

the devil in silver

The Devil in Silver: An In-Depth Exploration of Don Delillo's Masterpiece

Introduction to The Devil in Silver

In the realm of contemporary literature, few novels manage to blend psychological depth, social critique, and supernatural elements as seamlessly as Don Delillo's *The Devil in Silver*. Though often overshadowed by his more famous works like *White Noise* or *Underworld*, this novel stands as a compelling exploration of mental health, societal alienation, and the nature of evil. Published in 2012, *The Devil in Silver* invites readers into a gritty, dystopian version of contemporary America, where the line between reality and the supernatural blurs. This article delves into the themes, characters, and significance of *The Devil in Silver*, offering a comprehensive guide for both new readers and seasoned Delillo fans.

Overview of The Devil in Silver

Plot Summary

Set in a fictional psychiatric hospital called Silver Pavilion, *The Devil in Silver* follows the story of Pepper, a troubled man with a history of mental illness who finds himself committed after a violent incident. As Pepper navigates the often chaotic corridors of the hospital, he encounters a cast of characters, each grappling with their own demons—both literal and metaphorical. The narrative takes a surreal turn when an ancient, demonic entity begins to manifest within the hospital, creating a tense atmosphere where the boundaries between sanity and insanity are constantly tested.

The novel explores issues such as systemic failures in mental health care, the stigmatization of the mentally ill, and the societal neglect of the vulnerable. Amidst these themes, the supernatural presence of the devil—referred to colloquially as "the devil in silver"—serves as a metaphor for the destructive forces lurking beneath the surface of everyday life.

Main Characters

- Pepper: The protagonist, a man with a criminal past who seeks redemption and understanding.
- Dr. Morrow: The psychiatrist tasked with managing the patients and uncovering the truth behind the supernatural occurrences.
- The Devil in Silver: An ancient evil that manifests within the hospital, symbolizing societal and personal demons.
- Other Patients: A diverse group representing different facets of mental illness and societal outcasts, including a woman convinced she is a witch and a young man haunted by his past.

Themes and Symbolism in The Devil in Silver

The Battle Between Good and Evil

At its core, *The Devil in Silver* wrestles with the age-old dichotomy of good versus evil. The supernatural presence in the hospital personifies this struggle, acting as a mirror to the characters' internal conflicts. Don Delillo uses the devil as a symbol of hidden darkness—both within individuals and society—highlighting how evil often resides in overlooked or suppressed spaces.

Mental Health and Society

The novel critically examines the mental health system, portraying it as flawed and often dehumanizing. The hospital setting acts as a microcosm of broader societal issues, including neglect, stigma, and the failure to provide compassionate care. Delillo emphasizes how mental illness is intertwined with societal neglect, making the supernatural elements a metaphor for the unseen horrors faced by vulnerable populations.

Alienation and Identity

Many characters grapple with feelings of alienation, isolation, and loss of identity. Pepper's journey reflects a quest for self-understanding amidst chaos. The supernatural entity's presence exacerbates these feelings, forcing characters to confront their deepest fears and truths.

The Significance of the Title

Interpretation of "The Devil in Silver"

The title itself is rich with symbolism. "Silver" often represents clarity, purity, and value, yet here it is associated with the devil, suggesting a paradoxical relationship between evil and perceived purity. The "devil" symbolizes the hidden darkness within the hospital—and by extension, within society. The phrase invites readers to consider how evil can often appear in shiny, seemingly benign forms, hiding beneath surface appearances.

Cultural and Historical Context

The use of "silver" also evokes historical references to silver as a metal associated with

protection and healing, adding layers to its symbolic meaning. The novel challenges the reader to explore how societal "silver linings" may conceal darker realities.

Literary Style and Narrative Technique

Delillo's Writing Style

Don Delillo's prose in *The Devil in Silver* is characterized by its sharp realism and poetic quality. His descriptions evoke a visceral sense of place, capturing the gritty atmosphere of the hospital and the psychological states of the characters. The narrative employs a mix of third-person perspective and internal monologues, providing insight into characters' thoughts and motivations.

Narrative Structure

The novel's structure is non-linear, weaving between the present, flashbacks, and surreal episodes involving the supernatural entity. This fragmented approach enhances the themes of chaos and disorientation, immersing the reader fully into the characters' fractured realities.

The Reception and Impact of *The Devil in Silver*

Critical Response

The Devil in Silver received generally positive reviews from critics who appreciated its bold themes and inventive storytelling. Critics praised Delillo's ability to blend horror, social critique, and psychological depth, creating a novel that is both entertaining and thought-provoking.

Reader Perspectives

Fans of Delillo and horror alike have lauded the novel for its originality and depth. Many interpret the supernatural as a metaphor for societal evil, mental health struggles, or personal demons, making the book resonate on multiple levels.

Why Read The Devil in Silver?

Unique Genre Blend

Unlike traditional horror or literary fiction, *The Devil in Silver* combines elements of both, offering a multi-layered reading experience that appeals to diverse audiences.

Timely Themes

The novel tackles issues that remain relevant today, such as mental health awareness, societal neglect, and the nature of evil—making it a compelling read for contemporary readers.

Rich Symbolism and Depth

For those interested in symbolism, allegory, and philosophical questions, the novel provides ample material for reflection and discussion.

Conclusion

The Devil in Silver stands as a testament to Don DeLillo's mastery in exploring complex themes through compelling storytelling. It challenges readers to confront uncomfortable truths about society and themselves, all wrapped in a haunting supernatural narrative. Whether viewed as a horror story, a social critique, or a philosophical meditation, the novel's layered symbolism and vivid characters ensure its place in modern literary discourse. For anyone interested in stories that delve into the darkness lurking beneath surface appearances, *The Devil in Silver* is an essential read that offers both entertainment and profound insight.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main plot of 'The Devil in Silver'?

'The Devil in Silver' follows the story of a man named Pepper who is involuntarily committed to a mental hospital, where he encounters mysterious and supernatural events involving a demonic presence that challenges his perception of reality.

Who is the author of 'The Devil in Silver'?

The novel was written by Victor LaValle, known for blending horror, fantasy, and social commentary.

What are the main themes explored in 'The Devil in Silver'?

The book explores themes such as mental illness, the nature of evil, societal neglect, and the supernatural, all woven into a narrative that questions perception and reality.

How does 'The Devil in Silver' compare to other horror novels?

Unlike traditional horror that relies heavily on gore or jump scares, LaValle's novel combines psychological horror with social critique, creating a nuanced and thought-provoking story.

Is 'The Devil in Silver' based on real events or purely fictional?

The story is fictional, but it draws inspiration from real-life issues surrounding mental health institutions and societal treatment of the mentally ill.

What is the significance of the hospital setting in 'The Devil in Silver'?

The hospital serves as a microcosm of society, highlighting themes of confinement, societal neglect, and the thin line between sanity and insanity, while also providing a supernatural backdrop.

Has 'The Devil in Silver' received any awards or critical acclaim?

Yes, the novel has been praised for its inventive storytelling, character development, and social commentary, establishing it as a notable work in contemporary horror literature.

What inspired Victor LaValle to write 'The Devil in Silver'?

LaValle was inspired by his interest in mental health issues, urban legends, and the supernatural, aiming to explore these themes through a horror lens that also comments on society.

Where can I find discussions or book clubs about 'The Devil in Silver'?

You can find discussions on platforms like Goodreads, Reddit book communities, and horror literature forums, where readers analyze themes, characters, and the book's social commentary.

Additional Resources

The Devil in Silver: An In-Depth Review and Exploration

Introduction to The Devil in Silver

Published in 2012, *The Devil in Silver* is a compelling novel by Victor LaValle that skillfully blends horror, psychological thriller, and dark humor. Set against the gritty backdrop of a psychiatric hospital, the novel explores themes of mental health, societal perception, and the nature of evil through a richly layered narrative. LaValle's storytelling masterfully combines supernatural elements with real-world issues, creating a thought-provoking and immersive reading experience.

Overview of the Plot

Basic Synopsis

At its core, *The Devil in Silver* follows the story of Pepper, a man whose life spirals out of control after a series of unfortunate events. Pepper finds himself involuntarily committed to the Mid-Manhattan Psychiatric Center after a bizarre incident involving a mysterious, malevolent presence. As he navigates the complex and often unsettling environment of the hospital, he encounters a cast of characters—patients, staff, and supernatural entities—each contributing to the novel's layered narrative.

The central mystery revolves around Pepper's claim that he is being haunted by a demonic entity—a devil in silver armor—that seems to have a tangible presence both within and outside the hospital walls. As the story unfolds, themes of paranoia, societal judgment, and the blurry line between reality and hallucination are examined in depth.

Major Themes

- Mental health and institutionalization: The novel provides a critique of psychiatric practices, exploring how mental illness is perceived and treated.
- Evil and supernatural forces: The presence of the devil in silver armor symbolizes the embodiment of evil, but also raises questions about the nature of evil and its manifestation.
- Society and marginalization: The novel highlights how society often marginalizes the mentally ill and those who are different.
- Human resilience and redemption: Despite bleak circumstances, characters display resilience and seek redemption.

Setting and Atmosphere

The Psychiatric Hospital as a Microcosm

The Mid-Manhattan Psychiatric Center is vividly depicted as a labyrinthine, almost jungle-like environment filled with winding hallways, locked wards, and eerie quiet. LaValle's detailed descriptions evoke a sense of claustrophobia and disorientation, immersing readers into the world of mental health institutions that often feel like their own universe—detached from reality.

The hospital acts as both a physical setting and a metaphor for societal confinement, illustrating how institutions can serve as prisons for those deemed "different" or "troublesome." The atmosphere is tense, with an undercurrent of unease that permeates every scene.

Dark, Supernatural Atmosphere

The novel's supernatural elements—most notably the devil in silver armor—are woven seamlessly into the gritty realism of the hospital setting. LaValle masterfully balances horror and everyday life, creating a mood that oscillates between the mundane and the terrifying. The presence of the devil manifests through strange occurrences, hallucinations, and moments of intense dread, blurring the lines between psychological distress and supernatural intervention.

Character Analysis

Peppers: The Protagonist

Pepper is a compelling protagonist whose journey drives the narrative. His character embodies vulnerability, resilience, and the struggle to maintain sanity amidst chaos. His backstory reveals a life marred by hardship, including criminal pasts and personal loss, which influences his perception of reality.

Pepper's experiences with the supernatural—believing he's being haunted by a devil—serve as a lens for exploring themes of mental illness and societal misunderstanding. His interactions with other characters reveal a deep empathy and an innate desire for justice and understanding.

Supporting Characters

- Miss P: The compassionate nurse who becomes a confidante for Pepper, representing hope within the institutional system.
- The Devil in Silver: An ambiguous supernatural entity whose true nature is open to interpretation—evil, protector, or something more complex.
- Other Patients: Each patient in the hospital embodies different facets of mental health issues, societal rejection, and resilience, enriching the narrative.

Themes and Symbolism

The Devil in Silver: More Than a Monster

While the novel features a literal devil in shining armor, LaValle employs this figure as a symbol of various concepts:

- Evil and Corruption: The devil embodies the pervasive presence of evil in society and within individuals.
- Inner Demons: The armor and the devil's haunting nature symbolize internal struggles, guilt, and shame.
- Protection and Power: Paradoxically, the devil's armor suggests strength and invincibility, raising questions about what truly constitutes evil or good.

Institutional Critique

The hospital setting acts as a critique of mental health institutions, exposing their flaws and the way society often dehumanizes the marginalized. The walls symbolize societal barriers—both physical and metaphorical—that confine and define the characters' lives.

Morality and Humanity

The novel challenges readers to reconsider notions of morality, especially in contexts where mental illness and supernatural evil intersect. Are the characters inherently evil, or are they victims of circumstance? LaValle prompts reflection on morality's relativity and the importance of empathy.

Writing Style and Narrative Technique

Victor LaValle's Style

LaValle's prose is lyrical yet accessible, blending poetic descriptions with gritty realism. His narrative voice balances humor with horror, infusing the story with moments of levity amid darkness. His dialogue is sharp, capturing the vernacular and emotional depth of each character.

Point of View

The novel primarily employs a third-person narrative focused on Pepper, but includes insights into other characters' perspectives. This multi-voiced approach enriches the story and provides a comprehensive view of the hospital's ecosystem.

Symbolism and Foreshadowing

LaValle employs literary devices such as symbolism—e.g., the armor of the devil representing societal facades—and foreshadowing that builds suspense. The supernatural elements are often subtle, gradually revealing their significance.

Critical Reception and Impact

The Devil in Silver was widely praised for its unique blend of genres and its insightful social commentary. Critics lauded LaValle's imaginative storytelling and his ability to tackle complex themes with humor and empathy. The novel was considered a fresh take on horror, emphasizing emotional depth over gore.

The book has been influential in expanding the boundaries of horror literature,

demonstrating that supernatural tales can serve as powerful allegories for real-world issues like mental health, societal injustice, and human resilience.

Conclusion: Why The Devil in Silver Matters

The Devil in Silver stands out as a masterful work that combines horror with social critique, delivering a story that is both terrifying and profoundly human. Its vivid setting, complex characters, and layered symbolism invite readers to reflect on the nature of evil, the human capacity for resilience, and society's role in defining and confining mental health.

Victor LaValle's novel challenges conventional genre boundaries, making it a must-read for fans of horror, literary fiction, and social commentary alike. It is a testament to the power of storytelling to address difficult topics with nuance, humor, and imagination.

Final Thoughts

If you are seeking a novel that combines supernatural horror with incisive social critique, The Devil in Silver offers a compelling, thought-provoking journey. Its richness lies in its ability to evoke fear, empathy, and introspection simultaneously. LaValle's nuanced portrayal of characters and themes ensures that the book remains relevant long after the final page, cementing its place as a significant contribution to contemporary horror and literary fiction.

[The Devil In Silver](#)

the devil in silver: *The Devil in Silver* Victor LaValle, 2013-09-10 New Hyde Hospital's psychiatric ward has a new resident. It also has a very, very old one. "A dizzying high-wire act."—The Washington Post "Fantastical, hellish, and hilarious."—Los Angeles Times "By turns horrifying, suspenseful, and comic."—The Boston Globe ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: The New York Times Book Review, The Washington Post, Publishers Weekly Pepper is the surprised inmate of a mental institution in Queens, New York. In the darkness of his room, on his first night, a terrifying creature with the body of an old man and the head of a bison nearly kills him before being hustled away by the hospital staff. It's no delusion: The other patients confirm that a devil roams the hallways when the sun goes down. Pepper rallies three other inmates in a plot to kill the monster that's stalking them. But can the Devil die? The Devil in Silver is a thrillingly suspenseful literary work about friendship, love, and the courage to slay our own demons.

the devil in silver: [The Devil's Doctor](#) Philip Ball, 2006-04-18 "A vibrant, original portrait of a man of contradictions," the Renaissance-era Swiss father of modern medicine (Publishers Weekly, starred review). Philippus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombast von Hohenheim, who called himself Paracelsus, stands at the cusp of medieval and modern times. A contemporary of Luther, an enemy

of the medical establishment, a scourge of the universities, an alchemist, an army surgeon, and a radical theologian, he attracted myths even before he died. His fantastic journeys across Europe and beyond were said to be made on a magical white horse, and he was rumored to carry the elixir of life in the pommel of his great broadsword. His name was linked with Faust, who bargained with the devil. Who was the man behind these stories? Some have accused him of being a charlatan, a windbag who filled his books with wild speculations and invented words. Others claim him to be the father of modern medicine. Philip Ball exposes a more complex truth in *The Devil's Doctor*—one that emerges only by entering Paracelsus's time. He explores the intellectual, political, and religious undercurrents of the sixteenth century and looks at how doctors really practiced, at how people traveled, and at how wars were fought. For Paracelsus was a product of an age of change and strife, of renaissance and reformation. And yet by uniting the diverse disciplines of medicine, biology, and alchemy, he assisted, almost despite himself, in the birth of science and the emergence of the age of rationalism. Praise for *The Devil's Doctor* "An enlivening portrait that will spark interest in [Paracelsus's] role in the rise of science." —Booklist "A true iconoclast, [Paracelsus] inhabited an ideological landscape somewhere between the medieval and the modern. Ball effectively places Paracelsus in the larger context of Renaissance magic and philosophy, and of a turbulent period. . . . Worth the effort." —Kirkus Reviews

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the devil in silver: *The Devil's Playground* Robert C. Bartsch, 2015-10-01 From tyrannized foreign lands, broken armies, ruined dreams and religious persecution they came, allured by the freedom of an untrammelled land and gold in the gulches. Here a man could strike it rich, then lose it all to murdering highwaymen or find his scalp decorating a warrior's shield. Follow this group, almost a family, in their quests for fame and fortune over a decade long quest to explore the trapper's world of boiling rivers and glass mountains—the world of the great Jim Bridger that finally led to the quest to preserve its wonders for unborn generations. Historical novels generally herald the lives of heroes with superhuman feats and success beyond wildest imagination. The characters of this novel came early to the goldfields, led danger-filled, extraordinary lives on the frontier, but only Jake Smith and Jay Cooke attained the gold ring of Eldorado. Even Bill Fairweather, the snake charmer and discoverer of Alder Gulch had empty pockets when he was found shot to death in his San Francisco hotel room. But these courageous pioneers left future generations something of immense value: Yellowstone National Park. This debut work is a historically authentic storyline brought to life and instilled with the atmosphere and geography of old Montana. Relive those freewheeling days in this last vast wilderness and the most harrowing survival ordeal of the Great American West.

the devil in silver: *The Martyred Madonna* Elizabeth Heidelsen, 2014-06-12 In ardent dedication to defend civil liberties, the author speaks from the viewpoint of a progressive conservative aiming to resolve injustices placed upon the vulnerable, defenseless, & disadvantaged. In effort to propel a voice of the majority of citizens who have no podium for projecting, no platform infrastructure for representational campaigning, & have felt the pain of being denied the basic rights that our forefathers founded this nation upon, the author bluntly examines the areas of organizational structure of Supremacist holding that prevents citizens from maintaining and upholding equal rights & freedoms. Despite growing up in the Midwest under conservative morals & standards of living, the author developed her own sense of logical understanding of how religious organizations, governmental structures, & societal legalities are utilized to persuade mass control of citizens within the realms of national, state, & local county regulations. In experiencing her own personal injustices within governmental systems, the author is able to analyze & determine potential resolutions & outlines for intervention against denied liberties. Her perspective applies the solution of common sense to complex concerns where impracticality & abuse of authority are being grossly applied. Through personal hardship & in joining other advocates in civil rights defense, the author is empowered in independent thinking, a progressive Conservative outlook, & a mindset of equality. As

an Elementary school teacher who has fought her home States CPS system for 4 years in effort to reunify with her only son, her voice of determined victory against gross injustices is conveyed.

the devil in silver: The Devil's Monk J.R. Russell, 2012 Britain in the tenth century was a dangerous place for books and wisdom, for the waves of Viking invaders had no use for scholars, destroying the libraries along with the buildings that held them and those who lived there. The Saxon King Alfred was ailing of a mystery disease that none had so far been able to cure. As he weakened, so his plans for a peaceful and united country came under increasing threat. It was a time of intrigue, treachery, blunt politics, deceit and cunning, where killing was a skill possibly more valued than healing, and a man who knew how to make one look like the other would always be in mortal danger. Bald's plan of peaceful retirement would be shaken to the core as circumstances, Fate, God or gods set him on his travels again.

the devil in silver: Out of Nihility Wu ZiQi, 2020-05-19 Since the birth of the Yinyang Continent, the two races of Yin and Yang had been born and bred. The Yang Race possessed the attribute of 'goodness', and possessed all sorts of superpowers to defend their 'goodness'. The attribute of the Yin Clan was 'evil'. Demons, demons, ghosts, and other creatures belonged to it. They wanted to enslave the Yang Clan and control the entire continent. A youth who had comprehended 'creating from nothing' from the 'Classic of Virtue' was not tolerated by the current Heavenly Dao and had his body destroyed. His soul, by chance and coincidence, was taken in by the Yinyang Continent and reborn into the body of an ordinary Yang Clan youth. None: The Yang race is good, forsaken by the Evil God; the Yin race is evil, born of the Good God. Tell me what is evil and what is good? Close]

the devil in silver: For Love and Honor Jody Hedlund, 2017-03-07 A wealthy noblewoman. A desperate knight. A dangerous secret that threatens their love ... and their lives. If you're looking for a good, clean read that combines the setting and mood of a medieval fairytale with the heat of historical romance—you found it! Lady Sabine is harboring a skin blemish that, if revealed, could cause her to be branded as a witch, put her life in danger, and damage her chances of making a good marriage. No nobleman would want to marry a woman so flawed ... and a possible witch at that. Sir Bennet is returning home to protect his family from an imminent attack by neighboring lords who seek repayment of debts. Without fortune or means to pay those debts, Sir Bennet realizes his only option is to make a marriage match with a wealthy noblewoman. As a man of honor, he loathes the idea of courting a woman for her money, but with time running out for his family's safety, what other choice does he have? As Lady Sabine and Sir Bennet are thrust together under dangerous circumstances, will they both be able to learn to trust each other enough to share their deepest secrets? Or will those secrets ultimately lead to their demise? Praise for Jody Hedlund: "... engaging ... fun for genre fans wanting a quick read." —Booklist Magazine "A great selection for collections looking for titles with strong Christian themes or for readers who enjoy fairy tales." —School Library Journal For Love and Honor: Is a medieval, clean, YA romance novel by award-winning author Judy Hedlund Features a strong female heroine Is a perfect mix of romance and action and adventure Is the sequel to A Daring Sacrifice in the An Uncertain Choice Series

the devil in silver: Scouting for Boys: Building Character and Leadership Through Adventure and Outdoor Skills Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell Baron Baden-Powell of Gilwell, 2025-05-08T00:00:00Z In Scouting for Boys, Robert Baden-Powell employs a pioneering narrative style that intertwines practical instruction with adventurous storytelling, pioneering the youth movement known as scouting. The book serves as both a field manual and an inspirational guide, advocating for outdoor skills, self-reliance, and moral development among young boys. Illustrated with tales of camaraderie and resilience, it reflects the early 20th-century ethos of fostering individual character through nature and shared experiences, rooted in the ideals of Victorian masculinity and patriotic duty. Baden-Powell, a decorated British Army officer, drew on his extensive military experiences and a passion for the outdoors to pen this seminal work. His background in scouting during the Second Boer War, where he utilized training methods to unite troops and local communities, profoundly influenced his vision for youth development. The

establishment of the Boy Scouts movement that followed the book's publication highlights his commitment to instilling leadership and adventure in boys across the globe. Scouting for Boys is an essential read for educators, parents, and anyone intrigued by youth culture and outdoor education. Its principles remain relevant today, resonating with modern ideals of teamwork, resilience, and exploration. This rich text invites readers to rediscover the timeless values of service and self-discovery, echoing through generations.

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the devil in silver: Report of the ... Conference Association for the Reform and Codification of the Law of Nations. Conference, 1887

the devil in silver: Abyss Brenda Alyss Schaeffer, 2003-07 It's 2159, and mankind has only recently developed a space drive system that allows for traveling light year distances within the galaxy. In fact, that's the maximum single trip distance that they can travel: Humans must hop and skip, in and around near-space, by a series of single light year jumps. At this time in mankind's history, two distinct classes of humans are emerging: the class who lives in space aboard spacecraft, on asteroids, low-g habitats, or Pony Station satellites, and resemble hairless orangutans. The other class being those who live on planetary surfaces, and who still retain the familiar shape of surface-dwelling humans. Both classes have enjoyed a genetic modification that grants a longer life span. Humans live for more than 250 years. Exploration beyond the limits of the solar system has recently begun. At a distance of six light years from Earth, a planet had been discovered, sixty-seven degrees from the plane of the ecliptic, in the system the space explorers have named Brandio. They've named the planet Chon, because of the availability and correct percentages of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen suitable for supporting human life and development. humans have been living on its surface for five years. Mankind hopes this effort is the first of many far-flung colonies that will eventually follow more discoveries of habitable planets. A very dangerous and lethal form of circumscribed intelligence has recently been discovered in a large valley on the other side of the planet from the first human colony. The intelligence exists in the form of alien shadows who, for some reason, collapse, explode, and die at the end of each day when the sun disappears. Possessing considerable weight, the crashing shadows have killed six humans from the colony, who were exploring the valley, and completely destroyed all other forms of life within their area. The area of destruction is increasing in size on a daily basis, and if not stopped, will eventually inundate the entire planet. The mysteries of how this particular nemesis, the shadows, came to be and why they live such short and devastating lives, must be solved. They must stop the encroachment of the shadows over the surface of the planet if the human population on the planet is to survive. The crew of the spacecraft The Eighteenth of Darkness II has been called to help solve the mystery behind the deadly shadows. Five generations of space humans are on board and include three siblings who,

with the help of a 250-year-old great-great-great-grandfather, and a ten-thousand-year-old friendly snail-like alien, travel to the planet and assist in solving the problem. What they find is an interesting and perplexing situation: an alien experiment gone awry. The adventure includes a disclosure of the past history of Earth's space travel discoveries and breakthroughs. The team manages to solve the shadow problem, but only after receiving some much-needed assistance from a highly unlikely source: thirteen great-great-great-grandchildren, who possess a single-minded mentality, and powers that are going to lead mankind into a new realm for its future.

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