



Conan The Raider

Leonard Carpenter

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In the ancient land of Shem, Conan joins with tomb-robbers to loot the untold wealth piled up in the huge royal mausoleum, yet so simple a decision enmeshes the mighty Cimmerian in intrigues and danger on every side.

Conan The Raider Details

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Author : Leonard Carpenter

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Frank says

Yeah...I just can't finish this one. Pretty damn bad. Makes one appreciate Howard all the more.

Charles says

I believe Leonard Carpenter wrote more Conan pastiches than any other author. Keeping in mind that I generally don't like Conan pastiches, some of Carpenter's were pretty good. I obviously enjoyed them at some extent because I read 7 of them.

This is one of the better ones.

Mauro says

Leí la versión en español: Conan El Profanador.
No encontré esta versión en la página de good reads.

El libro no es malo, pero se nota la diferencia con el Conan de Robert E. Howard, hay magia, batallas y todo lo que puede esperarse del cimerio, pero carece del misticismo que le imprime su creador original.

Antonio says

LEONARD CARPENTER IS ONE OF THE FEW AUTHORS THAT REALLY KNOWS WHAT CONAN IS ALL ABOUT. IN HIS STORIES, HE USES LITTLE DETAILS THAT REALLY PUTS YOU IN THE ACTION. FOR INSTANCE, IN CHAPTER 1 "THE POISON SEA" HE USES SUCH DETAIL THAT YOU CAN ALMOST FEEL THE HEAT AND THE DESOLATION OF THE PLACE AS CONAN PURSUES JUVIUS. THIS NOVEL ALSO HEADS INTO INDIANA JONES TERRITORY IN THE FORM OF AN ANCIENT TOMB LOST IN THE DESERTS OF SHEM. ALSO IT HAS A TOUCH OF HORROR IN THE FORM OF ZOMBIES. GREAT READ!

Daniel says

Good fun. Carpenter steers the plot through some nifty scenes that give Conan worthy settings for entertaining acts of barbarian bad-assery—the 'gladiator' scene, against a big bad guy who fights with live

snakes, really stood out for its pacing and tension. One big plus is the blatant depiction of sorcery, including necromancy, illusions and pestilence. My main criticism is that, at times, the story did drag, as the inevitable confrontation was exactly that.

This read was an enjoyable first dive into Conan pastiche.

Patrick Whitehurst says

Loved the zombies, the sorcery, and the bravery of Conan, but missed a little tension. Otherwise a treat for Crom buffs.

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Bob says

Conan the Raider is the second of the eleven novels that Leonard Carpenter wrote in the fifty-book Tor series. In William Galen Gray's chronology it is the sixtieth Conan tale, following Robert E. Howard's *The Man-Eaters of Zamboula* (aka *Shadows in Zamboula*) and taking place before L. Sprague de Camp and Bjorn Nyberg's *The Star of Khorala*.

This tale opens up with Conan chasing the man who had stolen a gem, the Star of Khorala from him. Our favorite barbar had obtained the Star at the end of Howard's *The Man-Eaters of Zamboula*. While it does take place directly after that story, you need not have read it, as the tie-in to the actual plot is minimal.

This book could more accurately be called *Conan the Tomb Raider*, and I rather liked it. We get an inside look at the building of a massive pyramidal tomb, which, of course, Conan is going to rob. I liked the shadow that Stygia's culture cast over neighboring Abaddrah in this book. Carpenter digs into the socio-cultural side of things, which I don't find too often in the Conan pastiches. The Queen was a bit one dimensional, though.

As in Carpenter's *Conan: Scourge of the Bloody Coast*, the hero is awfully forgiving of someone who betrays him. I think Carpenter is showing the practical side of Conan, but, in this book, at least, it seems that Conan will let bygones be bygones (even really, really bad things) if he can make a bit of coin in so doing. I think he undervalues the Cimmerian background too much in this one. Honor and revenge get short shrift.

Where there's a necromancer, there are undead. I like the horror aspect they bring to this story: there seems to be more substance to it than there was in *Conan the Defiant*. "Creepy" seems like fair description.

Sex is implied with the sultry dancer who has the lead female role, and Conan is rewarded with a woman's favors at the end of the book. But this one is low on the Conan sex scale.

Readers of Howard's original Star tale might have wondered what happened next to Conan: this story answers that question, though 98% of the book is really a side trek in the Star's saga. But it works.

The next Tor book published after this one was John Maddox Roberts' Conan the Champion. With so many average (or worse) books in the Tor line, Raider and Champion were a rather solid back to back duo. I found Raider, while not a great book, to be one of the more enjoyable Tor pastiches.
