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Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The)

By James A. Owen

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Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The) By James A. Owen

"The Imaginarium Geographica

"What is it?" John asked.

The little man blinked and arched an eyebrow.

"It is the world, my boy," he said. "All the world, in ink and blood, vellum and parchment, leather and hide. It is the world, and it is yours to save or lose.""

An unusual murder brings together three strangers, John, Jack, and Charles, on a rainy night in London during the first World War. An eccentric little man called Bert tells them that they are now the caretakers of the Imaginarium Geographica -- an atlas of all the lands that have ever existed in myth and legend, fable and fairy tale. These lands, Bert claims, can be traveled to in his ship the "Indigo Dragon," one of only seven vessels that is able to cross the Frontier between worlds into the Archipelago of Dreams.

Pursued by strange and terrifying creatures, the companions flee London aboard the Dragonship. Traveling to the very realm of the imagination itself, they must learn to overcome their fears and trust in one another if they are to defeat the dark forces that threaten the destiny of two worlds. And in the process, they will share a great adventure filled with clues that lead readers to the surprise revelation of the legendary storytellers these men will one day become.

An extraordinary journey of myth, magic, and mystery, "Here, There Be Dragons" introduces James A. Owen as a formidable new talent.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 8 Up–Three Oxford men, brought in for questioning in a London professor's death in 1917, become companions on a voyage through the Archipelago of Dreams where they vanquish a usurper and restore the rightful king, proving themselves worthy to be Caretakers of the Imagination of the World. The three men are Jack (C. S. Lewis), John (J. R. R. Tolkien), and Charles (Williams-a lesser known writer of fantasy thrillers who belonged to the same Oxford literary discussion group, the Inklings). Their identities aren't revealed until the end, along with the premise that their journey became the wellspring for their subsequent fiction. This twist accounts for the extensive use of material from their various imaginations. Readers who have not begun with the publisher's blurb might find the bulk of the story tediously derivative, but those with extensive reading background in both fantasies and mythology may be keen to identify the allusions. The pen-and-ink illustrations, also allusive, include the playing-card royalty of Lewis Carroll and knights that might have been drawn by Howard Pyle. The story itself is unconvincing. The three strangers are quickly identified as friends, although they have shared nothing more than an after-interrogation drink and apparent abduction. Although John is Caretaker Principia and the apparent focus, only Jack's character is developed enough to change, and youth seems to be the only reason for his flirtation with the forces of evil. It is a series of lucky encounters that sets them on their quest and solves the problems that arise. Only for fans of fan fiction.-Kathleen Isaacs, Towson University, MD

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From **Booklist**

The unusual murder of an Oxford professor brings together three strangers in World War I London: John, a soldier and the professor's correspondence student; Jack, a young Oxford student; and Charles, an editor at the Oxford University Press. One rainy night they meet a curious man called Bert who tells them that they are the caretakers of the *Imaginarium Geographica*, an atlas of imaginary lands. Forced to flee in Bert's ship, the group sails to the Archipelago of Dreams, where a battle over Arthur Pendragon's throne threatens to place the evil Winter King in charge. Owen brings together elements from well-known works of fantasy and legend: the lands and characters lean heavily toward Greek and Arthurian myth, while clues from the caretakers' works point to the legendary writers they will become. Although the episodic plot is overlong, and the period narration's formality occasionally slows things down, there's still plenty of action, and Owen's amazingly detailed pen-and-ink illustrations, dark and atmospheric, lend a real storybook flavor. This is the first volume in the Chronicles of Imaginarium Geographica series. *Krista Hutley Copyright* © *American Library Association. All rights reserved*

Review

"Is there anyone who wouldn't enjoy reading "Here, There Be Dragons"? If there is such a person, I haven't met him, and I doubt that I would like him if I did. I am only disappointed that, because this book is so new, I'll have to wait too long to read the sequels."

-- Orson Scott Card, author of "Ender's Game"

""Here, There Be Dragons" begins in a WWI London that is both comfortable and familiar, but quickly moves into a fantastic world of myth and magic. There, talking animals drive steam-powered cars; the Green Knight watches over the remnants of a fallen kingdom; and a legendary mapmaker sits in a tower made of time itself.... In James Owen's Archipelago of Dreams, living Dragonships take the heroes -- and readers --

into places so filled with wonder that you never want the dreams to end."

-- Kai Meyer, author of "The Water Mirror"

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Micheal Clothier:

Do you one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The) book is readable by simply you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable reading experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The) content conveys thinking easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different as it. So , do you even now thinking Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The) is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

Samuel Salamanca:

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Pearl Dyson:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended for you is Here, There Be Dragons (Chronicles of the Imaginarium Geographica, The) this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how does the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some study when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book suitable all of you.

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