



Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom

By Cory Doctorow

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Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom By Cory Doctorow

On The Skids In The Transhuman Future

Jules is a young man barely a century old. He's lived long enough to see the cure for death and the end of scarcity, to learn ten languages and compose three symphonies...and to realize his boyhood dream of taking up residence in Disney World.

Disney World! The greatest artistic achievement of the long-ago twentieth century. Now in the keeping of a network of "ad-hocs" who keep the classic attractions running as they always have, enhanced with only the smallest high-tech touches.

Now, though, the "ad hocs" are under attack. A new group has taken over the Hall of the Presidents, and is replacing its venerable audioanimatronics with new, immersive direct-to-brain interfaces that give guests the illusion of being Washington, Lincoln, and all the others. For Jules, this is an attack on the artistic purity of Disney World itself.

Worse: it appears this new group has had Jules killed. This upsets him. (It's only his fourth death and revival, after all.) Now it's war....

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Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom By Cory Doctorow Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A lot of ideas are packed into this short novel, but Doctorow's own best idea was setting his story in Disney World, where it's hard to tell whether technology serves dreams or vice versa. Jules, a relative youngster at more than a century old, is a contented citizen of the Bitchun Society that has filled Earth and near-space since shortage and death were overcome. People are free to do whatever they wish, since the only wealth is respect and since constant internal interface lets all monitor exactly how successful they are at being liked. What Jules wants to do is move to Disney World, join the ad-hoc crew that runs the park and fine-tune the Haunted Mansion ride to make it even more wonderful. When his prudently stored consciousness abruptly awakens in a cloned body, he learns that he was murdered; evidently he's in the way of somebody else's dreams. Jules first suspects, then becomes viciously obsessed by, the innovative group that has turned the Hall of Presidents into a virtual experience. In the conflict that follows, he loses his lover, his job, his respect—even his interface connection—but gains perspective that the other Bitchun citizens lack. Jules's narrative unfolds so smoothly that readers may forget that all this raging passion is over amusement park rides. Then they can ask what that shows about the novel's supposedly mature, liberated characters.

Doctorow has served up a nicely understated dish: meringue laced with caffeine.

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From [Booklist](#)

Welcome to Bitchun society, where all today's commonplace problems have been solved: even death is a minor inconvenience, since one can make regular backups. Our hero has gone to Disneyland--his habit at times of major personal crisis--where he works for the ad-hocracy that runs the Haunted Mansion and the Hall of Presidents. It is a great honor to be working on the pinnacle of late-twentieth-century cultural and artistic achievement--Disneyland, that would be--and it inspires great loyalty. Our man begins feeling the pressure of change, however, after a cookie-cutter teenybopper shoots him dead for apparently no reason at all. Convinced that a new ad-hocracy on the block used his death to take over the Hall of Presidents, he vows to sabotage their plans and protect the sanctity of the Haunted Mansion. Thus begins a cycle of destruction and conflict with unexpected ramifications for the park--and his personal life. An excellent ride, entertaining and unpredictable. *Regina Schroeder*

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Review

“He sparkles! He fizzes! He does backflips and breaks the furniture! Science fiction needs Cory Doctorow.”
?Bruce Sterling, author of *The Hacker Crackdown* and *Distraction*

“This is science fiction for the non-SF reader as well as for hardcore fans of the genre--think Carl Hiassen crossed with Philip K. Dick, with just a dash of Disney magic” ?*Kathryn Lively, author of Saints Preserve Us*

“In a world of affluence and immortality, the big battles will be fought over culture, not politics. That's the starting-point of *Wired* contributor Doctorow's daring novel.... Few challenges to copyright giants are as entertaining as this book.” ?*Wired*

“Cory Doctorow is the most interesting new SF writer I've come across in years. He starts out at the point

where older SF writers' speculations end." ?Rudy Rucker, author of Spaceland

"A kinetic, immersive yarn...wholly entertaining." ?*The Onion AV Club*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Deloris Wagner:

The book Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading a book Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom to get your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You can know everything if you like available and read a guide Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this guide?

Kate Word:

The event that you get from Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom is a more deep you looking the information that hide inside the words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to comprehend but Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by simply anyone who read the item because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom instantly.

Cheryl Alexander:

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Molly Wilson:

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon.

You will see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you is Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom this guide consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The language styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

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