



The Gates of Hell

C.J. Cherryh , Janet E. Morris

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Out of the underworld and into your heart! Rumor has it that there is a way out of Hell, through tunnels. Of course the rumors could be disinformation direct from the Father of Lies; all the Heroes of Hell who have assembled for the adventure know that. Though they do not know what hideous dangers they will face once they forsake the sanctuary of Julius Caesar's palace in New Hell, they are sure that boredom, the most awful fate Eternity has to offer, will not be one of them. Anything less they can handle; they are who they are, after all, and they have their army, equipped with the most modern weapons and electronics.... Join the greatest Heroes and Rogues of all the Ages in the first full-length novel in the greatest of all shared universes: Heroes in Hell.

The Gates of Hell Details

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Author : C.J. Cherryh , Janet E. Morris

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From Reader Review The Gates of Hell for online ebook

Honza Prchal says

This entire series is an utterly guilty set of pleasures, and it takes theology about Hell very seriously indeed. You'll learn a lot without even intending to, and the characters are history's best, plus a few that have been made up.

Nancy Laney says

Hell Book 2

Marie says

Whenever I see a book that says "By Famous Author - with Some Guy You Never Heard Of" - I assume that the guy you never heard of did all the writing and Famous Author just put their name on it. Or maybe offered some ideas over coffee. Call me cynical.

In this case, I hope it's true, because much of the magic of Cherryh's Heroes in Hell is gone. There are battles and chases galore in this book, and yet nothing really happens. I felt like the author had some plot in mind, but never revealed it. Also there were far too many hints of actual supernatural crap, and what I loved about Heroes in Hell was the very mundanity of Hell. The Devil did his dirty work by messing with the power grid so your computers crashed all the time. This book has oracles - mother luv'n oracles! BAH!

I still might read more of the series, though, since I am madly in love with the concept of setting up a world where you can just play with all your favorite historical characters.

John Devlin says

Inventive looks at famous personages thrown together in Hell for some interesting and amusing reasons.

Michael says

I picked this first one up on a whim just because it looked interested, and it was. Just for pure entertainment, it was good. Nothing monumental though. I read the second and third for the same reason.

Clara says

This novel is fun, filled with adventure, intrigue, and nods to Dante's 'Inferno,' 'Paradise Lost' and other, more intellectually-heavyweight Hell-based stories. The narrative did seem to be missing some threads: I could usually tell which sections Cherryh wrote and which Morris did, and I noticed inconsistencies between them. But still I found this an enjoyable book, and I recommend it to fellow diversion-seeking nerds and literati.

Karen-Leigh says

Great series.

Rereading 2018 and enjoying it still.

A.L. Butcher says

I picked this up in print, intrigued as I loved Rogues in Hell and I am trying to get through all the Heroes in Hell books. Gates of Hell is the second of the series – and a novel not an anthology. It is a lot of fun.

Where else would one find Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, Cleopatra, Machiavelli and a whole host of characters from ancient times, medieval times and modern times trying to escape together from Hell, armed with tanks, ancient weapons, Uzis and cavalry? The ancient and modern seamlessly woven together as if it was perfectly natural to consider Julius Caesar riding a jeep.

For me it was a game of spot the ancient hero and the historical figure. There are many egos among the players and of course, being Hell, not all goes to plan and that plan itself has more twists and turns than the every changing river of Hell. Apparently there is a way out of Hell if only one can find it. Or so the rumour is. A rumour in hell? That will not end well.

There was humour, adventure, great characters, rogues and heroes and a wonderfully crafted universe. Each character has his or her own agenda – Julius believes Alexander and Achilles are part of him, Hatshepsut the female Pharaoh wants a kingdom, Alexander wants, among other things his dead lover and the others – well that would be telling. This is a complex story with alliances and betrayal at every turn. They have their memories, their prejudices and their affiliations. Lies abound.

In places perhaps it was too convoluted – and keeping track of what everyone was doing makes the brain flip, but that too is fun. Such an adventure is not for the faint hearted or those who want an easy, simple read. The ending leads to a cliff-hanger – and thus on to the next in the series.

If you can get your hands on this, which is out of print but can be sourced, I'd recommend it for fans of fantasy, adventure and historical fiction.

Mark Smiley says

This was the second book in a series..

I did not read the first and was a little lost. This was in the bargain bin and I should have left it there.

War fought in Hell and if you die, you et reanimated after a while. So why fight and wage war?

Maybe it was explained in the first book which I will not read.

Just not interesting.
