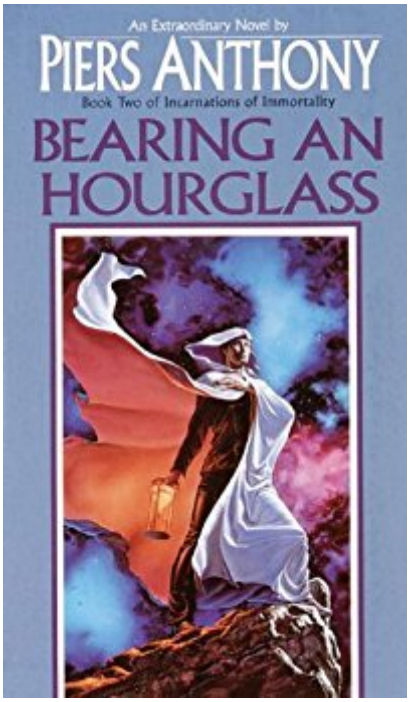
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Bearing An Hourglass (Incarnations Of Immortality Book 2)



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Synopsis

When life seemed pointless to Norton, he accepted the position as the Incarnation of Time, even though it meant living backward from present to past. The other seemingly all-powerful incantations of Immortality--Death, Fate, War, and Nature--made him welcome. Even Satan greeted him with gifts. But he soon discovered that the gifts were cunning traps and he had become enmeshed in a complex scheme of the Evil One to destroy all that was good....From the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My generosity towards Piers Anthony in my 4-star review of On A Pale Horse does not extend to Bearing an Hourglass. This was my least favorite volume in the series when I first read it in the mid-1980s, and a reread in 2013 did not improve my initial impression of the novel.As with the first novel, the setting is an alternate Earth where magic and science coexist in equal parts. There exist incarnations of Death, Time, Fate, War, Nature, Good, and Evil, each of which are offices held by a succession of previously mortal folks.This book obviously focuses on Time, or Chronos. I think Anthony just didn’t know what to do with Chronos. To his credit (and the best of my recollection), Anthony planned the initial five volumes of this series out in advance, and each tale is interwoven,

covering the interactions of the five main Incarnations with each other and with Satan. This might have worked against him in Bearing an Hourglass, as the backward nature of Chronos's life made spoilers an issue going forward. As a result, Chronos spends large sections of the novel away from his brethren doing relatively uninteresting things.This does not make for scintillating prose. Additionally, some of the pointless musings on quantum physics and Anthony's perennial focus on T&A gets tiresome after awhile. Given how the series unfolds, consider this one a necessary evil to meet some of the essential characters in later books. The pre-Chronos (i.e. Nort) part of the novel is actually quite entertaining, though you still have to slog through the rest.Fortunately, Fate (With a Tangled Skein) is up next, and I recall her book more than making up for the deficiencies of this one.

This is another installment in the series and if you have gotten to this novel than you must be hooked with the series. The interesting thing about all of the novels is how Anthony interconnects all of the characters. While some of the plot elements might seem to repeat themselves slightly, the character development and interaction is what kept me so interested as it was quite well done. Personally, I particularly enjoyed this book in the series as it dealt with a character who travels with an opposite time line than everyone else, making his interactions quite unique.

Of course I read these as a teenager growing up in the 70-80's. thought provoking then; comforting now at 50 yrs old; almost a different book when viewed with my 30 yrs experience (wisdom?)

This book dose not disappoint when it comes to the part of explaining details on how Chronos, the incarnation of time, is explained in this universe. Working on the concepts of time and space working as one thing to eventually balk Satan. But what I just dis dived was the first an third acts of the book. Unlike On A Pale Horse, where you can fill in the time with finding the souls of the soon-to-be-dead and working that into the growth of Zane. But here it's the self governed growth with little to no interaction from the outside. Understanding that Chronos lives backwards, I could have seen a lot more interaction between him and the past that he would live in. It was a lost opportunity that the author didn't give Chronos more interaction with the world around him.Still a good read though, if a bit slow to get tithe fun parts.

I had a copy of this from my teenage years and lost it, so i bought a new one, and read it again! i am a fanpiers anthony! good book worth the read!

This book was good, but not as good as the first book in this series. I hope the 3rd one is more like the 1st

This was the first book I read of the series, despite it being book two. Each book is a stand-alone book in its own right, so I really don’t think it’d matter much in which order you read them. I have the entire series in their first print hardback editions and I count them as among my most treasured. I am working on getting them on audiobook form from Audible Books since they’ve finally been released in digital audiobook format. It’s wonderful that is finally releasing them in digital print as well, though only the first four books of the seven is available. So in the end I’ll have the series in three different formats.This book is about Father Time and how an ordinary man took the office and the trials and hell he had to go thru to hold and maintain the office. All while living backwards in time. It’s a great read, and a very good choice to have in your library.

After reading the first of the series: "On a Pale Horse", I became very hooked on Piers Anthony ’s work!Really enjoy reading his novels.This one in particular kept my attention throughout. An engaging story about FatherTime. It brought back childhood memories of when I used to play Father Time - but a very different story!I won’t spoil it for anyone. Just to say that I highly recommend it!

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