



Dreamer's Cat

Stephen Leather

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A science fiction murder mystery set in a future world where virtual reality is a way of life.

The hero is a Dreamer, a one-in-a-million talent who lays down psi-discs for the Cerebral Broadcasting Corporation. Dreamers are employed on billion-dollar contracts to produce psi-discs, the entertainment of the future. But when Dreamers start to die, our hero has to go into their alternative realities on the track of the killer.

Be warned - there is a fair amount of sexual violence in the book, which is necessary for the plot but which is not for the faint-hearted! If you have any reservations at all, please download the sample first.

Dreamer's Cat is a fast-paced 67,000 words, about 260 pages. It has been a science fiction bestseller ever since it was released for the Kindle and it will only ever be published as an eBook.

FIVE STAR REVIEW from Vine Voice and Top 500 Reviewer Shaun Horrigan of London - "This book is a novella rather than a full length novel but in this case the shorter format just makes the story that much tighter and that much more intense. There is no room for "filler", no paragraphs of flowery prose, there is just a bare, raw and very intense story. This really is a page turner that I found very hard to put down! I was still reading it at 2am this morning.

"If you do not generally read sci-fi, don't be put off from getting this book. The story is more non-genre than real hard core sci-fi with mix of crime and psychological thriller thrown in for good measure. It actually reminds me of a harder hitting version of some of Iain Banks non-genre work, and for me that was certainly not a bad thing. The stealer of the show is in my mind the dreamer's cat herself. She really is a beautifully envisioned creation.

"I must point out that the warning in writer's description is very true. This is an extremely hard hitting and graphic book and definitely not for the faint-hearted or squeamish.

"I must also say that the formatting and presentation on the Kindle is pretty much perfect. I didn't see any problems at all! Overall this has to get five stars from me and I will definitely be reading more of Stephen Leather's work. In fact I am going to download The Basement as soon as I finish this review!"

Stephen Leather is one of the UK's most successful thriller writers. Before becoming a full-time writer, he was a journalist for more than ten years on newspapers such as The Times, the Daily Mail and the South China Morning Post in Hong Kong. Before that, he was employed as a biochemist for ICI, shovelled limestone in a quarry, worked as a baker, a petrol pump attendant, a barman, and worked for the Inland Revenue. He began writing full time in 1992. His bestsellers have been translated into more than ten languages. He has also written for television shows such as London's Burning, The Knock and the BBC's Murder in Mind series and two of his books, The Stretch and The Bombmaker, have been filmed for television.

Dreamer's Cat Details

Date : Published (first published May 3rd 2010)

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Author : Stephen Leather

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From Reader Review Dreamer's Cat for online ebook

Richard Mulholland says

This was a good premise bit felt a little unfinished. The story itself worked, however the felling of Yes, but how?" at the end really did leave me disappointed.

Zelda says

A credible sci fi read about the nature of imagination and reality and the overlap between the two. Raises questions about the moral values of those who market mass entertainment and how much influence they have over those who make the laws regarding access to drugs and violent images. Is this our future - or our present?

Nat says

A real page turner. Not for the faint of heart though!

Colleen Ray says

Well written, with good character development and very minimal editing issues, this book grabbed me with the first sentence, and never let go. I HATED the ending, not because it was poorly crafted, but because I so badly wanted it to end differently.

I'm a sucker for well written cat-themed books, and the author portrayed the title feline with all of the character, attitude and intelligence of the real thing, along with giving her a few human emotions and motivations that cat-lovers so often attribute to their furry friends.

Recommended!

nicola jamieson says

Fantastic imaginative book

I have enjoyed books a all my life, any genre as long as it grabbed my imagination, there's something about this author, no matter what his work ,I find myself immersed in each story, and always want more.

David Graham says

Interesting book. A very dystopian, Blade Runner-type view of the world and full of rather unexpected

graphic violence (mis)directed at women. Ruth the bobcat was an intriguing, daemon-like creation but ultimately more a demon than an angel. Not sure about the ending, though. Did he pull the trigger or didn't he?

Dean Owen says

It's not often murder-mystery and sci-fi work well together (the only other example in my memory is Asimovs), but this book is quite, quite good.

Sarah says

I really wasn't sure what I would make of this book as I don't really read sci fi but I loved it. Very different from the books Stephen leather usually writes but definately worth reading.

Jeanette says

Well, I don't quite know where to start with this one. Compared to other books by Stephen Leather, its completely different , and at first I couldn't be bothered with it. I put it away. Then, still intrigued, I got it out again, to read another chapter then give up in frustration. I gave it one more go, and read through to the end - I don't know whether I'd have persevered with it if I'd known the outcome, but what I can say is its weird , quite kinky , and is a total fantasy read. There are notes towards what the world has become , or will become if we continue down this current path, and its not a good world we're heading for.

If you like fantasy, try it. It'll certainly make you think

Morgan Prince says

I didn't enjoy reading this book as much as I'd hoped. Half way through it got very confusing and then the ending was kind of a let down. Just personal preference I think. I did notice a lot of grammar errors and that always makes me stop and re-read. I hate that!

D says

The concept was very good and quite well thought through. The narration somehow seemed to lack the dept I was expecting.

Samuel Bor says

Great book, regardless of how graphic the psi-disks became, I felt the ending was a little weak and deserved

a little more explanation, but loved the twist on the last page! Overall I enjoyed this book

Gary says

I have read and enjoyed many of Stephen Leather's books but I found this one difficult to enjoy. A move from his usual crime genre to a science fiction story, but that was not my problem. The lead character is a Dreamer whose job is to produce entertainment psi discs and I did enjoy a lot of the book but found the some of it a little disturbing. I can see by the other reviews that this books splits its readers in half and generally people either loved it or felt similar to me.

I am a big fan of this authors other work and I accept that this book just didn't work for me.

Sharon Stevenson says

'Dreamer's Cat' is a unique sci-fi novella with a suspenseful mystery packed into the fast-moving storyline.

I tore through this book, loving the dark tone and the thought-provoking ideas. I will warn that it's not an easy read as there is some disturbing content but this gave the story more weight and the impact was not lost on me. The 'hero' of the piece plunges into some very dark depths as he works to find out what's been happening to other dreamers so being inside his head was at times an uncomfortable thing but I appreciated the levels Leather went to with this to make his point.

To me science fiction is at it's best when it makes you question your views on the ideas presented in the novel. Here I found myself questioning my attitudes on how violence can affect the observer, as well as thinking about perception and reality. I also like a bit of quirkiness to a book and the talking cat certainly kept things interesting here. The story moves along at a decent pace and never gets boring, and the writing style is very easy to get into.

Overall this is a unique and disturbing read that will really make you think. It would likely best be enjoyed by fans of sci-fi horror or anyone who enjoys darker toned thrillers. I look forward to trying out more of Leather's books now as I thoroughly enjoyed this one!

Weenie says

An enjoyable book, set in a 'near' future that is recognisable and topical too I thought, with how society perceives what is entertainment and what isn't.

Good pace and well written.

Just a pity it was so short but for a book that was only £0.71 to download, this was an absolute bargain.

Encourages me to read more of Leather's books.
