The Golden Compass
Posted by Stefan - 2007/05/25 16:14

One of my favorite trilogy's...just saw the trailer for it but am not sure if I like it or not. If anyone has not read this yet (Philip Pullman) I would highly, highly recommend reading it before the movie comes out. It is a work of Genius. It's very deep and philosophical besides being imaginative and entertaining...The movie is sure to disapoint I'm afraid (yet hope I'm wrong)

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The Golden Compass
Posted by willypold - 2007/05/25 17:08

One of my favorite trilogies too. I've not only read it a couple of times - I was given the task of translating the books into Swedish! Because of that I've had the privilege of meeting mr Pullman a couple of times, and he's a perfect gentleman, witty, sharp, and very friendly. Besides winning several British prices for his books, he was also the recipient of the Swedish Astrid Lindgren Award two years ago.

I've seen the trailer, but I feel the opposite about the movie, actually. I think the casting of Daniel Craig as Lord Asriel and especially Nicole Kidman as Mrs Coulter are outstanding choices.

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Stefan - 2007/05/26 14:58

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Wow! you must be an expert then when it comes to these books! I've got to read them again, I only read them once around the time I head that New Line got the right to do the film.....I think those castings are really good too. What bothers me about the trailer is that is looks like they have turned it into a special effects driven film...the armored bears especially look very CGI'ish and the futuristic architecture seems a little over the top to me....but, I'll just wait and see...perhaps it's just the trailer, hopefully, the movie will have some quieter moments of thought and contemplation. Glad to hear that about Mr. Pullman. When reading his books you sort of imagine that he must be some kind of special person...

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The Golden Compass
Posted by willypold - 2007/05/26 16:08

He really is! During the first visit in Sweden he gave a couple of lectures, where he talked about everything from his way of writing - three pages handwritten on a special kind of paper each day - to his views on organised religion. He has made a very strong stand on that particular issue, which should be obvious from reading the the trilogy... :-)

After you've read His Dark Materials I suggest you go on to the Sally Lockhart books - The Ruby in the Smoke, The Shadow in the North, The Tiger in the Well and The Tin Princess - about a female private detective in Victorian England. Well-written, exciting and filled with a very tangible sense of the London and England of that time.

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The Golden Compass

Posted by Stefan - 2007/05/26 17:54

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He really is! During the first visit in Sweden he gave a couple of lectures, where he talked about everything from his way of writing - three pages handwritten on a special kind of paper each day - to his views on organised religion. He has made a very strong stand on that particular issue, which should be obvious from reading the the trilogy... :-)

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Kool...thanks for the tip on Sally, I don't usually read detective books but perhaps i'll try...at least they take place in another time, and in a very interesting place as well...I like detective type movies, so maybe....

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The Golden Compass

Posted by THOTH - 2007/06/04 21:45

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I hate to admit it but I've never heard of either this series or the author! And I really thought I was up on most everything really outstanding in the genre...but who's to figure eh? Your recommendations and the fact that new Line managed such heavy hitters as Craig & Kidman for the leads really intrigues me. As for (great) books being made into movies - well its rare for the (film) medium to really do a great book (and even less likely a series) justice...think Dune here...though S Jackson certainly pulled off LoTRs admirably even if he did perhaps stumble slightly with the Two Towers in a few places (but I'm truly not complaining - though I know many who do stridently). Anyway - I guess I'll have to chsck this one out. And speaking of turning great (Sci-Fo/fantasy) books into movies - there are a few I would love to see. David Brin's Uplift series is near tops on my list (and I spoke to him about this several years ago - someone had the rights for the screenplay but its past and never got done..I really think that CGI is just the ticket for all the aliens...so much is possible now. I'd also like to see some of Greg Bear's stuff done on film...and for fantasy/Swords & Sorcery - well for me - it Micheal Moorcock - anything and everything (eternal champion) - with Elric being at the top of the list....I'd love to see Zelazny as well - but I don't think anyone could get it right.

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The Golden Compass
Posted by willypold - 2007/06/05 00:20

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The main reason you may not have heard of him is because he's primarily a writer of children's books, although this trilogy has a more adult depth to it. The main characters are two children, which in some minds always equates with books _for_ children.

The number of books that CGI has made possible... I'll have to think about this for a moment. LotR wasn't really possible before CGI, and neither was the Narnia series.

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Stefan - 2007/06/05 01:47

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Thoth,

Michael Moorcock would be awesome....

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The Golden Compass
Posted by jkratzer - 2007/06/05 06:53

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NOT Fantasy, but Sci-Fi;

Honor Harrington series, from David Weber!

Jim

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Harneloot - 2007/06/05 11:30

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Go Eternal Champion!!!!

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Stefan - 2007/06/05 11:43

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Another "children's story"..... Ender's game.... While, the main characters are indeed children, this is anything but a child like story....

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The Golden Compass
Posted by THOTH - 2007/06/05 12:39

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Funny - I just checked my 14 year old's bookcase - and sure enough - he has all 3 books in the Golden Compass triology! lol. Guess I really will have to check them out. He's read Enders game and the one just following as well - but I have been reluctant to let him read the rest of the series. I guess there is no real harm in it - but I felt that some of the themes - such as the compulsive-obsessiveness and such were well not really so much of interest to a child. BTW another fantasy series that could be interesting on film (in the veign of LoTRs) - Donaldson's Covenant series - Lord Fouls Bane and such...I recently picked up his latest in the series - The Runes of the Earth - but haven't had a chance to read it yet. I've patterend a group of Giants off the ones in the books and of course I run Ur-Viles! (made for D & D if you ask me)...his magic has also influenced my system (but what hasn't?)...and love those bloodguard! And the stories are very rich indeed.

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The Golden Compass
Posted by wicked cool - 2007/06/05 15:32

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george martins books are coming to showtime or hbo. If anyone is looking for exceeltn fantasy read Game of thrones and the books after . hes still writing the series and had had a 2 year dealy fro his latest book but it worth the wait. rivals the best out there. not for children

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Harneloot - 2007/06/05 16:30

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Yeah, well, when is he going to write the sequel to a Feast For Crows? I've been waiting YEARS now!!!

It was suppose to be ONE book (instead the publisher wanted it split into two because it was too long) for gosh sakes - you'd think it would have been almost done!

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The Golden Compass
Posted by blairgb - 2007/06/22 14:25

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Thoth,

Michael Moorcock would be awesome....
You should hear my stoned rambling regarding this idea involving trilogies, teams of directors & artists and the band hawkwind.

I think "Hiero's Journey", the "Unforsaken Hiero" and the unwritten third book would make for a great trilogy.

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The Golden Compass
Posted by Harneloot - 2007/06/22 17:37

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Huh...never heard of these. Are they part of the Champion Eternal cycle?

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The Golden Compass
Posted by blairgb - 2007/06/22 19:17

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Nothing to do with Moorcock....pos apoc. sci-fi (although very swords & sorcery!) by Sterling E. Lanier

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The Golden Compass
Posted by THOTH - 2007/06/25 21:46

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I think "Hiero's Journey", the "Unforsaken Hiero" and the unwritten third book would make for a great trilogy.
Huh...never heard of these. Are they part of the Champion Eternal cycle?
Nothing to do with Moorcock....pos apoc. sci-fi (although very swords & sorcery!) by Sterling E. Lanier
LOL - I was likewise unfamiliar...but am a huge hawkwind fan....

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