld, but around time and space as well which allows for the setting to change quite drastically from part to part. This is where the strength of this novel really comes through. We are given glimpses of each of these areas, that result for the not so intended granting of three wishes by 13-year old demonologist Eric. Throughout the book we also get some glimpses into the world of Hell, and that is perhaps where Prachett's humor feels the most spot on. As expected, many of the elements of Hell are there, but Pratchett adds in some of his own flair, changing things up a bit and providing some great humor developing the Bureaucracy of Hell. Overall, this is another solid novel in the Discworld. Fans of the series will most likely find something to enjoy, and it would also stand up fairly well as a standalone story as well. While the plot might be a touch slow, the constant change of scenery and the fun take on Hell provide more than enough enjoyment to keep the pages turning.

This is one of Pratchett's best. Very funny indeed yet is more than just comic. It makes definite points re modern life while being an exciting read as well.

I thought I had read all of his books, so I was so happy to come across this one. especially this one with Rincewind, one of my favorite characters and a proud coward. In this one Rincewind is a demon and is summoned to grant 3 wishes. It can only go pear shaped from there. Hell has gone to hell or to the dogs with new management. Death is intrigued to see if this time Rincewind really will die. Enjoyable read as always Terry. We will miss you. but your words and characters live on, vibrantly as ever

I think this is my favorite book of the Discworld series so far. It reminded me somewhat of my absolute favorite coauthored by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman, Good Omens. It's fun, easy and interesting to read, and it actually takes you out of the realm of Discworld onto a journey in times, meeting Ancient Greek heroes and God/gods, all the way to the depth of Hades/Hell...where a revolution is about to happen!

This one seems a bit tedious at first with the parrot, but about 1/4 way through, things pick up and the parrot disappears. Happily, the story features Rincewind and The Luggage. In it we learn the history of the universe and how the world (Discworld) was created. There are great scenes with the Demons and their brand of Hell is truly hellish. Eric is a new character who does not seem to appear in any other Discworld novel. It's OK, because, like his parrot, he's not particularly interesting.

This book manages to be short, long winded, and a bit all over the place for a discworld novel. There are a number of new characters introduced and cameos abound, but there is very little development. This is simply a vechicle to move Rincewind the wizard's journey along and be a funny homage to Faust along the way. The events and characters are too many for the few pages it provides, and the ending is contrived, but this is still a very funny book and one which gave me a new appreciation for Rincewind.

The Discworld novels starring the inept wizard, Rincewind were never my favorites, and I think "Eric" is probably the least interesting of the lot. In fact, this fantasy is the closest Pratchett ever gets to a 'standard' plot: boy (Eric) summons a demon (Rincewind, who was sent to the netherhells in "Sourcery") and demands the standard three wishes. Eric is a teen-ager, with hormones on overdrive, so perhaps you can guess at least one of his wishes. Alas, when he finally meets Helen of Troy (Elenor of Tsort), she turns out to be dumpy, middle-aged, and surrounded by children. Well,

it was a long siege.Poor Eric is eventually disappointed in all of his wishes, but Rincewind's Luggage becomes a god--or at least is worshipped as one.There is a subplot involving demons, who make it appear as though Rincewind is actually granting Eric's wishes. Hell is a huge bureaucracy where the gofers and clueless bosses and suck-ups all have exoskeletons and/or horns.In fact "Eric" very much resembles a Dilbert cartoon combined with a Discworld travelogue.Rincewind and his gawky adolescent master visit the Tezuman kingdoms ruled over by the Great Muzuma, and are almost sacrificed to the god Quezovercoatl.They drop into the Tsorcean War out of the rear end of a gigantic wooden horse, and Eric meets Elenor of Tsort before the topless towers burn down.Still very much on the run, Eric and his hapless 'demon' end up in...well, let the characters describe it:"So we're surrounded by absolutely nothing,' said Rincewind. 'Total nothing.' He hesitated. 'There's a word for it,' he said. 'It's what you get when there's nothing left and everything's been used up.'""Yes. I think it's called the bill,' said Eric."Travelling by magic is not for the weak of stomach. The boy and his wizard finally end up in a cave with a single door.The sign over the door states: "You Don't Have To Be Damned To Work Here, But It Helps!!!"Is Rincewind back where he started?According to the author, "it is essential that the proper use of three wishes should bring happiness to the greatest available number of people." Obviously this does not include Eric, Rincewind, or this reader who expects better of Pratchett.

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