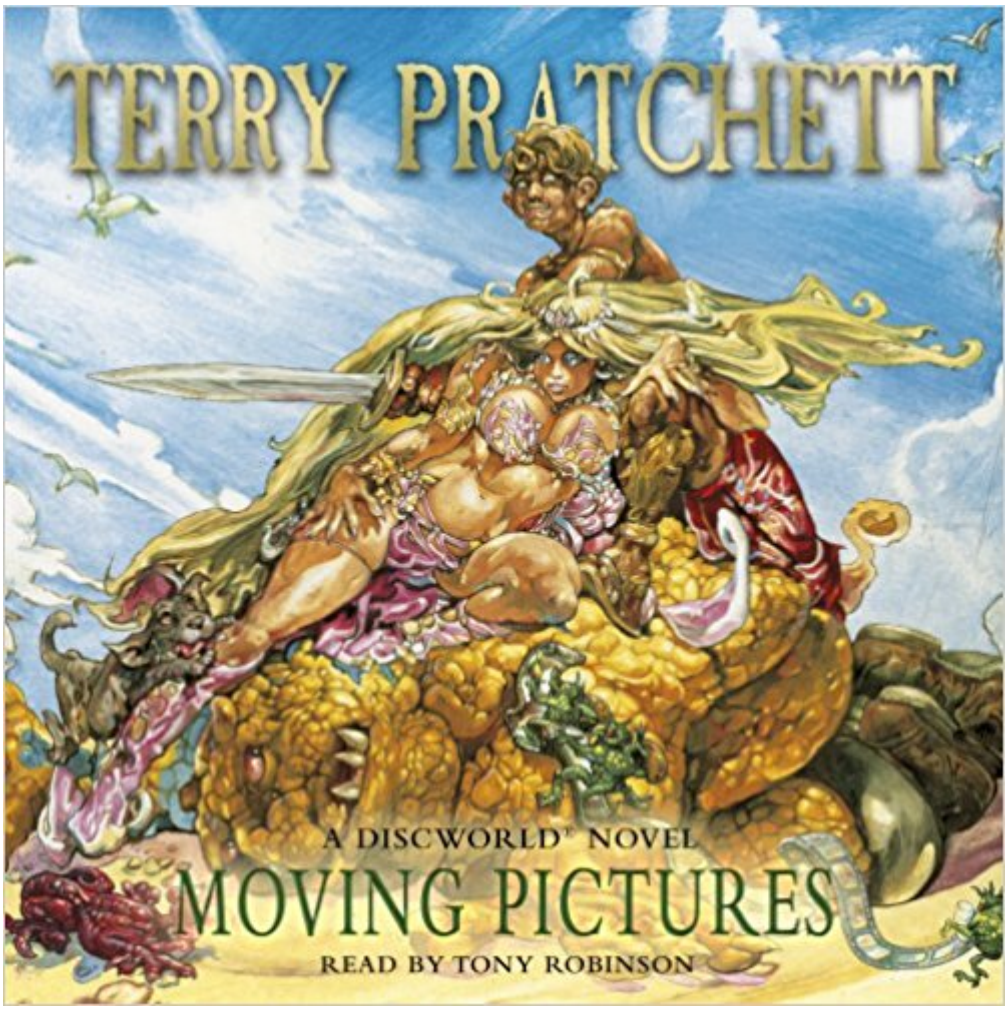
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Synopsis

A gloriously funny saga set against the background of a world gone mad.The alchemists of the Discworld have discovered the magic of the silver screen. But what is the dark secret of Holy Wood Hill? ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s up to Victor Tugelbend (Ã¢â ¬Å“CanÃ¢â ¬â„¢t sing. CanÃ¢â ¬â„¢t dance. Can handle a sword a littleÃ¢â ¬Â•) and Theda Withel (Ã¢â ¬Å“I come from a little town youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve probably never heard ofÃ¢â ¬Â•) to find out.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"'A true original among contemporary writers'" The Times "'Cracking dialogue, compelling illogic and unchained whimsy...Pratchett has a subject and a style that is very much his own'" Sunday Times "'Offers more entertainment per page than anything this side of Wodehouse'" Washington Post Book World "'It's mad, it's glorious, it's (need I say?) hilarious, and it's putting a terrible strain on Discworld's already fragile fabric of reality'" Locus

Terry Pratchett was the acclaimed creator of the global bestselling Discworld series, the first of which, The Colour of Magic, was published in 1983. In all, he was the author of over fifty bestselling books. His novels have been widely adapted for stage and screen, and he was the winner of multiple prizes, including the Carnegie Medal, as well as being awarded a knighthood for services to literature. He died in March 2015.

If you have read Terry Pratchett, you already know that any of his books will make you snort with

laughter when you least expect it, and this one is no exception. All Pratchett's books are 5 star in my estimation. This one has even more elements of parody than some of them. You can probably guess of what. If you have not read Pratchett, I would not necessarily recommend this as the first book to read. He has lots of repeating characters and some of the humor in his works comes from the reader's familiarity with them. Oddly, I would also not recommend the first Disc World book (The Color of Magic). He was just getting traction then. I personally like the Weird Sisters series, Mort and its sequels, and the Men of the Nightwatch series. Also Going Postal and Making Money. But frankly, all of Pratchett's work is charming, whimsical, ironic and just plain hysterical, so you really can't go wrong with any of them. Nobody can turn a phrase like the Brits, from Saki to Wodehouse to Pratchett to a lot more I probably don't know about.

The evil spirit of Tinseltown invades Discworld. Lots of fun movie references. Unfortunately, many are to very old films, that are meaningful to old film fans. If you remember the half-clad strongman who began every J. Arthur Rank (British) film in the mid-20th century by bashing a huge disc-shaped brass gong, you will chuckle at the allusion. If you are not old enough, you are actually better off!Gaspode the Wonder Dog is the hero of the story, and the wisest character, though he's the only one who knows it. But Sir Terry and I appreciate him, and, despair not, he appears on several later stories.

Reading Pratchett often reminds me of another equally merry and profound occupation - trying to count ducklings on a pond :) Those who ever tried, will understand. One, two, three, four...oy, two just dived - but three surfaced in another place. Then there is yet another fluffy backside on the surface - then it dives and five more appear! Same with Sir Terry's ideas and jokes - just when you are positive you got a joke by its tail, it wiggles the tail - and suddenly there are three more jokes. Or more...Just as with ducklings, you'll never get bored with Pratchett. The plot is there, it's not really important (honestly, when was the last time you picked up a new Pratchett for the plot?) but there is a mountain (with stars over it) of funny and profound ideas about reality and illusion and how they coexist and intersperse... and what is reality anyway?.. it seems that Sir Terry wrote a charmingly pointed dissertation on the more philosophical aspects of the "World according to Cinema".Plus multiple bonuses for those who know their oldies-goldies: gallant heroes with pencil-thin moustache, whose every smile sends women swooning, langourous blonds who perfected the profound art of reclining among silk pillows... thousands of elephants and undulating "is this a gun in your pockets or are you just happy to see me?" Ruby - West.And a mental image of a 50-ft blond climbing a tower

with an ape in her hand... that stays with you forever! :)

One of my favorite Pratchett books! This is actually a re-purchase as my old paperback copy fell apart from being read so many times. I'm a big fan of hollywood history, and I love the fantasy spin on in that Pratchett has put on it here. It's funny and inventive, full of fun anachronisms, and even a little sweet at times.Though this discworld novel falls outside of the various groupings of books Pratchett has created (such as the group of night watch books, or Rincewind books), there are still several familiar faces. Cut Me Own Throat Dibler makes a memorable appearance as one of the discs first movie producers, and I believe this is the first book to feature Gaspode the Wonder Dog. You'll also see some cameos from Ankh-Morpork, including old Windle Poons and the other wizards at Unseen University.It's a great standalone story, though, and a good jumping-in point for anyone new to the discworld series. There were several passages that really did make me laugh out loud on one or two occasions, and grin widely on several others. Despite always being classified as a "humor writer", Terry Pratchett's stories also have a warmth to them that many other authors lack. The characters are well-written and are the types of characters that feel instantly familiar as soon as you meet them. This isn't just a funny book--it's smart, witty, touching, intriguing, and sometimes a little zany. And well worth reading.

Harkening back to the glamorous peak of the silver screen, this novel plays with the western archetypes so familiar to the modern American. Pratchett's imagination and cultural fluency collide in a barrage of film references as the antihero metamorphoses to become able to finally save the day-- or does he? No spoilers here, but with magic everywhere in the book, "impossible" isn't a term that can apply to anything on a permanent basis. Although the characters can appear to be stock stereotypes at first glance, their complexities are sure to delight even the most dour depressive.

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