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Deep Magic - August 2017



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Synopsis

If you want to read gripping stories that donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t rely on sex, swearing, and graphic violenceÃ¢â ¬â •youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve come to the right place!DEEP MAGIC is an electronic magazine that publishes clean short fiction in the fantasy and science fiction genres (epic, paranormal, steampunk, etc). Our issues are also filled with author interviews, art features, book reviews and tips for writers.This month, we have five amazing short stories, including Mongrel by New York Times bestselling author, Maria V. Snyder! We also have an interview for all those interested in the Hollywood side of publishing with Matt Sugarman. As always, we found great novel excerpts for you to check out as well, including Tricia LevensellerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s lastest book, Daughter of a Pirate King, and our friend, Emily KingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s next installment in her One Hundredth Queen series!Ã¢â ¬â œ What He Offered the River by Aimee OgdenÃ¢â ¬â œ If a Man Falls in the Forest by Tyler YoungÃ¢â ¬â œ The Most Reasonable House in Faerie by Dafydd MckimmÃ¢â ¬â œ LeviÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Problem by Brendon TaylorÃ¢â ¬â œ Mongrel by NYT bestselling author, Maria V. SnyderÃ¢â ¬â œ Interview with Hollywood Attorney, Matt SugarmanÃ¢â ¬â œ Novel excerpt of Daughter of a Pirate King by Tricia LevensellerÃ¢â ¬â œ Novel excerpt of The Fire Queen by breakout bestselling debut author, Emily King

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Customer Reviews

What a wonderful experience reading this publication! I enjoyed the stories and interviews very much and have ordered books because of the brief descriptions offered in the publication. I highly recommend reading this and the other monthly editions as they are all refreshingly interesting.

A "transformative" issue, not in style, but rather in theme, each of the stories are linked by a thread of change. Oddly, my Kindle edition places "Mongrel" by Maria V. Snyder under a Science Fiction heading, where I'd have called it Fantasy (Urban Fantasy, but "clean", atypically for the genre), and I found "If a Man Falls in the Forest" (beginning with mention of an APC, and later, genetic engineering) under Fantasy, where I'd have called it Sci FI. Like all anthologies, quality varies among the short stories. Deep Magic's offerings are always at least good, but every issue, one or two stories stand above the rest.For me, those two are "Mongrel" (which also has pride of place in the issue), and "If a Man falls in the Forest" by Tyler A Young. Of the two, I found the writing style of Mongrel to be easier, a smooth cadence that sucked you in, but it was relatively straight forward in the telling, and thus the more predictable of the two. "If a Man..." is a short story to leave you thinking, and thus my favorite even if the writer's style wasn't my preference.A good interview with Matt Sugarman about adapting books to other formats, which I found interesting - even if not the reason I look forward to Deep Magic every other month. For those with question about why beloved books are often adapted in ways that differ from the Author's vision, this is a helpful look behind the curtain at the way sausage is made.Finally, two book excerpts - "Daughter of a Pirate King", which didn't really grab me - its not my preferred genre so (like Country Music) I'll leave it to someone more qualified (and more fair) to opine on. The second excerpt, "The Fire Queen" is the continuation of Emily R King's "The Hundredth Queen" series, which I was first introduced to via excerpt in a prior Deep Magic. Again, not my preferred genre, but her choice of setting and pacing were such that I enjoyed and appreciated in spite of my bias. I'll be picking this book up on release for my reading pleasure.Overall? Not the best Deep Magic issue this year, in my not at all humble opinion, but still quite good. I recommend.******About the reviewer - I like Epic Fantasy and Epic Science Fiction of a thoughtful sort. - something with some twists, believable characters who develop across the pages, a message that leaves the reader thinking, questioning assumptions, and a consistent, cohesive world - whether based technology, magic, or both. As a practical matter, that means I am not predisposed to short stories, and don't much care for romance, either. If my review seems

harsh, it is merely the honest impressions of one not inclined to give glowing reviews, and not preferential of the genre.

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