



Edenborn

Nick Sagan

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A microbial apocalypse called Black Ep has virtually wiped humanity from the globe. The few to survive the epidemic are now committed to the task of rebuilding a peaceful society, but not everyone shares this idyllic vision. And as the two factions clash, a new biological threat moves against them to finish what Black Ep began.

Edenborn Details

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Estibaliz79 says

4 1/2

Efectivamente, una segunda parte que admite sin problema alguno la lectura independiente, aunque sin duda es tan bueno que uno se queda con ganas de saber lo que vino antes y lo que vendrá después. Una historia futurista y postapocalíptica contada con mucho ritmo y preñada de aventura, pero que al mismo tiempo aborda interesantes cuestiones éticas y morales. No obstante, puede considerarse más que nada una historia de personajes y relaciones familiares, si bien estos poseen un carisma único, en el que la narración a distintas voces ofrece una oportunidad inmejorable de conocer su psicología y personalidad.

Perfecto final con sabor a mermelada cuando la historia da un giro Shakesperiano del que no pienso mencionar nada para no estropear sorpresas.

Magda says

Not as good as the first book, and doesn't really go into why the protagonist from that book has distanced himself from the rest of the world (or what happened to the other girl...). There's definite parallels with Romeo and Juliet, except Shakespeare's characters are at least somewhat likable (dumb, but likable), as opposed to annoying and petty. (Okay, the guy was dumb and likable, but I was quite happy that she was finished.)

Michael Nalbone says

Teenagers are evil.

Dallaslain says

This was just as good as the first one, maybe better actually. I really like the mix of philosophy and pacing of the plot. Going to start the final book in the trilogy tonight.

Joanne says

enjoyed the 1st bk and waited too many years to do this one, would have been more enjoyable had i done it right away- but can't wait to do the next one to see what happens,!

ken mathewson says

And time passes

I wasn't sure what to expect out of the second book. Honestly I was perfectly satisfied with Hal peacing out with both middle fingers raised at the end of the first, leaving humanity to just die out entirely.

But that is not the case.

Many of the characters are one note, but it's a good story and I enjoyed following it.

Cheryl Minekime says

I give this one 4 stars or maybe 4.5. Set 18 years after Idlewild, this book starts out rather fragmented. Halloween remains a hermit in North America while Champagne and Vashti have joined forces in Europe and have created and genetically modified a brood of "post human" female children that are supposed to be as immune to Black Ep as they are themselves. Meanwhile, philosophical differences have kept Isaac in North Africa, cloning "traditional" humans from the DNA of frozen Gedaechtnis employees, and Black Ep is being kept at bay in them through some creative pharmaceutical chemistry. Pandora tries to keep the peace between the two camps and maintains the IVR system which is both entertainment and a tool to teach the next generation.

Whereas Idlewild was told in the first person of Halloween, he doesn't make an appearance in Edenborn until more than halfway into this book. Instead this story is told from the point of view of Pandora and a few of the children they have artificially created because Black Ep has rendered Hal, Pan, Vashti, Isaac and Champagne all sterile.

Hal's fragmented memory and his journey to find out what is really going on, made Idlewild engaging and compelling so the slow reveal throughout the novel worked well and kept the story flowing more organically than it does here. By contrast, the different vignettes told from differing points of view in Edenborn made it feel like the story was dragging at times and things didn't start to get interesting in my opinion until Hal returns center stage in part 3. I would have rated this lower than 4 except that the last half of the book more than makes up for the chaotic and dragging pace of the first half.

Julie says

Having trouble deciding whether I liked Idlewild or Edenborn more. Liked the varied cast of narrators in Edenborn, and about halfway through, the plot managed to hook me completely -- I had to read the last few chapters in one flurried sitting to find out *oh my god what's going to happen*, even though it was late and I was tired and so much reading gave me a Gedaechtnis-related nightmare. Thank you, Sagan!

Seriously though. Solid sequel to Sagan's first novel. And now, of course, I have to track down the third.

Brian says

I bought this book on a whim because it had a biohazard symbol on it. I also like that it's blue; blue is statistically a poor selling color for dust jackets. I've had excellent luck with schlocky fiction books that have biohazard symbols, and it was on deep discount, so what was to lose. Surprise surprise, it was a pretty good read.

Second in a trilogy to which I've not yet read the first, Edenborn is a fractured fairytale in which the first iteration of doomsday survivors are raising children of their own. I say it's fractured as in terms of the delivery of the plot line; Sagan delivers several pages at a time from the perspective of different characters with an occasionally confusing lack of pronouns.

The story is endearing, complicated, inviting the reader to develop notions and partial understandings of what's going on, only to upend everything on the next chapter. I will not give this book the fifth star because I didn't quite like the ending. Strange, fascinating, horrifying. I think that sums it up.

geekboy42 says

Really enjoyed this followup to Idlewild. I kept "reading just one more section". Very captivated by it.

Paul Game says

Forced to skim read due to my curiosity. A stronger person would have cut their losses.

Oscar says

'Los hijos del paraíso' es la continuación de 'Código genético', aunque puede leerse independientemente, pero no lo recomiendo ya que se mencionan hechos y personajes que se entienden mejor si se ha leído con anterioridad el primer libro.

Si bien se nota que Nick Sagan ha crecido como escritor en esta su segunda novela, también es verdad que es un libro que no sorprende tanto como 'Código genético', ha perdido esa frescura de ideas que la caracterizaba. La historia se hace lenta y hasta repetitiva. Sigo pensando que Sagan es un autor que promete y espero que la tercera novela de esta serie así lo demuestre.

Nuno Magalhães says

Este livro de Nick Sagan continua a história desenvolvida em Ameaça Virtual, e desenrola-se 18 anos volvidos sobre os acontecimentos finais do primeiro livro, num cenário pós-apocalíptico causado por um vírus mortal que aniquilou a espécie humana, à exceção das personagens desta história. Neste segundo volume, o autor modifica a estrutura narrativa que adoptara em Ameaça Virtual, e passa a contar a história do ponto de vista dos vários intervenientes. O leitor rapidamente se apercebe que esta é uma das grandes mais-valias do livro, e que prende a atenção, uma vez que permite ilustrar de uma forma muito vincada o que de melhor e pior existe na personalidade das personagens, permitindo, em simultâneo, ilustrar muitas das virtudes e dos defeitos da espécie humana.

Continuando a recorrer a conceitos de realidade virtual imersiva, a história neste livro é, no entanto, muito menos voltada para tecnologias e muito mais virada para a vida interior das pessoas, para as respetivas emoções e para auto-reflexões das personagens sobre os seus atos. No início não se vislumbra muito bem qual é o fio condutor da história, mas o verdadeiro drama acaba por nos ser revelado aos poucos, à medida

que vamos lendo os acontecimentos pela perspectiva dos vários intervenientes. É um livro que retrata duas gerações da vida após o apocalipse da espécie: a geração dos pais que viveram o apocalipse e a geração dos respetivos filhos que nasceu num mundo estranho, onde a própria definição de ser humano é posta em causa.

No 1º livro, o autor desenvolve um thriller que envolve a investigação de um crime, ao passo que aqui o autor nos apresenta um drama psicológico. Neste livro, gostei em particular de algumas reflexões que nos são oferecidas no que diz respeito à tradicional dicotomia ciência-religião, sendo defendida de uma forma bem vincada a importância da ciência no desenvolvimento da espécie humana, por oposição à religião que é encarada como um obstáculo e tratada de forma instrumental. Tendo a concordar com esta perspectiva, não sendo de admirar que ela seja aqui apresentada e defendida. Igualmente interessante, é a oportunidade que nos é dada de reflectir sobre a própria existência humana, incluindo a sua fragilidade e a sua grandeza que nos é revelada pelo poder que uma relação entre pais e filhos, ainda que não geneticamente aparentados, tem para modificar por completo muitos aspectos da personalidade de uma pessoa.

Ao longo do livro existem vários momentos em que as reflexões se sucedem com alguma profundidade. Destaco por exemplo as seguintes citações "A religião provoca um tipo de dado mental! Não somos anjos caídos! [...] Queres uma palavra? Experimenta "evolução", "Aceleração". "Entropia". "Imortalidade". Porque rezar a Deus se nos podemos tornar deuses? [...] Até podemos tornar-nos a própria Natureza!.

Marsha says

read the first book fairly recently and still felt like I needed a character synopsis to remember who was who. the major issue i have with this book is that it focuses on all the minor characters (some of who are barely mentioned in the first book). I had forgotten what distinguishes those minor characters and how the first book portrays them (with the exception of champagne). Halloween who was the main character of the first book only shows up in this book about 2/3rds of the way through.

Other than that this books takes place 18 years after the Idlewild. the remaining characters have all divided into factions. with Isaac raising human children that he preaches religion too in Egypt. and Vashti/Champagne raising all human 2.0 girls who are genetically superior to there cousins in Germany. Fantasia is absent and Halloween is holed up in North America. Pandora lives in Greece running the IVR and is the neutral party.

The book is largely narrated by the children from each faction, Haji (Isaac), Penny (Vashti) and Duece (halloween) who we later find out is Halloween's son/clone. Pandora and Halloween are the two adult narrators.

Every year the two factions exchange children so they can see how there cousins live. we learn that Haji's older sister died during one of last exchange and they thought it was from Black Ep. While it was really Penny who decided to play a cruel joke and killed her by accident. Penny is extremely selfish and power hungry and later uses Deuce to do her bidding against her "enemies" (and almost killing Pandora). We learn that Isaac created his children and taught them religion because they are clones of Gaedotronics employees. he hoped that the children would allow the "soul"/neurons of those employees to use there bodies as a vessel to come back to life. we find out that Isaac doesnt believe in religion but by teaching his children it would make them more susceptible to the neuron transfer. Deuce who no one knew existed outside of Halloween, is the one who revealed all the secrets to his fellow cousins via IVR, mostly to gain there trust and acceptance. Pandora believes Halloween is the cause of the security breach and when she flies to north america she finds out about Deuce. She takes him back to Germany to account for his actions and to meet his cousins. He is a very social awkward but knows about this cousins because he has been watching them from afar most of his

life. Duece considered Penny to be his "lady love" and Haji to be his "comrade in arms". Haji is a very stabilizing force in this book, who tends to provide a calm and realistic view point of everything that is going on. Unfortunately because of his sisters death his father Isaac starts overmedicated the children and this causes them all to become gravely ill by "end of the world" a new mutation of black ep. his 2 older brothers die, and in a last ditch attempt they freeze Haji and his younger siblings in hopes of finding a cure later on. Duece and Penny die at the end of the book, Penny gets shot by halloween as she tries to destroy her family's house in Germany and Deuce commits suicide when he realizes that penny is dead.

the book ends with Halloween joining forces with his former friends. during the course of the book we learn that he has accepted and moved on from the deaths of his older classmates.

Overall the book is well written considered it is narrated by so many characters. Sagan did a good job portraying each character and making them all have individual voices and personalities. especially in distinguishing the cold and strict world that Vashti's girls live in, and the freelancing calm world that Isaac raised his children in. the book was an easy and entertaining read, but i believe the first book is superior.

Unwisely says

This was a pick off the shelves. Pull quote from Gaiman, Neil sold me.

I didn't realize this is the second book - before I knew that I was pretty curious about the implied history.

I'm a little torn on my rating; the premise is fascinating, but, man, I struggled to read this because most of the characters are terrible, awful people and I didn't like them. The worst ones are teenagers, so they have some excuse for being narcissistic jerks. But it was still tough for me to plow through their diary entries. But I really, really wanted to know what happened.
