



A Path to Coldness of Heart

Glen Cook

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

A Path to Coldness of Heart

Glen Cook

A Path to Coldness of Heart Glen Cook

At long last, the conclusion to Glen Cook's Dread Empire saga has arrived! King Bragi Ragnarson is a prisoner, shamed, nameless, and held captive by Lord Shih-kaa and the Empress Mist at the heart of the Dread Empire. Far away in Kavelin, Bragia's queen and what remains of his army seek to find and free their king, hampered by the loss or desertion of their best and brightest warriors. Kavelina's spymaster, Michael Trebilcock, is missing in action, as is loyal soldier Aral Dantice.

Meanwhile, Dane, Duke of Greyfells, seeks to seize the rule of Kavelin and place the kingdom in his pocket, beginning a new line of succession through Bragia's queen, Dane's cousin Inger. And in the highest peaks of the Dragona's Teeth, in the ancient castle Fangdred, the sorcerer called Varthlokur uses his arts to spy on the world at large, observing the puppet strings that control kings and empires alike, waiting....

For the time of the wrath of kings is almost at hand, and vengeance lies along a path to coldness of heart.

A Path to Coldness of Heart Details

Date : Published January 1st 2012 by Night Shade Books

ISBN :

Author : Glen Cook

Format : Kindle Edition 445 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Dark Fantasy, Fiction

 [Download A Path to Coldness of Heart ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online A Path to Coldness of Heart ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online A Path to Coldness of Heart Glen Cook

From Reader Review A Path to Coldness of Heart for online ebook

Jacek says

I thought it would be better: the narration is rushed and a little too chaotic for my taste. Constantly we are switched from one hero to another which is confusing because often whole scene lasts only few sentences and then we are switched to another character. It causing that the development of our protagonists really lacking and left me cold. To make matter worse, actions and the plot is not always good explained which add a general confusion to the story. I wasn't satisfied with the ending either due to not answering to all the questions. Still to all fans of the Dread Empire series who waited so long to it is a must read.

Kelly says

AS the last of the series, its an outstanding work. The culmination of several lives of achievement, an unlikely band together tries to take control of their world's future by defeating an enigmatic, ancient figure. If you loved the characters so far, you may be disappointed in this. The story rather than characters take the spotlight. There is some development, especially in the "family" at Fangdred. Without spoiling things... the ending is abrupt and feels totally improvised and unfinished. This may be intended, but i dont think so... and it prevents the book from getting a 5 star rating in my opinion.

Evgeny says

An uneasy peace suddenly came to the lands torn by non-stop conflicts. All the sides cannot continue fighting, or start new wars: some lack resources, some lack leadership, some just realized that peace is much more profitable. The last surviving characters trying to pull together their lives, or empires. Speaking about which, there were quite a few survivors by the last book: I did not expect that many considering that Glen Cook is never shy about killing off major players in his works. People in charge on all sides of conflict began seeing the main source of practically all their problems and they are suddenly free to try taking care of it once and for all.

It took Glen Cook 25 year to write this book. Initially the publisher was not interested in what was planned a final trilogy, later somebody stole the manuscript of the first book of it. The publisher was finally found: much later, but now Glen Cook had to squeeze the trilogy into one book which - while approximately 1.5 times bigger than an average book of the series - is still fairly small. I already mentioned the great number of characters who lived up to this point; these characters have to act individually most of the time which led to frequent POV changes which made for somewhat chaotic plot development.

My much bigger complaint was about the ending. I consider the end of The Black Company series to be one of the best in fantasy, so I had really high expectations; I was disappointed. The end was acceptable, but nowhere close to the standards set by the author himself.

Despite my two complaints above (POV switching and somewhat underwhelming ending) it is still a good book which ties off all tangled plot-lines which deserves **3.5 stars**.

My thoughts about the whole series.

Is the series worth reading? Yes, especially if you like The Black Company; Dread Empire series can be considered to be a father of the most famous author's series. It is easy to see characters that gave birth to Croaker, the Lady, and Goblin/One Eye rivalry. Steven Erikson copied one of the characters wholesale in his Malazan saga (Mocker/Kruppe). The first book is fairly bad and the last can be better, so beware.

If you decide to read the series, forget its order. My suggestion would be the following one: 1, 4, 5, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8. The first book is bad no matter how you look at it, so get it out of the way ASAP. Books 4 and 5 are prequels which must be read before books 2 and 3 because in this case the goals of the major players in the series would be much clearer. Book 7 picks up right where book 3 leaves; if you read it in series' order it is really hard to remember what exactly happened after a long time. If you read book 1 after 4 and 5 (this is chronological order), you will spoil the only surprise it contain - and this book is bad enough even with it.

My final notes: give this series a try; Cook's signature double-crossings and a lot of back-stabbings are here: the enemies become friends and close friends become enemies frequently and unexpectedly.

This review is a copy/paste of my BookLikes one: <http://gene.booklikes.com/post/811401...>

malynosorozec says

„Wszyscy ludzie popełniali złe uczynki, jeźli tylko dostrzegli szansę, że może im to ujęć na sucho”*

Długo czekałem na tę pozycję. W międzyczasie trzykrotnie przeczytałem pozostałe powieści Glena Cooka. Miałem nadzieję poznać wreszcie zakończenie cyklu „Imperium Grozy”, ale już po pierwszych stu stronach zdałem sobie sprawę, że nic z tego. Domyśliłem się, że autor nie zamierza rezygnacji z tym akurat wiadom. Może to i dobrze... Co ja piszę, na pewno dobrze! Z tym, że wolałbym, aby kolejna część przypominała te początkowe. Może coś o Krucjacie Nawami albo o czasach, gdy do władzy w Imperium Grozy dochodzili Księżta Taumaturgowie? A może młodość ojca Bragiego?

„Droga zimnego serca” przypomina niestety dwie poprzednie części. Co daje jej pozycję powieści niemalże bardzo dobrej. Szkoda, że tylko tyle.

Najbardziej razi mnie to, iż autor bardzo zdewaluował wikszość występujących w „Imperium Grozy” postaci. Ragnasrosn, Treblickock, Hauron, Adept – są cieniami samych siebie z poprzednich tomów. Varthlokkur, Starzec, Nephante – ich rozwój nie idzie w dobrym kierunku. Jedynie Mgła i lord Ssu-ma zasługują na pochwałę. No i dzieci Mgły.

Fabularnie – za dużo zamieszania. Krótkie rozdziały z początku czyta się dobrze, mamy nadzieję, że doskonale rozstawił postaci na planszy, ale w miarę upływu czasu nic się nie zmienia. W połowie książki nadal nie bardzo wiadomo, w jakim kierunku wszystko zmierza. Dochodząc do jej końca nie byłbym pewien, czy autor tak wcale nie wszystko zaplanował, czy coś jednak poszło źle.

Łepe zażki i ciekawie niewykorzystany potencjał części postaci – to moje pierwsze wrażenia po skończeniu lektury. I jeszcze teleportacja, i nieodczyna myśl, że coś jest nie tak, że coś nie zgadza się z wydarzeniami opisanymi w jednym z poprzednich tomów... Ale mimo wszystko nawet przez myśl mi nie przeszło, aby porzucić lekturę. Cook to Cook i potrafi wciągnąć w swój świat.

Wy, którzy czytaliście poprzednie części, i tak sięgniecie po „Drogę zimnego serca” – powieści Glena Cooka są jak narkotyk, chce się więcej, nawet kiedy jakoś, jak w tym przypadku, jest nieco nijsza. A wy, którzy nie zaczęliście jeszcze lektury „Imperium Grozy” – lepiej nadržcie zaległości.

Pierwsze pi?? powie?ci cyklu to absolutnie najwy?sza p??ka fantasy. W Polsce ostatnio wydane zosta?y w zbiorczych tomach. Pierwszy, czyli „Okrutny wiatr”, opowiada histori? wojen podzielonego zachodu z ??dnym podboj?w Shinsanem. W ?rodku wszystkiego jest male?ki kraj o nazwie Kavelin i Bragi Ragnarson, barbarzy?ca z mro?nej p??nocy, który zostaje najwa?niejszym cz?owiekiem na zachodzie. S? pot??ni magowie (ci si? autorowi udali zacnie!), kr?lowie, dow?dcy, rycerze i przede wszystkim chc?cy po prostu prze?y? zwykli ludzie – czyli mieszanka, do jakiej przyzwyczajaj? w swoich ksi??kach Glen Cook. I konflikty zbrojne. Zar?wno te stosunkowo niewielkie, w których ?cieraj? si? lokalni feuda?owie, jak i te, gdzie ofiary liczone s? w milionach.

O tak, trzy cz??ci zebrane w „Okrutnym wietrze” zapewniaj? solidn? dawk? adrenaliny. A smaczku dodaje fakt, ?e rewelacyjny pierwszy tom jest czym? w rodzaju wprowadzenia do jeszcze lepszej kontynuacji – i to postaci, zdawa?oby si?, drugoplanowe odgrywaj? najwi?ksz? rol? w dalszych cz??ciach.

P??niej wydawnictwo Rebis da?o nam w „Fortecy w cieniu” dwa tomy, w których cofamy si? w czasie do m?odo?ci dw?jki spo?ród g??wnych bohater?w. Niewiele tu tytu?owego Imperium Grozy, s? przede wszystkim wojny religijne, które sk?pi? we krwi po?ow? kontynentu. Wszystko bardzo dobrze przemy?lane, poszczególne w?tki idealnie ??cz? si? z przysz?o?ci?, znan? nam ju? z „Okrutnego wiatru”.

W?a?ciwie kolejno?? czytania jest dowolna, jak najbardziej mo?na zacz?? od „Fortecy w cieniu”. I to s? pozycje, od których nie sposób si? oderwa?. P??niej... P??niej jest „Imperium nieznan?ce pora?ki”, gdzie wydawnictwo zmie?ci?o kolejne dwa tomy cyklu, dodaj?c kilka opowiada? z tego samego ?wiata. Te teksty, napisane na przestrzeni wielu lat, traktowa? mo?na jako ciekawostk?. Znow? ten sam zarzut: s? dobre, miejscami bardzo dobre, ale nic wi?cej, co w odniesieniu do tw?rczo?ci tego akurat autora zdecydowanie nie wystarcza. Powiem tak: ci, którym nie przypadn? do gustu „Okrutny wiatr” i „Forteca w cieniu”, niech nie si?gaj? po dalsze cz??ci. Nic lepszego tam ich nie czeka. A ci podobni do mnie i tak wch?on? wszystko, co zosta?o opatrzone nazwiskiem: Glen Cook.

„Drodze zimnego serca”, jak ju? pisa?em, bli?ej do bezpo?rednio poprzedzaj?cych j? tom?w. Akcja toczy si? na wszystkich mo?liwych frontach: w Kavelinie, Hammad-al Nakirze, Shinsanie czy Smoczycy Z?biskach. Warto przed lektur? od?wie?y? sobie znajomo?? wcze?niejszych cz??ci, gdy? od pocz?tku du?o si? dzieje i jak zwykle nie ma miejsce na opisy. Jest akcja. Du?o akcji.

Jeszcze s??w kilka o zmianie t?umacza. Tak samo jak w przypadku „Delegatur nocy”, nie wysz?o to najlepiej. Niekt?re nazwy w?asne zmieni?y brzmienie (na przyk?ad nie znajdziemy ju? „Ksi?cia Szarego P?askowy?u”, tylko jego angielski odpowiednik. Aha... I ci?g?e powtarzanie „Stary W?cibinos”...). Dla kogo? takiego jak ja stanowi to pewien problem. I nie ma mapy, która w tej akurat cz??ci bardzo by si? przyda?a.

No, ale ju? nie narzekam. Za to chwal?: za ok?adki wszystkich cz??ci przede wszystkim. To jest co?, na co mi?o popatrze?, szkoda, ?e na p??ce nie ma tyle miejsca, ?eby wszystkie ksi??ki Glена Cooka mog?y le?e? frontem...

A teraz podsumowuj?:

Nie jest to Glen Cook w najwy?szej formie, ale i tak czekam na wi?cej i mimo narzeka? daj? obiektywnie ca?kowicie niezas?u?on? ósemk?. Ale przecie? w czytaniu nie chodzi o obiektywn? analiz? warto?ci poszczeg?lnych sk?adowych ksi??ki, tylko o emocje, jakie wywo?uje w nas owa ksi??ka. A je?li o nie chodzi, powt?rz? za pewnym kabaretem: „B?dzie Pan zadowolony!”.

8/10

malynosorozec.blogspot.com

* Glen Cook, „Droga zimnego serca”, prze?. Zbigniew A. Królicki, wyd. Rebis, 2015, s. 396.

Joseph says

Would've gone with 3.5 stars if that was an option; since not, I'm rounding up simply because I now have closure after waiting almost 20 years.

This is the book that very, very nearly wasn't -- Cook had essentially abandoned the Dread Empire series in the late 1980's due to a combination of flagging sales and the theft of the in-progress manuscript of what would have been the next book (the eighth novel out of a projected fourteen). A few years ago, Night Shade Press started doing reissues of much of Cook's older work and were able to persuade him to go back and write one more Dread Empire book, one that would wrap up the series.

I was generally pleased with it -- he managed to tie everything up in a satisfactory fashion. Pretty much every major (surviving) character from the previous books made an appearance; battle was finally joined with the true villain of the piece and (since this is Cook) there were endings even if they couldn't all be called happy. Things felt a bit rushed or perfunctory at times, but that's understandable considering he had seven books' worth of threads to resolve and he had to do so in just one book, not several. I still think that, all other things being equal, I prefer his Black Company series, but now that this one is actually completed I'm happy to recommend it to anyone who's in the mood for military fantasy on a large canvas.

Maciej says

To bardzo z?a ksi??ka kiedy? ?wietnego autora. Nudna, nie wzbudza?ca emocji, cz?sto nielogiczna i nie spójna. Los bohaterów by? mi ca?kownie oboj?tny. Postacie co? tam niby robi? ale nie jest to w ?aden sposób interesuj?ce, a efekty tych dzia?a? s? ca?kownie oboj?tne.

Scott says

It's been some twenty-five years or so since Glen Cook wrote the prior Dread Empire novel. Stolen manuscripts and a lack of sales kept him from finishing the story, but the recent re-release of the series prompted him to finish the story.

And I am so glad he did. For years, I wondered what would happen to Bragi, Varthlokkur, Haroun, et al, and now I know.

I'm not going in-depth here; rather, if you read the others, particularly the original trilogy (of which books 2 and 3 are outstanding), then you know what you're getting.

Thank you, Glen.

Mike Jansen says

The Dread Empire series by Glen Cook is one of the series that I have been following since the early nineties, when I first discovered the author and his work. I am particularly fond of Cook's ability to write about immense worlds while honing in on the particulars of even small characters, giving his writing a gritty and realistic feel, even if the themes and subjects are as magical as they can be.

This book continues where 'Reap the east wind' left off, with Bragi in captivity. Without going too much into detail, this book shows off many of the powers and influences that were hinted at or referred to in the earlier books. Unfortunately because of all those powers, the specialty wears off soon. Describing age old and very complicated characters in a few well chosen words is difficult. That for me is what is missing in this book. It is as if Cook tried to tell the high-level story, while his other books showed life from the gutter.

Still, the book answers many questions, so from that perspective I consider it a book worth reading more than once. Also, the end is still open in my opinion, so I'm not sure that this is really the last book in the series.

If you liked the previous books, you'll like this one as well.

Luka Novak says

This is not a bad book. It's not very good either, but it's not bad. What this books suffers from is how it was created. Cook wanted to write (at least) 4 books after "An Ill Fate Marshalling" and these were compressed into one book, this one.

Instead of dealing with Kavelin after Bragi is captured, Bragi himself, Varthlokkur and Nepanthe dealing with their own child as well as Mist's children and Ethrian, desert kingdoms and plot involving Star Rider in their own books all that is cramed into one so book feels rushed, plots resolve themselves too quickly and too smoothly, unlike previous books in series. Each of these plots are complex enough to deserve their own, separate book.

Having said that, plots are resolved well enough to not stretch credibility, even though plot involving Star Rider leaves a lot to be desired.

I guess we should be glad that Cook did finish the series, even though I believe recent increased interest in such fantasy works (partially thanks to GRRM's "A Song of Ice and Fire") would generate enough interest for more books and longer conclusion.

Macha says

Glen Cook's Dread Empire series was almost completely written in the period 1979-1988, and the early Black Company novels were already in print when he wrote the Dread Empire conclusion. but that mss was stolen. the Dread Empire series had an interesting world and great characters, but there's no doubt the Black Company stuff in general was far more ambitious. so there's a gap of 24 years between the second book in the trilogy and this one, the final installment in the concluding trilogy. and there's a chasm in writing skills and general complexity - and possibly worldview, who can say - between #2 and this one too. so faithful

readers of the series may be inclined to howl. but in fact the sea change is rather wonderful. it's very loosely written in the best sense, taking all the time it needs to tell the story right, meandering in point of view between all the principal players, digs deeply into their psyches as their ideas and objectives change across time, and ends up with everyone in a radically different place than they started out from, that seems completely organic. i liked it a lot in the end. i'm glad it took so long (though i feel for the writer, doomed to start again - come to think of it, that's kind of how it takes the characters, too). and along the way it has quite a lot to say about the nature and the limitations of power.

Lyndol Fast says

I very much enjoyed this book! In it, Cook builds and brings the world and greater conflict to a head, assembling all the remaining major (and many minor) characters into a single arc. In reality, don't read this book if you have not read the other Dread Empire novels. If you have read the other ones, my recommendation has little to do with whether you will want to read this or not. If you enjoy Cook on the whole, especially his Black Company series, the Dread Empire novel feel a little more raw or unpolished but I absolutely loved them!

Newton Nitro says

A Path to Coldness of Heart (Dread Empire #8) – Glen Cook | 2012, 429 páginas, Nightshade Books | NITROLEITURAS | Lido de 11.02.18 a 16.02.18

SINOPSE

Por fim, chegou a conclusão para a saga Dread Empire do Glen Cook!

O rei Bragi Ragnarson é um prisioneiro, envergonhado, sem nome e preso por Lord Shih-kaa e a Imperatriz Mist no coração do Império Dread.

Longe de Kavelin, a rainha Inga e o que resta de seu exército buscam encontrar e libertar seu rei, , mas a tarefa é dificultada pela perda ou deserção de seus melhores e mais brilhantes guerreiros.

O mestre de espionagem de Kavelina, Michael Trebilcock, está desaparecido, assim como o soldado leal Aral Dantice.

Enquanto isso, Dane, Duke of Greyfells, procura aproveitar o domínio de Kavelin e colocar o reino no bolso, iniciando uma nova linha de sucessão através da rainha de Bragia, o primo Inger de Dane.

E nos picos mais altos das montanhas Dragona, no antigo castelo Fangdred, o feiticeiro chamado Varthlokur usa suas artes para espionar o mundo em geral, observando as cordas de fantoche que controlam reis e impérios, esperando ...

A ira do rei caído se despeja pelos reinos, e a vingança encontra-se ao longo de um caminho para a frieza do coração.

RESENHA

Uma excelente conclusão da Saga Dread Empire, apesar de colocar muitas tramas, que seriam melhor

desenvolvidas em livros separados, ou com mais páginas.

Soube que Glen Cook havia planejado mais quatro livros depois do Dread Empire 7, mas acabou por abandonar o projeto ainda nos anos 80 e retomou 25 anos depois, resolvendo as tramas em um único livro.

Mesmo assim, Glen Cook é capaz de milagres usando palavras bem escolhidas. Diferente dos livros da Companhia Negra, em Dread Empire o escopo é imenso e bem épico.

O Império Dread, os reinos do deserto a os Pequenos Reinos todos se vêem envolvidos em jogos políticos e sobrenaturais, que giram em torno das maquinações do misterioso Star Rider e sua contraparte, o poderoso mago Varthlokkur.

Como disse nas outras resenhas, Glen Cook trabalha uma fantasia mais adulta, e no oitavo volume, ele ousou bastante, descrevendo a velhice de um rei guerreiro, a tragédia de um profeta consumido pelas drogas e vendo a religião que fundou se tornar completamente corrompida, uma rainha que perde sua pureza original e se torna sanguinária para defender seu trono.

Antes de encerrar minha resenha, recomendo ler os livros na seguinte ordem:

4,5,1,2,3,6,7,8 – Pois o 4 e 5 são prequelas, e dão informações essenciais para curtir os demais livros!

Fica a recomendação, DREAD EMPIRE é excelente para fãs da Companhia Negra, Game of Thrones, Malazan, outras obras semelhantes!

ONDE COMPRAR

AMAZON

A Path to Coldness of Heart (Dread Empire #8) – Glen Cook

<https://goo.gl/FpQYGq>

CONTATO

Aulas de Inglês por Skype ou WhatsApp (31) 99143-7388 ou (31) 99143-7388

prof.newtonrocha@gmail.com erikadepadua@gmail.com

Serviços de LEITURA CRÍTICA para Escritores: prof.newtonrocha@gmail.com

Erika e Newton – Melhore Seu Inglês – Dicas e Aulas de Inglês – Canal do #youtube <https://goo.gl/aCZNuL>

Nitroblog – Canal do #youtube de Dicas para Escritores e Dicas de RPG de Mesa <https://goo.gl/3ZNWbM>

Nitroblog – Resenhas Literárias, cultura nerd e onde posto meus contos, livros e poesias para download GRATUITO <https://tionitroblog.wordpress.com>

NitroDungeon – RPG Blog – Dicas de RPG, aventuras para Old Dragon RPG e para o meu sistema +2d6, e site oficial do SISTEMA de RPG +2d6! <https://newtonrocha.wordpress.com/>

Um grande abraço do NEWTON NITRO!

David Hill says

It was great to have this installment of the series. I enjoyed seeing the development of certain events and characters, but would have liked a bit more in some cases. So many new characters introduced at the 11th hour and so little that actually felt resolved to me. I have long wondered if Dread Empire and Black Company were connected - and seeing the line that contained "Water sleeps," just piques my curiosity more...especially with some of the revelations about the nature of the Star Rider.

In short, I want more.

Luke Coury says

I really thought it was a great book and it had Cook's great style of writing that got me started on all his other books. The only reason it isn't a higher rating is because I (like it seems many others) were disappointed with the ending. It certainly leaves room for another book in the series but I doubt that's something we'll get to see.

SPOILER:

I have to say, that I was even more disappointed in the fact that the idea of the transfer streams being something more than just the portals they were used as was not completely (or at least, not more completely) explained or used to come to some greater power usage. And then a thousand little things under the streams' relationship such as with the return of Sahmahan (talk about random) or the power behind the thaumaturgic bolts that impressed.

I'm deeply disappointed in the last 30 pages as they should have been 120 pages instead explaining how this universe behind the books works, because so many possibilities were hinted out and never taken to their full potential. It, however, was still a great book besides that and definitely worth the read.

Richard says

Even though this is "The Final Chronicle Of The Dread Empire: Vol III," the abrupt ending of the story implies strongly that there will be a Volume IV.

I have been following Mr. Cook's work ever since the original "Black Company" series, and I have noticed a phenomenon in all of his writing. Even in his "Garrett P.I." novels, each succeeding book in a series contains additional new characters and additional new plot lines, until the story becomes so convoluted and confusing that it is no longer enjoyable reading.

Even History books attempt to cover only certain time periods and major events. But the Dread Empire series seems to be an attempt to describe all of the events in a fantasy world, and all of the characters within it (major or minor indiscriminately). The complexity of the politics and family relationships, combined with the ridiculously large number of characters in the books (all of whom apparently must be mentioned in this, the last, of the series) make it difficult to keep track of who's who, and what's what, in this book.

Cook appears to have forgotten the KISS Principle, which I believe applies to good fiction as much as to

anything else, so I don't believe that I will be reading any more of his work.
