



## Asgard Park

*Ronald Simonar*

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## **Asgard Park** Ronald Simonar

Across two continents, three strangers uncover the oldest story on Earth and the best kept secret of all times. On a rainy day in late June 1991, Dr Wallenberg, a Swedish neurologist passes through customs at Kennedy Airport. He has come to take over the Directorship at Asgard Park, an old mental Institution in upstate New York. The young academic has no way of knowing that his new position is bait in a bigger game. He is about to uncover a misguided conspiracy run from the asylum. His predecessor at the helm, a man obsessed with Intelligent Design, is using vast resources 'to protect the chosen children'.

## **Asgard Park Details**

Date : Published 2011 by Eventhor Media

ISBN : 9789197966719

Author : Ronald Simonar

Format : Paperback 380 pages

Genre : Mystery, Thriller

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## From Reader Review Asgard Park for online ebook

### My Book Addiction and More MBA says

This is a very good book that you need to read. Once you pick it up it is hard to put down. A very good spy thriller with a twist. If you are a nonbeliever or a believer it makes you think at the end "Is God real?"

Rating:4

Heat Rating: mild

Reviewed by: Susan

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### Anna Stefansdottir says

I use the Kelley&Hall review as my own:

The gods are afoot in Asgard Park, which is a multi-layered, complex literary thriller that searches for patterns and meaning in a chaotic universe while remaining grounded in basic human interactions and conflicts. Simonar, who resides in Sweden, joins a distinguished group of authors like John Banville (*The Infinities*), Hari Kunzru (*Gods Without Men*), and Neil Gaiman (*American Gods*) who journey deep into myth to create lesser gods.

An American NSA officer inquires about a missing file on STASI (East German secret police) collaborators; the Swedish SÄPO (security police) investigates the bestial murder of a wealthy businesswoman; the defunct Albanian Sigurimi (secret police) still terrorize the deprived citizens of the rubble-strewn land of dead dictator Horxha and search for a beautiful young widow; and the most powerful man in Germany builds a secret army. And what secret power makes the Italian Mafia, the FBI, the CIA, and the NSA bow before it?

All these elements interrelate in this viscerally gripping and intellectually engaging mystery thriller. With brilliantly original Asgard Park, Ronald Simonar has taken his place within the pantheon of groundbreaking post-modernist writers.

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### Melissa says

Between the undefined acronyms, the incredibly long/difficult names, and the references to groups and organizations I have never heard of, it was extremely hard to figure out what was going on.

Check out my blog for my full review: <http://tubchairtimes.blogspot.ca/2012...>

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### Nancy says

A truly dark tale about a Nordic god named Heimðallr. "Heimðallr, the god who was born of nine mothers (the waves of the sea), is said to have been the father of all the castes of humankind." (thank you Wiki!!). It

wouldn't hurt to read a bit about him before you start this book. It makes things a little clearer. Birger Wallenberg is taking over the Asgard Park Institute. – an institution for the mentally ill. Originally from Copenhagen; he has been selected from many applicants to head the Research Department. He already has great plans to use his position to prove some of his own theories. One thing they forgot to mention: the retiring Director, Dr. Karl Leamas, lives there. He built it so why not? Why not is an easy answer. The man is everywhere, into everything and possibly (probably) a tad deluded. He keeps speaking of Heimdallr and encourages Birger to open his senses to him. He says Birger is the chosen one to carry on Heimdallr's work in the world.

Meanwhile, across the ocean in Albania, two young girls of opposite dispositions are arguing about sex. One is experienced, a whore even and the other is pure, chaste and relies on her brother to keep her safe. The Kid (aka Rakipe) is world-wise, loud, brash and lonely. Shequere Avhiu a widow whose husband hung himself from a sewer pipe. Her brother, Spiro, deals in any and everything dealable and does pretty well for himself. The back and forth in this book between a world of poverty and an institution of insanity keeps you hopping. I have to admit that it wasn't something I was thrilled with but overall it was a good tale. Not what I thought it would be about at all and that's all I'm gonna say about it. I'm sure it will be perfect for most folks.

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### **Mitzi says**

Did not enjoy this book. It started out slow, keep jumping back/forth and I gave it my 100 page try but couldn't finish.

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### **Jessica says**

This was a Goodreads Firstreads giveaway win.

I received this book along with a note from the author about how it might be a difficult read but if I stuck with it, it would be worth it. I will agree that it was a difficult read in that it started a little slow. I also found I had to pay close attention to the story line in order to keep up with what was going on. It is definitely not a beach read or a fluff title that you could plow through in a day. I wouldn't recommend trying to read it where there are a lot of distractions (children, noise, phone ringing, etc.).

That said... I really enjoyed this story. The plot and characters were complex but engaging. I did have to do a little Nordic mythology research just so I grasped the concept of Hemdallr but I really like mythology so that didn't bother me. I loved that it didn't really seem to follow the formula of the typical spy thriller books. Excellent book!

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### **Lili says**

I was delighted to receive this free as a Goodreads first read. This is a complex but compelling story, a thriller full of twists and turns. It is a book I thoroughly enjoyed reading, which has a plot I'm not sure I fully understood. Of minds and bodies invaded by a God of good or of evil? I'm not sure! Of men who are sane or insane? Again I'm not sure! But it is definitely a book to savour. There is certainly a deal of violence, there is a type of romance, and there is suspense and disbelief in

abundance. It is certainly a book to concentrate upon, to read slowly and to digest. I needed to halt at times to translate certain words, to investigate the history and geography of Albania and the legend of the Watchman Heimðallr, none of which I had encountered before. A clear winner by an excellent writer.

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## **Pedro says**

One of the best books I have read in this season.

While reading you will be transported from Albania, to USA, Sweden and Germany. Wallenberg is attracted to the Asgard Park, a mental institution, with the promise of being able to manage a research team. Soon it turned out to be bait, the former director tells him that he has to accept Heimdallr, who is the watchman, which monitors his creation, humankind. Meanwhile in Albania, Avxhiu, a beautiful widower, is going to have his life turn completely upside down. Burton, a middle-aged agent, is following the trail of a powerful aristocrat, which he suspects is involved in a huge conspiracy.

It is definitively a very good page-turner, which combines mythology, intelligent design in a gripping thriller, that once you start you can't put it down.

I'm very happy to have received this book through the first reads program and I'm looking forward to reading further works from this author.

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