



Devil's Gate

Clive Cussler, Graham Brown

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The “action-packed” (*Publishers Weekly*) new novel in the *New York Times* bestselling Kurt Austin Adventures...

A Japanese cargo ship bursts into flames near the Azores, and a gang of pirates speeds to take advantage of the disaster—but their boat explodes. What on earth is happening? Is it connected to the kidnapping of a top scientist from the streets of Geneva? Or the discovery of an extraordinary underwater graveyard of ships and planes littered across the seafloor?

As Austin and the rest of the NUMA® team rush to investigate, they find themselves drawn into the extraordinary ambitions of an African dictator, the creation of a weapon of almost mythical power, and an unimaginable audacious plan to extort the world’s major nations.

The penalty for refusal? The destruction of the world’s greatest cities. Starting with Washington, D.C....

Devil's Gate Details

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From Reader Review Devil's Gate for online ebook

Susan Bazin says

Clive Cussler always entertains. I look forward to his books and this certainly did not disappoint me. Kurt Austin is such a hero. James Bond and Indiana Jones in one person. I enjoy that there is always a spark of romance, but it is a byproduct of the story and not the story itself. The Trouts are just enjoyable as are his other couples in other books. Their banter in the sub was hysterical. The characters are very likeable. I found myself smiling several times at the repartee. There were also enough nail-biting moments to keep me on the edge of my seat (I listen in the car on my way home from work). Scott Brick, the reader, is amazing. Love how he reads these stories!! There was one scene where I just sat there and said, there is no way that Kurt and Joe can get out of this situation. Cussler had me guessing. Hopefully, his main characters won't die, they will just transition into new positions as Dirk Pitt and Sandecker did. Keep the stories coming, Clive!! Love them all!!

Linda says

This was a fun Kurt Austin adventure! It had been awhile since I've read one of his adventures and I enjoyed being back with the team watching them save the world.

James says

A ho-hum thriller novel. Didn't grab as others have from this author.

Elsie says

OK, like my friend Louise says, you always know what you are getting with a Clive Cussler book. I started reading about Dirk Pitt many years ago on a recommendation from Brent Erickson. I have been a fan every since and look forward to each and every book in any of the series. Like I started out. . . you always know what you are going to get: a hero and a villain. The bad guy is out to destroy or control the world and the hero of course, saves it! Whether it is Dirk Pitt or Kurt Austin, Joe Zavalo, or Joe Cabrillo, or Gamay and Paul you know that they will do anything to win and to protect each other. They are the ultimate good guys. Even though you many know what to expect it is entertaining getting there. I'll always be a Cussler fan.

Kevin Kazokas says

This is a book about magnets, and all the power therein. Hardly do principles of superconducting, particle acceleration and inexplicably powerful compounds make for compelling reading. But add some stock paper-thin characters and a mildly interesting, albeit totally impossible, storyline and there's enough inertia to drag dear reader to the finish. Mercifully!

That's "Devil's Gate" -- a totally linear, non-texturized progression through 474 pages of pseudo-scientific, vanilla-coated "meh."

The novel itself is akin to an analogy referenced by the title. Sunken objects get magnetically pulled through a rocky entrance into a narrowing undersea corridor, with the channel's other end pinched off, leaving no hope for egress. Essentially, that resembles the experience of reading this Cussler "adventure." Readers will find their eyes gazing through the pages ambivalently, as opposed to the usual immersive experience of thriller fiction, yet for some reason may opt to stay with this yawner.

Cussler resorts to his usual *dramatis personae*, with a few non-compelling throw-ins, both buttressed by cardboard-cutout bureaucrats and villains. The characters inspire no reader investment whatsoever.

The plot, of a deadly particle beam capable of bending across the globe and causing destruction to U.S. and enemy cities alike -- however farfetched -- proves powerful enough to keep the reader page-turning -- in a very passive, non-vested way.

Things don't go off the rails enough to earn a slam-worthy review, and the ending actually ratchets up to a brisk, replenishing level, hence the three-star bailout. But several characters sort of drop off or are left dangling along the way, re-emerging at the end as mere afterthoughts. Again, nothing to sink your teeth into here or savor until the next book in the series.

After this "experience," the reader may opt to keep the NUMA file cabinet closed.

Kirsten says

A solid (but not outstanding) input into the NUMA Files series as created by Clive Cussler. I find these books to be a lot of fun, but this is not the best. Onto the next in the series...

Simon says

Good God. Does Cussler even *proof* these things anymore?

Patricia says

We start in the Azores with Hudson Wallace (great name!) and his Lockheed Constellation and the adventure quickly goes into high gear. Then starts the story of the Kinjara Maru and where we first see our main character Kurt Austin about to embark on a journey, he thought, to join his friend Joe Zavala for a submersible race in their prototype Barracuda and some much needed R&R. Of course if they actually GOT their R&R we wouldn't have a story, would we?

We travel all over the world in some very interesting manners (what could be more terrifying or cool than the Lunatic Express?). We also get a story that includes the realism of life and death situations that don't always turn out quite the way you expected them to causing injury and emotional turmoil, even the good guy gets hurt sometimes.

We go through explosions, near drownings, being shot at, a hair raising car chase, sinking ships, boa constrictors, underwater landslides, an ultralight escape...good lord, it's exciting even reading about all the excitement in this book!

The NUMA gang is all here, Kurt, Joe, Paul & Gamay Trout, we even get some serious input from our beloved Dirk Pitt and Admiral (now Vice President) Sandecker. This book was a great adventure from beginning to end and I loved it! I can really say that I didn't feel like I was reading a Dirk Pitt adventure with a younger, silver haired Dirk but I could actually see the differences (and similarities) between the two characters, they are similar enough that they can easily understand where the other is coming from but they are two very different men!

My favorite quote in the book is actually made by Dirk Pitt to Kurt and Joe:
(view spoiler)

(hide spoiler)]

Devil's Gate is a great read from start to finish and I loved the book. Graham Brown is an excellent choice to continue this series with Mr. Cussler and I do believe this is the best Kurt Austin adventure yet. I can't wait to read the next one!

David Rasner says

A Japanese cargo ship cruises the eastern Atlantic near the Azores- when it bursts into flames. A gang of pirates speeds to take advantage of the disaster-when their boat explodes. What is happening in this part of the world?

As Kurt Austin, Joe Zavala, and the rest of the NUMA Special Assignments Team rush to investigate, they find themselves drawn into the extraordinary ambitions of an African dictator, the creation of a weapon of almost mythical power, and an unimaginably audacious plan to extort the world's major nations. The penalty for refusal? The destruction of their greatest cities. Filled with the high-stakes suspense and boundless invention unique to Cussler, Devil's Gate is one of the most thrilling novels yet from the grand master of adventure.

Mark Muckerman says

A favorite sweatshirt; a grilled cheese sandwich; the smell of warm towels fresh out of the dryer; any Cussler story from the Numa Files. Predictable and comforting are not necessarily equated to "bad". There has never been a Cussler book that doesn't have the ruggedly handsome hero, his ingenious sidekick of complementary ethnically diverse heritage, a textbook villain of the highest caliber of sinister, and the obligatory hottie who is immune to the charms of our hero.

But that's okay. As long as the premise continues to be interesting and the storytelling solid, Cussler delivers like a chef in a solid 3 star restaurant: always good, filling, satisfying and never falling short of expectations. A good literary repast where the dress code is jeans and a shirt with a collar.

If you're a Cussler fan, you'll continue to be pleased. If you're new to Cussler you'll be satisfied, but I'd suggest you go back to the early books first, and start with *Raise the Titanic*, or *Sahara* (the book, not the wretched movie).

Robert Finlay says

Since Clive sold his name, and now sits back and lets others write his schlock, I am done with him. Sorry Clive. You made good money when you wrote, now you are fooling people with your crap. Look at the cover. Almost legal 'small print' for the actual writer. Buh Bye

Alexander Draganov says

I have nothing bad to say about this thriller. It is my first book by Clive Cussler and it is fabulous - with interesting and kind of original plot, charming heroes, very, very bad villains, interesting popular science and lots and lots of action. It reminds me very much of the Sigma Force series by James Rollins - I don't know who started first, but now I get why Cussler is so respected among fans of thrillers and adventures. Five stars.

Michael Clifton says

Clive Cussler has always written fast-paced, interesting thrillers, and he is one of a handful of authors in the action/adventure genre who I really never tire of reading. Somehow, he manages to keep his novels fresh even as he uses the same formula time and again (a historical incident involving bad guys as a prologue, then a flash forward to the present where somehow, the historical incident becomes ensnared with present-day bad guys and the National Underwater Marine Agency, or NUMA characters). Unfortunately, like James Patterson, Cussler has farmed out more and, more of the novels he releases. Like Patterson, Cussler provides the synopsis, and another author writes the novel. Whenever you see Cussler's name paired with another author's name in smaller print, you can be assured the name in smaller print is the person who actually wrote the novel. I will give this to Cussler however; he does pick authors who are faithful to the Dirk Pitt NUMA series and the personas he has created. Most, if not all, of Cussler's books over the past 5-10 years have been spin-offs from the original Pitt/NUMA novels, and again, most have been written by authors other than Cussler.

The Devils Gate is the ninth book in the NUMA series featuring Kurt Austin and Joe Zavalla as the main characters. In this novel, Kurt and Joe stumble across a plot by a African dictator to use a scientific breakthrough in particle beam technology to create a weapon capable of mass destruction. With ships, aircraft, and even cities vulnerable to total destruction, Kurt and Joe leap into action, ably helped by a beautiful Russian agent.

A good, fast-moving read and one worthy of the Cussler NUMA franchise. Three very solid stars!

Iceman says

Confesso que não sou um grande apreciador de livros de aventuras, tipo James Bond e afins, em todo o caso gosto de ir intercalando as minhas leituras e, durante o ano, acabo por ler livros de géneros muito diferentes.

O presente livro captou-me a atenção por ver envolvido o nome dos Açores e também porque o nome do autor já me havia despertado alguma curiosidade, decidi então empreender a leitura do livro.

E de facto a acção é estonteante de princípio ao fim, numa aventura cheia de peripécias que mete assassinos contratados por um ditador que anseia dominar o mundo, os bons que, para além de transpirarem charme por todos os poros, têm jeito para tudo, inclusivamente para comediantes, a bela sedutora ao serviço secreto de uma nação que tem interesses no que se está a passar, os habituais norte-americanos e porrada de princípio ao fim, com muitas mortes, atentados e acidentes. Novidade, falar-se várias vezes de Portugal e de portugueses.

Mas, em todo o caso, não pensem que não gostei.

É um livro que entretém, apenas e só, mas cujo tempo não é mal empregue. Gostei da escrita e da forma como a estrutura do livro foi trabalhada, sempre com pequenos capítulos cheios de suspense.

Para quem aprecia o género, penso que encontrará nesta obra uma leitura prazeirosa que o levará a vários cenários, onde a acção, a violência e a intriga andam alegremente de mãos dadas.

JBradford says

This is another Kurt Austin adventure from the NUMA Files, and it's not bad. As a matter of fact, it is pretty darn good, considering that, as with all of Cussler's novels, it features an extraordinarily unlikely situation with wholly unbelievable action, based on science that just won't happen. But that has been true of all of Cussler's books, or books with which he is involved in these end-of-life pairings, and we still get the books and read them, because they're great fun to read. I really don't know why Hollywood does not make films out of more of Cussler's books.

Kurt Austin and his sidekick, Joe Zavala, just happen to be nearby when some bad guys start their plan of taking over the world--this time by stealing a mysterious cargo off a cargo ship off the Azores. Kurt leads the rescue effort and becomes marked by the bad guys as someone to dispose of. You might think he is going to become romantically involved with the widowed captain's wife that he rescues, but instead the romance blooms when an attractive Russian scientist, who happens to be a former Olympics skating star, shows up to investigate an implausible physical anomaly that the our heroes discover while they're throwing a submarine race in order to rescue someone else ... only she does not seem all that interested in the actual anomaly. Of course, we know that Kurt is going to save the world, but he has to go through some tough sledding in order to do it.
