

Paradise - a divine comedy
by Glenn Myers, Published June 21 2010.
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Paradise is a comic novel about what goes on inside, and outside, our heads.

Jamie Smith, web designer and curry-lover, meets Keziah Mordant, death-wishing criminal lawyer, head on, at 140mph, on a crowded road.

Entering the afterlife together, they are captured and sold to evil spirits who set them up in an artificial Paradise. Jamie and Keziah are guinea pigs for a trial of new Satanic enslavement products.

But they are not quite dead. As doctors fight to revive them, the demons hurry to rush their product to market. Meanwhile Jamie begins to fear a worse nightmare than death, demons, or even an eternity with Keziah—facing his own soul.

Glenn Myers (a frequent contributor to Impact) notes: ‘Novels should be about something big. They should also amuse and entertain and ask questions. This book is about the biggest theme of all: what we do with God’s grace?’

Some comments from reviewers:

‘Hitchhikers Guide meets Screwtape meets Pilgrims Progress meets the Discworld!’

‘The most thought-provoking read I’ve had for a long time! ... My challenge ... is how to stop my brain working overtime as it tries to tie up all the theological loose ends ...’

‘Quirky, humorous and imaginative. ... the closing encounter between Jamie and Keziah and their conversation ... if the reader really thinks about it, [brings] in much deeper issues than appear on the surface.’

‘Utterly marvellous. Very subversive ... I loved the humour ... [the] portrayal of the demons was simply delicious ... The “salvation” of Keziah and Jamie’s role in it were beautiful.’

‘Wonderfully descriptive and exciting.’

‘The light comic touch was handled skilfully and confidently ... The style had shades of authors like Douglas Adams, Terry Pratchett and Jasper Fforde, all of whom use a comic touch for more than just whimsy. This is a tricky thing to achieve, allowing the comic and serious themes to complement each other.’

‘... The fact that Jamie remains thoroughly likeable despite (or because of) his self-absorption, his gluttony, his escapism and cowardice, is a masterstroke ... The dialogue is slick, witty and true to life. Especially when each character is caught in his/her own focus, not really listening to the other ... Jamie’s inability to refrain from wise cracks, and Keziah’s or Caroline’s withering responses are priceless ... It was a good read. Thoroughly enjoyable. Made me laugh. Made me think.’

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