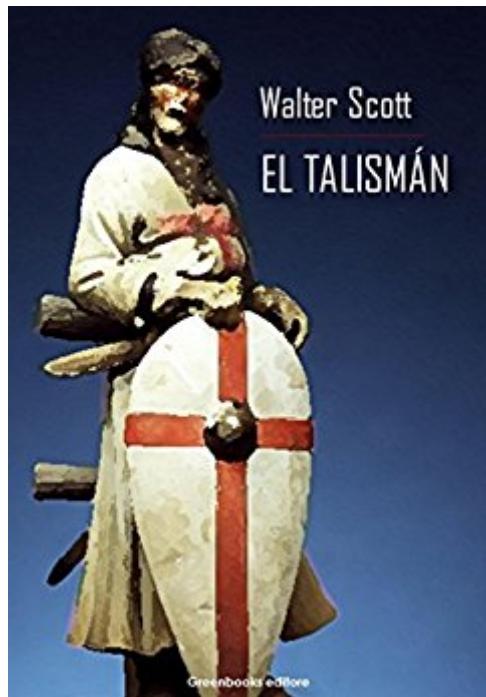


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El Talismán (Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

El talismán (The talisman) es una novela del escritor escocés Walter Scott. Apareció en 1825 como la segunda historia de sus Cuentos de los Cruzados (Tales of the Crusaders). El talismán nos ubica dentro de la Tercera Cruzada, a veces conocida como Cruzada del Rey (King's Crusade, ya que en ella participó nada menos que la estirpe de los Plantagenet, representada en la piel de Ricardo II de Inglaterra), y que tuvo lugar entre 1189 y 1192. Casi toda la trama de la novela se desarrolla dentro del campamento de los cruzados en Palestina; donde el rey Ricardo Corazón de León yace herido. Toda la campaña corre peligro debido al padecimiento de su líder. Entonces surge la figura de un joven noble de Escocia: el caballero Kenneth; quien logra desbaratar algunas intrigas entre los propios cruzados y llevar algo de esperanza en el éxito de la empresa. Como en muchas novelas históricas de Walter Scott, los personajes de El talismán existieron realmente. Allí tenemos al rey Ricardo y a su oponente y unificador del mundo musulmán: Saladino (cuyo nombre nos recuerda a ciertos embutidos, pero que era un poco más elegante: Salah ad-Din Yusuf ibn Ayyub). También aparece Edith Plantagenet y una gran cantidad de cruzados reales. Incluso el protagonista, Sir Kenneth, es una versión literaria de David Earl de Huntingdon, un noble escocés célebre por sus hazañas.

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Customer Reviews

A little while ago I did a writeup for Clive Barker's "Weaveworld" and said it may be the best blend of the horror novel and the fantasy novel ever. While I stand by that 'may be' it occurs to me now that I should have also mentioned "The Talisman" as a voraciously strong contender for that title. It's about a lot of things, including the existence of parallel realities overlaying one another and what happens in one of them also affecting what happens in the other (or others?) but perhaps the best way to describe the slice in space and time in this stunningly realized Universe (Multiverse?) we're taken to in "The Talisman" is to say that it's about a young boy named Jack who's mother is dying, and to save her he has to go on a journey to obtain a mystical artifact (the title 'Talisman'), and his mother's counterpart is also dying. And she's the Queen of one of Earth's parallel selves. This may sound like the basis for a 'Y.A.' novel a la "Harry Potter" or "Abarat" but it's not, this novel is graphic and brutal through much of its run. It also contains some of the very best of the worlds of charm and whimsy and wonder at other times. Jack is possessed of the ability to 'flip' from one world to the other, and the novel spends time in each. Items from one world, as well as people, have their counterparts in the other world as well, but in different forms. What is a house in one world could well be a hut or a castle or a tent in another. Magic is far stronger on the 'other' world, technology more prevalent in 'ours', but each exist in both.

In the vast and eerie world of Stephen King's multiverse, "The Talisman" is something special -- a boy's quest to save his mother, and his journey into another world where magic reigns. And that magic begins to bloom like a black rose in "The Talisman: Road of Trials," the first comic book collection adapted from King and Peter Straub's epic fantasy. Vivid, shadowy and hauntingly visceral, this story gives an eerie, dark edge to the everyday world. The first part is kind of fragmented, but it does an excellent job of introducing Jack (and readers) to the Territories. Jack and his mother Lily are on the run, driving from place to place so they can get away from a sinister man known only as Uncle Morgan. When they stop at a deserted beach resort, Jack befriends a kindly old man named Speedy -- and not only does Speedy know about Jack's "daydreams," but he also knows the true reason Lily is dying. To save his mother, Jack has to go on a journey into a strange otherworld known as the Territories, populated by "twinners" (sort of a other-world doppelganger who lives and dies alongside the person in our world). Jack manages to "flip" into the Territories and begins his journey to recover the Talisman, but he soon discovers that horrendous enemies are following him -- both in the Territories, and in our world.... The first volume of "The Talisman Road of Trials" is all about setting up the story -- plot threads are set up, characters are introduced, and the preteen hero begins his quest. It's a bit fragmented in plot, but when Speedy and Jack start talking

by the broken carousel the story really begins to take focus.

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