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The official novelization of the Universal Pictures remake of the 1933 classic by three-time Academy Award(-winning director Peter Jackson (The Lord of the Rings*), starring Adrien Brody, Naomi Watts, and Jack Black, scheduled for release on December 14. Original.

King Kong Details

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Author : Christopher Golden , Merian C. Cooper , Edgar Wallace , Philippa Boyens , Peter Jackson

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From Reader Review King Kong for online ebook

Naresh Elango says

The story was very interesting with a great plot.

Brandon Stacy says

This book was one of the best books i ever read. It is a great action packed book. It may take a while to read though.

Davis says

book was word for word identical to the movie. (for the most part) The writing itself was ok, but could be a bit dull and repetitive. Ok read if you're bored and need an entertaining story.

Brent says

listened as an audiobook, which I am going to differentiate. You use different parts of your thinker for reading versus listening

Afro Man O'connor says

very funny book

Emmaline says

This book broke my heart. It was once a regular read, something I would come back to again and again as a child. As an adult, however, the thought of destroying the spirit of something so powerful and beautiful for the sake of 'entertainment' is absolutely shattering. It was almost painful to read near the end ... Perhaps this is why I am such a strong advocate for animal rights? Quick read, wonderful emotional connection (human and animal).

Craig says

This is the novelization of the film that was based on the original... there were several other films and at least one other novelization in between that added to the mythos. My opinion was (and is) that they made it right

the first time, and there wasn't any reason to do it again (and again and again) when there are plenty of other stories out there that they could have spent their money filming. Nonetheless, Golden is one of my favorites and he had done several other good novelizations (primarily in the comics field), so I gave it a shot and wasn't disappointed. He transcribed the newest version very ably, and managed to add some interesting back story to the characters as well, particularly to Ann Darrow. (Everybody sing along: "Whatever happened to Fay Wray?...")

Damian says

King Kong is about a group of people and filmmakers traveling to an infamous place called skull island. Some people believe a rumor going around that a 25 ft ape roams the island. that came true when an actress named Ann Darrow was captured by skull islanders and hung by both arms by rope. King Kong walks slowly away from the shadows of the jungles and snatches Ann away from the ropes. Ann is then taken away from the sacrifice ceremony to Kong's lair where she would probably be killed. This book first takes place in New York City and then on a boat called The Venture which is sailed to skull island. One main character in this book is Jack Driscoll who is a person who works for a movie critics company. When Ann is captured, Jack does everything in his power to save her from Kong. He fight monstrous insects, dinosaurs and even Kong himself. One external conflict in this book is when Jack's entire team is killed by Kong in a Log Roll to the death. Jack and Carl (Filmer) were still alive. Lumpy , Jimmy and Hayes all died. due to high altitude of falling of the log. An internal conflict is Jack climbs on one side of a cliff and his team climb on another. there was no way to get on another side. Jack had to go to Kong's lair alone. He was scared because he didn't know what was waiting for him on his trip to his lair. I would rate this book 3 stars because its good its just not really that kind of suspense i was looking for in this book. I would recommend this to basically anyone who enjoys seeing movies being put to a book form.

Michael Fierce says

I seriously was at the bookstore waiting for it to open so that I could buy this book the second it came out. And I mean the second. I was actually helping the guy pull the books out of the box, and handing stacks of them to a couple of employees so they were all inventoried properly and accounted for, and only because I was a regular trusted customer did they let me do this. When I got home, I read the whole book in one day, and that's saying a lot for me because I don't rush through books, as I enjoy savoring them and getting a good feel of the proper mood, especially in the dialogue parts. I was immediately put off by the change and focus of the characters. These weren't the characters I grew up with and fell in love with as a kid. I mean, neither was the 1976 movie version, but, that was different. This was supposed to take us back to the 1933 time and place that Kong first became the 8th Wonder Of The World in. And that part was the same. The rest was way different. Ann was a vaudeville actor, Jack Driscoll went from being a strong and sturdy First Mate as Ann's love interest to a wrong and nerdy Playwright, who, in the movie played by Adrien Brody, had a nose that was stealing so much screen-time it had me hearkening back to those bird creatures from The Dark Crystal. Captain Englehorn's character was ok. The Chef's too. But somehow we traded in scenes of our favorite characters for wasted story on Bruce Baxter, Hayes and Jimmy's nearly homo-erotic moments, and some dip named Preston, who in the movie version was played by Tom Hanks' brother, Colin. Was the movie supposed to be a comedy?: Giant Ape + 2 comedian actors + Disney On Ice sequence + vaudeville....it's almost a 9th Wonder Of The World just thinking about it. The good part? The book was actually pretty good, surprisingly entertaining, having a whole world of cool stuff once you finally get to the island. I really hope

that somehow more King Kong fiction is in the works now that *Skull Island* is coming out!

Markel Carter says

I liked this book because when King Kong beat down the planes and this remains me to *Dairy Of A Wimpy kid* because when the Big brother pranks him to going to the woods.

Peter Wilson says

Fun!

Angela says

And now I come to the actual novelization of the *Kong* movie, as written by Christopher Golden. As with *Island of the Skull*, this wasn't bad for what it is, i.e., a media tie-in novel. By and large it was pretty much the same version of the story we see in the film, with some exceptions; as often happens with tie-in books, one gets a clear impression that the novel was based on an earlier version of the script. Here are the notable changes I can think of:

There's quite a bit with a Chinese member of the crew, who I'm not remembering from the film, but who seems to be a close friend of Andy Serkis' character Lumpy. He spends quite a bit of time enthusing about his fascination with Charles Atlas' "become a man in seven days" program--which, I realize as I write this, must of course be the same thing that Frank N. Furter sings about in *Rocky Horror*. Hee. Anyway, the poor schmoo is of course doomed to die, but he provides a bit of side character development we don't get in the film.

On *Skull Island*, there's no sign of Bruce Baxter actually leading a rescue party back to Jack and the others from the ship. Englehorn brings the party of his own accord. And the entire insect sequence where Jack and the others have to be rescued to begin with plays out differently in general.

There is no Monkey Slidley scene in New York. Sniff!

The details of Jack's swiping the cab in New York and hassling Kong with it are a bit different; the bit that stood out the most for me is that in the movie, you see Kong actually grab the cab and flip it around, and Jack is jostled and knocked out by the impact. In the book, he actually comes around a blind corner and crashes the cab. The book's version is less interesting, and I can see why having Kong whap the cab made it into the filming draft. Heh.

By and large it was competent writing, though nothing spectacular. It was a decent rendering of a movie script, I'd say. The description was very sparse all throughout; hardly any of the characters got even basic description done on them, for example. This wasn't necessarily a bad thing per se, as perfectly good writing can be done with description that sparse, but in my particular case I tend to like at least a bit of basic description done on people to help me imagine them.

I may at some point soon buy the recently released editions of the original version of this story, just to compare them. But in this particular instance, I'd definitely recommend the movie over the novelization, because the visuals and the acting are what really sold this story for me, and the novelization just didn't capture that same flavor. Oh well!
