

the terror dan simmons review

the terror dan simmons review delves into one of the most compelling and chilling historical fiction novels of recent years. Dan Simmons masterfully blends elements of historical narrative, supernatural suspense, and psychological horror to create a novel that has captivated readers worldwide. This review explores the novel's plot intricacies, character development, and the atmospheric tension that Simmons expertly crafts. Additionally, it addresses the historical context and how Simmons integrates real events with fictional horror, making the narrative both educational and thrilling. The review also examines critical reception and the impact of the novel on the genre of historical horror fiction. For readers and literary enthusiasts looking for a deep dive into "The Terror," this comprehensive analysis provides valuable insights. Below is an outline of the main sections covered in this review.

- Plot Overview of The Terror
- Character Analysis
- Historical Context and Accuracy
- Thematic Elements and Symbolism
- Writing Style and Narrative Techniques
- Critical Reception and Impact

Plot Overview of The Terror

The terror dan simmons review begins with an examination of the novel's gripping plot. Set in the

mid-19th century, "The Terror" fictionalizes the ill-fated Franklin Expedition, which sought to discover the Northwest Passage. The story follows the crew of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror as they become trapped in the Arctic ice, facing not only the brutal forces of nature but a mysterious and deadly predator. Simmons interweaves survival drama with supernatural horror, creating a tense atmosphere that escalates throughout the book. The novel's pacing carefully balances moments of quiet dread with intense action sequences, maintaining reader engagement from start to finish.

Synopsis of Key Events

The narrative begins with the ships' departure and the crew's initial optimism. As the ice closes in, hardships multiply: starvation, scurvy, and exposure take their toll. The terror escalates with the introduction of an enigmatic creature stalking the men, adding a layer of psychological horror to the already dire situation. Simultaneously, internal conflicts and deteriorating morale challenge the crew's unity. The novel culminates in a harrowing struggle for survival, where human endurance and fear of the unknown collide.

Character Analysis

Character development plays a pivotal role in the *The Terror* review, as it highlights how Simmons creates multidimensional individuals facing extraordinary circumstances. The characters are drawn with complexity, showing vulnerability and resilience in equal measure. Their psychological depth provides insight into human nature under extreme pressure.

Captain Francis Crozier

Captain Crozier emerges as a central figure, portrayed as a thoughtful and pragmatic leader grappling with the crew's deteriorating situation and his own inner demons. His leadership qualities and personal struggles form a backbone for the narrative.

Commander James Fitzjames

Fitzjames represents the contrasting approach to command—more rigid and ambitious. His interactions with Crozier reveal tensions that underscore themes of authority and survival.

The Crew Members

The supporting characters, including sailors and officers, are depicted with attention to individual backgrounds and personalities. These portrayals enrich the story's realism and emotional impact.

- Complexity in character motivations
- Interactions that reveal psychological strain
- Representation of 19th-century naval hierarchy

Historical Context and Accuracy

An essential aspect of the *Terrace* review is the exploration of historical context. Simmons extensively researched the Franklin Expedition and 19th-century Arctic exploration to ground his story in factual detail. The novel incorporates real historical figures and events, lending authenticity to the fictional narrative.

Franklin Expedition Background

The Franklin Expedition, launched in 1845, aimed to chart the Northwest Passage but ended in tragedy, with all crew members lost. Simmons reconstructs this doomed voyage with respect to its

documented hardships, including extreme weather, isolation, and disease.

Integration of Fictional Horror

While rooted in history, "The Terror" introduces supernatural elements that symbolize the unknown dangers of the Arctic. The creature stalking the crew serves as both a literal threat and a metaphor for the fears faced by explorers.

Thematic Elements and Symbolism

The terror dan simmons review recognizes the novel's rich thematic layers. Themes of survival, leadership, fear, and the clash between man and nature are intricately woven throughout the narrative. Simmons uses symbolism to deepen the story's impact.

Survival and Human Endurance

The novel probes the limits of human strength and spirit in the face of overwhelming adversity. The crew's struggle reflects broader questions about perseverance and desperation.

Fear of the Unknown

The Arctic setting and the mysterious creature symbolize the primal fear of the unknown, a central motif that drives the suspense and horror elements.

Nature's Indifference

Simmons portrays nature as an indifferent force, highlighting humanity's fragility and the illusion of control in harsh environments.

Writing Style and Narrative Techniques

Dan Simmons' writing style is a key factor in the terror dan simmons review, noted for its vivid descriptions and atmospheric tension. The prose balances detailed historical exposition with engaging storytelling, creating an immersive reading experience.

Descriptive Language

Simmons employs rich and evocative descriptions of the Arctic landscape, the ships, and the crew's physical and mental states. This attention to detail enhances the novel's realism and mood.

Multiple Perspectives

The narrative shifts between various characters' viewpoints, offering a comprehensive understanding of events and internal conflicts. This technique adds depth and complexity to the story.

Use of Suspense and Foreshadowing

The author skillfully uses suspense and foreshadowing to build tension, keeping readers engaged and anticipating the next development.

Critical Reception and Impact

The terror dan simmons review concludes with an overview of the novel's reception and significance. "The Terror" has been widely praised for its innovative blend of genres and meticulous research. It has influenced both literary and popular culture, including adaptations into other media.

Critical Acclaim

Critics have lauded the novel for its compelling narrative, character depth, and atmospheric writing. It is often cited as a benchmark in historical horror fiction.

Adaptations and Legacy

The novel's popularity led to a successful television adaptation, further expanding its audience. Its legacy continues as a reference point for blending historical fact with speculative fiction.

Contributions to Genre

"The Terror" has contributed to renewed interest in historical horror and survival stories, inspiring subsequent works in similar veins.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons about?

'The Terror' by Dan Simmons is a historical horror novel that fictionalizes the lost expedition of the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror in the Arctic, blending real events with supernatural elements to create a chilling narrative.

How accurate is Dan Simmons' portrayal of the Franklin expedition in 'The Terror'?

Dan Simmons incorporates extensive historical research into 'The Terror,' accurately depicting the harsh conditions and challenges faced by the Franklin expedition, while adding fictional horror elements for dramatic effect.

What are the main themes explored in 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons?

The novel explores themes such as survival against nature, isolation, leadership under pressure, the unknown supernatural, and human endurance in extreme conditions.

How has 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons been received by critics?

Critics have generally praised 'The Terror' for its atmospheric storytelling, detailed historical research, and effective blending of horror with historical fiction, though some have noted its slow pacing.

Is 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons suitable for readers who enjoy horror or historical fiction?

'The Terror' appeals to both horror and historical fiction fans, offering a well-researched historical backdrop combined with chilling supernatural elements.

How does Dan Simmons build suspense in 'The Terror'?

Simmons builds suspense through vivid descriptions of the Arctic environment, escalating threats from both nature and supernatural forces, and deep psychological tension among the crew members.

What distinguishes Dan Simmons' 'The Terror' from other historical horror novels?

'The Terror' stands out due to its meticulous historical accuracy, rich character development, and seamless integration of supernatural horror within a true historical tragedy.

Has 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons been adapted into other media?

Yes, 'The Terror' was adapted into a television series by AMC, which received positive reviews for its faithful yet dramatized portrayal of the novel's events.

Would you recommend 'The Terror' by Dan Simmons to new readers?

If you enjoy immersive historical fiction with elements of horror and survival drama, 'The Terror' is highly recommended for its gripping narrative and atmospheric depth.

Additional Resources

1. *The Terror* by Dan Simmons

This historical horror novel blends real events with supernatural elements, focusing on the doomed Arctic expedition of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror in the mid-19th century. As the crew battles the harsh polar environment, they are stalked by a mysterious predator, amplifying the tension and dread. Simmons expertly combines meticulous historical detail with chilling suspense, making it a gripping read for fans of both history and horror.

2. *Bird Box* by Josh Malerman

In a post-apocalyptic world where unseen entities drive people to deadly madness upon sight, a woman and her children must navigate a dangerous journey blindfolded. This psychological horror novel masterfully builds suspense through its unique premise and intense atmosphere. Like *The Terror*, it explores human resilience in the face of incomprehensible terror.

3. *At the Mountains of Madness* by H.P. Lovecraft

This classic novella delves into an Antarctic expedition that uncovers ancient, cosmic horrors beneath the ice. Its blend of scientific exploration and eldritch terror bears thematic similarities to *The Terror*'s Arctic setting and creeping dread. Lovecraft's atmospheric storytelling has influenced many modern horror writers, including Dan Simmons.

4. *Frozen Hell* by Jeff Strand

Set in the desolate, icy wilderness, this horror novel follows characters trapped and hunted by a malevolent force in freezing conditions. The claustrophobic setting and relentless terror echo the isolated, deadly environment faced by the crew in *The Terror*. Strand's blend of humor and horror adds a unique twist to the survival narrative.

5. *The North Water* by Ian McGuire

A brutal and gritty tale of a doomed 19th-century whaling expedition in the Arctic, this novel explores human savagery and survival against a harsh, unforgiving landscape. While not supernatural, its depiction of isolation, despair, and the cruelty of nature parallels many themes found in *The Terror*. The vivid prose and complex characters create a dark, immersive experience.

6. *Ghost Ship* by Steve Alten

This thriller involves a haunted vessel adrift in the Arctic, where a rescue mission uncovers deadly secrets and supernatural threats. The maritime setting and eerie atmosphere make it a fitting companion to *The Terror*. Alten's fast-paced narrative keeps readers on edge as mysteries unravel on the frozen seas.

7. *Ice Hunt* by James Rollins

A suspenseful adventure set beneath the Arctic ice, where a secret research station becomes the site of deadly intrigue and unexpected horrors. Rollins combines scientific speculation with action and suspense, similar to the blend of history and mystery in *The Terror*. The novel's chilling environment adds to the mounting tension.

8. *The Abominable* by Dan Simmons

Another of Simmons's works, this novel follows an expedition to climb Mount Everest in the 1920s, where the climbers encounter a terrifying creature. It shares *The Terror*'s themes of man versus nature and the intrusion of the supernatural into historic exploration. Simmons's rich historical research and vivid descriptions heighten the novel's suspense.

9. *Deadfall* by Gary Russell

Set in the Arctic wilderness, this horror story involves a group of people trapped by both the elements and a deadly predator. The novel's intense atmosphere, survival focus, and creeping menace are reminiscent of *The Terror*'s blend of historical setting and horror. Russell's tight pacing keeps the tension high throughout the narrative.

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the terror dan simmons review: *Prestige Television* Seth Friedman, Amanda Keeler, 2022-11-11 Prestige Television explores how a growing array of 21st century US programming is produced and received in ways that elevate select series above the competition in a saturated market. Contributing authors demonstrate that these shows are positioned and understood as comprising an increasingly recognizable genre characterized by familiar markers of distinction. In contrast to most accounts of elite categorizations of contemporary US television programming that center on HBO and its primary streaming rivals, these essays examine how efforts to imbue series with prestigious or elevated status now permeate the rest of the medium, including network as well as basic and undervalued premium cable channels. Case study chapters focusing on diverse series, ranging from widely recognized examples such as *The Americans* (2013-2018) and *The Knick* (2014-15) to contested examples like *Queen of the South* (2016-2021) and *How I Met Your Mother* (2005-2014), highlight how contributing authors extend conceptions of the genre beyond expected parameters.

the terror dan simmons review: The Deep Alma Katsu, 2024-06-04 What really happened on board of the Titanic? Someone, or something, is haunting the ship. Between unexplained disappearances and eerie deaths, the guests of the Titanic—particularly maid Annie Hebley and guest Mark Fletcher—are convinced there's something sinister afoot. But before they can unveil the danger that beckons them, disaster strikes. Years later, Annie is working as a nurse on the sixth voyage of the Titanic's sister ship, the *Britannic*, newly refitted as a hospital ship. When she happens across an unconscious Mark, now a soldier fighting in World War I, Annie is relieved to see he survived the sinking. But soon Mark's presence awakens deep-buried secrets, a creeping darkness forcing Annie to reckon with the demons of her past—as they both discover the terror may not yet be over.

the terror dan simmons review: The Terror Dan Simmons, 2007-03-08 The masterfully chilling novel that inspired the hit AMC series (*Entertainment Weekly*). The men on board the *HMS Terror* — part of the 1845 Franklin Expedition, the first steam-powered vessels ever to search for the legendary Northwest Passage — are entering a second summer in the Arctic Circle without a thaw, stranded in a nightmarish landscape of encroaching ice and darkness. Endlessly cold, they struggle to survive with poisonous rations, a dwindling coal supply, and ships buckling in the grip of crushing ice. But their real enemy is even more terrifying. There is something out there in the frigid darkness: an unseen predator stalking their ship, a monstrous terror clawing to get in. "The best and most unusual historical novel I have read in years." —Katherine A. Powers, *Boston Globe*

the terror dan simmons review: The Hunger Alma Katsu, 2023-09-05 Supernatural suspense at its finest . . . It will scare the pants off you. —The New York Times Book Review Evil is invisible, and it is everywhere. That is the only way to explain the series of misfortunes that have plagued the wagon train known as the Donner Party. Depleted rations, bitter quarrels, and the mysterious death of a little boy have driven the isolated travelers to the brink of madness. Though they dream of what awaits them in the West, long-buried secrets begin to emerge, and dissent among them escalates to the point of murder and chaos. As members of the group begin to disappear, the survivors start to wonder if there really is something disturbing, and hungry, waiting for them in the mountains...and whether the evil that has unfolded around them may have in fact been growing within them all along.

the terror dan simmons review: Haunted Soundtracks Kevin J. Donnelly, Aimee Mollaghan, 2023-10-05 The turn of the millennium has heralded an outgrowth of culture that demonstrates an awareness of the ephemeral nature of history and the complexity underpinning the relationship between location and the past. This has been especially apparent in the shifting relationship between landscape, memory and sound in film, television and other media. The result is growing interest in soundtracks, as part of audiovisual culture, as well as an interest in the spectral aspects of culture more generally. This collection of essays focuses on audiovisual forms that foreground landscape, sound and memory. The scope of inquiry emphasises the ghostly qualities of a certain body of soundtracks, extending beyond merely the idea of 'scary films' or 'haunted houses.' Rather, the notion of sonic haunting is tied to ideas of trauma, anxiety or nostalgia associated with spatial and temporal dislocation in contemporary society. Touchstones for the approach are the concepts of psychogeography and hauntology, pervasive and established critical strategies that are interrogated and refined in relation to the reification of the spectral within the soundtracks under consideration here.

the terror dan simmons review: The Spectral Arctic Shane McCorristine, 2018-05-01 Visitors to the Arctic enter places that have been traditionally imagined as otherworldly. This strangeness fascinated audiences in nineteenth-century Britain when the idea of the heroic explorer voyaging through unmapped zones reached its zenith. The Spectral Arctic re-thinks our understanding of Arctic exploration by paying attention to the importance of dreams and ghosts in the quest for the Northwest Passage. The narratives of Arctic exploration that we are all familiar with today are just the tip of the iceberg: they disguise a great mass of mysterious and dimly lit stories beneath the surface. In contrast to oft-told tales of heroism and disaster, this book reveals the hidden stories of dreaming and haunted explorers, of frozen mummies, of rescue balloons, visits to Inuit shamans, and of the entranced female clairvoyants who travelled to the Arctic in search of John Franklin's lost expedition. Through new readings of archival documents, exploration narratives, and fictional texts, these spectral stories reflect the complex ways that men and women actually thought about the far North in the past. This revisionist historical account allows us to make sense of current cultural and political concerns in the Canadian Arctic about the location of Franklin's ships.

the terror dan simmons review: Red Widow Alma Katsu, 2022-03-01 "A wicked sharp spy novel...Equal parts Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy and Killing Eve." -S. A. Cosby, author of Blacktop Wasteland and Razorblade Tears An exhilarating spy thriller written by an intelligence veteran about two women CIA agents whose paths become intertwined around a threat to the Russia Division--one that's coming from inside the agency. Lyndsey Duncan worries her career with the CIA might be over. After lines are crossed with another intelligence agent during an assignment, she is sent home to Washington on administrative leave. So when a former colleague--now Chief of the Russia Division--recruits her for an internal investigation, she jumps at the chance to prove herself. Lyndsey was once a top handler in the Moscow Field Station, where she was known as the human lie detector and praised for recruiting some of the most senior Russian officials. But now, three Russian assets have been exposed--including one of her own--and the CIA is convinced there's a mole in the department. With years of work in question and lives on the line, Lyndsey is thrown back into life at the agency, this time tracing the steps of those closest to her. Meanwhile, fellow agent Theresa Warner can't avoid the spotlight. She is the infamous Red Widow, the wife of a former director killed in the field under mysterious circumstances. With her husband's legacy shadowing her every move, Theresa is a fixture of the Russia Division, and as she and Lyndsey strike up an unusual friendship, her knowledge proves invaluable. But as Lyndsey uncovers a surprising connection to Theresa that could answer all of her questions, she unearths a terrifying web of secrets within the department, if only she is willing to unravel it....

the terror dan simmons review: Ships of State Laurie Ellinghausen, 2024-03-01 The ideological roots of the British Empire have been widely discussed in early modern studies, as have maritime settings in the period's imaginative writing. However, these perspectives have not adequately accounted for how literature's evolving representations of the common British seaman

shaped the early stages of public discourse about Britain's imperial endeavours. Filling that gap in scholarship, *Ships of State* argues that literary representations of seaborne labour play a distinct and crucial role in the early formation of British imperial attitudes. The book analyses these representations across an array of popular genres: New World promotion tracts, civic pageantry, stage drama, and broadside ballads. These genres demonstrate how imaginative modes of discourse both reflected and influenced popular conceptions of the common seaman and, by extension, the national ambitions he represented. Placing these depictions into dialogue with the larger national conversation about maritime expansion, *Ships of State* sheds new light on the role of seaborne labour and its literary representations in creating and sustaining empire.

the terror dan simmons review: *The Publishers Weekly* , 2007

the terror dan simmons review: *21st-Century Gothic* Danel Olson, 2010-12-29 Selected by a poll of more than 180 Gothic specialists (creative writers, professors, critics, and Gothic Studies program developers at universities), the fifty-three original works discussed in *21st-Century Gothic* represent the most impressive Gothic novels written around the world between 2000-2010. The essays in this volume discuss the merits of these novels, highlighting the influences and key components that make them worthy of inclusion. Many of the pioneer voices of Gothic Studies, as well as other key critics of the field, have all contributed new essays to this volume, including David Punter, Jerrold Hogle, Karen F. Stein, Marie Mulvey-Roberts, Mary Ellen Snodgrass, Tony Magistrale, Don D'Ammassa, Mavis Haut, Walter Rankin, James Doig, Laurence A. Rickels, Douglass H. Thomson, Sue Zlosnik, Carol Margaret Davison, Ruth Bienstock Anolik, Glennis Byron, Judith Wilt, Bernice Murphy, Darrell Schweitzer, and June Pulliam. The guide includes a preface by one of the world's leading authorities on the weird and fantastic, S. T. Joshi. Sharing their knowledge of how traditional Gothic elements and tensions surface in a changed way within a contemporary novel, the contributors enhance the reader's dark enjoyment, emotional involvement, and appreciation of these works. These essays show not only how each of these novels are Gothic but also how they advance or change Gothicism, making the works both irresistible for readers and establishing their place in the Gothic canon.

the terror dan simmons review: *The New York Times Index* , 2007

the terror dan simmons review: *Where the Dead Wait* Ally Wilkes, 2023-12-05

"Haunting...Ominous." —The New York Times Book Review A "wonderfully chilling" (Christopher Golden, New York Times bestselling author) polar gothic about a Victorian explorer in search of his lost shipmate—and redemption—from the Bram Stoker Award-nominated author of *All the White Spaces*. William Day should be an acclaimed Arctic explorer. But after a failed expedition, in which his remaining men only survived by eating their dead comrades, he returned in disgrace. Thirteen years later, his second-in-command, Jesse Stevens, has gone missing in the same frozen waters. Perhaps this is Day's chance to restore his tarnished reputation by bringing Stevens—the man who's haunted his whole life—back home. But when the rescue mission becomes an uncanny journey into his past, Day must face up to the things he's done. Abandonment. Betrayal. Cannibalism. Aboard ship, Day must also contend with unwanted passengers: a reporter obsessively digging up the truth about the first expedition, as well as Stevens's wife, a spirit-medium whose séances both fascinate and frighten. Following a trail of cryptic messages, gaunt bodies, and old bones, their search becomes more and more unnerving. The restless dead are never far behind in this "breathtaking achievement" (Publishers Weekly, starred review).

the terror dan simmons review: *The Imagined Arctic in Speculative Fiction* Maria

Lindgren Leavenworth, 2023-07-31 *The Imagined Arctic in Speculative Fiction* explores the ways in which the Arctic is imagined and what function it is made to serve in a selection of speculative fictions: non-mimetic works that start from the implied question What if? Spanning slightly more than two centuries of speculative fiction, from the starting point in Mary Shelley's 1818 *Frankenstein* to contemporary works that engage with the vast ramifications of anthropogenic climate change, analyses demonstrate how Arctic discourses are supported or subverted and how new Arctics are added to the textual tradition. To illuminate wider lines of inquiry informing the way

the world is envisioned, humanity's place and function in it, and more-than-human entanglements, analyses focus on the function of the actual Arctic and how this function impacts and is impacted by speculative elements. With effects of climate change training the global eye on the Arctic, and as debates around future northern cultural, economic and environmental sustainability intensify, there is a need for a deepened understanding of the discourses that have constructed and are constructing the Arctic. A careful mapping and serious consideration of both past and contemporary speculative visions thus illuminate the role the Arctic has played and may come to play in a diverse set of practices and fields.

the terror dan simmons review: *Visual Representations of the Arctic* Markku Lehtimäki, Arja Rosenholm, Vlad Strukov, 2021-03-30 Privileging the visual as the main method of communication and meaning-making, this book responds critically to the worldwide discussion about the Arctic and the North, addressing the interrelated issues of climate change, ethics and geopolitics. A multi-disciplinary, multi-modal exploration of the Arctic, it supplies an original conceptualization of the Arctic as a visual world encompassing an array of representations, imaginings, and constructions. By examining a broad range of visual forms, media and forms such as art, film, graphic novels, maps, media, and photography, the book advances current debates about visual culture. The book enriches contemporary theories of the visual taking the Arctic as a spatial entity and also as a mode of exploring contemporary and historical visual practices, including imaginary constructions of the North. Original contributions include case studies from all the countries along the Arctic shore, with Russian material occupying a large section due to the country's impact on the region

the terror dan simmons review: Tracking the Franklin Expedition of 1845 Stephen Zorn, 2023-08-29 The Franklin Northwest Passage Expedition of 1845 is perhaps the greatest disaster in the history of exploration--all 129 men vanished, as did the expedition's two ships, HMS Erebus and Terror. Over the next 150 years, searchers found bones, clothing and a variety of relics. Inuit narratives provided some of the details of what happened to the frozen, starving sailors after they deserted their ice-locked ships in 1848. Then, in 2014 and 2016, Canadian researchers found the sunken wrecks, not far from the bleak, windswept King William Island in the Arctic. At last, the mystery of the Franklin Expedition would be solved. Or would it? This book pulls together the various searchers' discoveries; the many recent scientific studies that shed light on when, how and why the men died (and whether, in extremis, they ate each other); and illuminates what we know, and what we don't and may never know, about the fate of the expedition.

the terror dan simmons review: *Rain Taxi Review of Books* , 2008

the terror dan simmons review: Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Review Annual , 1990

the terror dan simmons review: *On the Backs of Others* Edward Armston-Sheret, 2024 In the Victorian and Edwardian eras British explorers sought to become respected geographers and popular public figures, downplaying or reframing their reliance on others for survival. Far from being solitary heroes, these explorers were in reality dependent on the bodies, senses, curiosity, and labor of subaltern people and animals. In *On the Backs of Others* Edward Armston-Sheret offers new perspectives on British exploration in this era by focusing on the contributions of the people and animals, ordinarily written out of the mainstream histories, who made these journeys possible. He explores several well-known case studies of enduring popular and academic interest, such as Richard Francis Burton and John Hanning Speke's Nile expeditions (1856-59 and 1860-63); Isabella Bird's travels in North America, Persia, and East Asia (1872-c. 1900); and Captain Robert Falcon Scott's two Antarctic expeditions (1901-4 and 1911-13). Armston-Sheret argues that numerous previously ignored stories show the work and agency of subaltern groups. In rethinking the history of exploration *On the Backs of Others* offers the first book-length study of the relationship between exploration and empire and their legacies within academic geography. --

the terror dan simmons review: *So Cold the River* Michael Koryta, 2010-06-09 Now a major motion picture: *So Cold the River* is a chilling, supernatural tale guaranteed to put the cold finger down your spine (Michael Connelly). It started with a beautiful woman and a challenge. As a gift for

her husband, Alyssa Bradford approaches Eric Shaw to make a documentary about her father-in-law, Campbell Bradford, a 95-year-old billionaire whose past is wrapped in mystery. Eric grabs the job even though there are few clues to the man's past -- just the name of his hometown and an antique water bottle he's kept his entire life. In Bradford's hometown, Eric discovers an extraordinary history -- a glorious domed hotel where movie stars, presidents, athletes, and mobsters once mingled, and hot springs whose miraculous mineral water cured everything from insomnia to malaria. Neglected for years, the resort has been restored to its former grandeur just in time for Eric's stay. Just hours after his arrival, Eric experiences a frighteningly vivid vision. As the days pass, the frequency and intensity of his hallucinations increase and draw Eric deeper into the town's dark history. He discovers that something besides the hotel has been restored -- a long-forgotten evil that will stop at nothing to regain its lost glory. Brilliantly imagined and terrifyingly real, *So Cold the River* is a tale of irresistible suspense with a racing, unstoppable current.

the terror dan simmons review: *Nature and Narrative* Markku Lehtimäki, 2025-05-23 The book explores environmental issues in twenty-first-century Anglophone fiction and how those issues are dealt with by specific literary means. It proposes a reciprocal relationship between nature and narrative—the idea according to which nature both informs and inspires artistic creations, while literary designs and rhetoric also shape our ideas and perceptions of the natural environment. It is argued that in order to address design and rhetoric in environmental texts, we need a close analysis of those world-shaping functions of literary narratives that unite ecocritical and narratological interests. The author presents readings of contemporary novels and their varying ways of seeing nature through narrative devices and fictional minds. The novels discussed in the book are Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall*, Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*, Ian McGuire's *The North Water*, Barbara Kingsolver's *The Lacuna*, Paul Harding's *Tinkers* and Enon, J. M. Coetzee's *Elizabeth Costello*, Ian McEwan's *Solar*, and Jenny Offill's *Weather*.

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