



Night Arrant

Gary Gygax

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In a world fraught with sorcery and skulduggery, every day can bring a new experience - some of them humorous, some utterly horrifying. So it is with Gord, a young adventurer who not only attracts excitement but thrives on it.

Night Arrant is a collection of nine short stories spotlighting the character for who the GORD THE ROGUE book series is named, showing some side of him that have not been revealed before. Readers who savor fast-moving fantasy adventure will enjoy seeing how Gord gets himself into and - most of the time - out of one predicament after another.

Includes the following stories:

"The Heart of Darkness"

"The Weird Occurrence in Odd Alley"

"A Revel in Rel Mord"

"The Five Dragon Bowl"

"Twistbuck's Game"

"The House in the Tree"

"Cats Versus Rats"

"Love Laughs at Locks"

"Cat or Pigeon?"

Night Arrant Details

Date : Published September 1st 1987 by Ace Books

ISBN : 9780441298631

Author : Gary Gygax

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From Reader Review Night Arrant for online ebook

Cameron says

Nothing quite as perversely entertaining as a Gary Gygax classic. Simple tales that built a complex world.

Sarah Delaney says

Classic DnD book by the master and inventor, Gary Gygax. It follows the adventures of Gord the Rogue, the 4th book in the series.

Max Lybbert says

There are a few passages and stories in here that made me chuckle; including "Twistbuck's Game." And several of the stories influence each other the way chapters would in a longer book. But, overall, I can't really say it will change your life.

The book provides a simple, amusing way to kill a few hours.

Timothy Boyd says

Good fantasy read by the creator of dungeons and dragons. Recommended

David Sarkies says

A collection of short stories about Gord the Rogue

24 December 2012

To be honest, the only thing that I can remember about this book was the cover, and that is of a roc getting blasted with a minute lightning bolt (though considering the size of the bird, I the lightning bolt is probably an average size). One thing that I have learnt about it, even from the few brief reviews (if there is even one, because, besides this one, I can count only two) is that it is a collection of short stories written by Gary Gygax about Gord the Rogue.

The funny thing about Dungeons and Dragons short stories is that I never actually read them. I believe that I read this book, though in reality it could have simply been sitting on my shelf for an uncounted period of time before it mysteriously vanished (I remember a time when I nicked off to Sydney without telling everybody, and then my so called friends decided to raid my room on the pre-text that I owed them money – which I probably did). It could have been one of those library books that I never returned, but my parents ended up returning on my behalf (thanks Dad), or it could have been sold to a second hand bookshop when I did not want to be loaded with books anymore (and then for some reason all the stuff that I get rid off ends up being replaced with other stuff).

When I was younger I remember reading every Dragon magazine, a monthly periodical released by TSR for

the Dungeons and Dragons community, that was released and I would read everything in the magazine with the exception of the short story. For some reason I simply never wanted to read the short story, despite the fact that I would read all of the other parts of the magazine, or even Dungeons and Dragons novels. The only reasoning that I have for this is that I probably only wanted to read the parts of the magazine that directly related to the game rather than some story that probably had nothing to do with the game at all.

Uwe Windhoven says

more like shorts stories, not really a novel.

Derek says

Something of a step backward from Sea of Death in terms of both writing and story. Gygax starts the collection by trying very hard to emulate Fafhrd and the Grey Mouser--small monochromatically-dressed thief in cahoots with hulking northern barbarian, both greedy and neither entirely intelligent, hijinks ensue--but his reach exceeds his grasp. He tries for the easy banter but fails painfully, and tries for a living, breathing setting on par with Lankhmar and succeeds fitfully and too late. His writing and plotting lacks Leiber's economy, being too wordy by half and unable to target what was essential to the story.

"The Weird Occurrence in Odd Alley", perhaps the second best of them, is Gygax sort of doing "Bazaar of the Bizarre", but has a long rambling preamble of explaining how Gord and Chert wind up in the multidimensional Daigon Alley sort of place doorwayd from the City of Greyhawk. It is slow to get going and overstays its welcome and is never really clear where Gygax was going with it after introducing a fascinatingly interesting notion.

"Love Laughs at Locks" makes Gord the victim of a con. The details provoke an eye-rolling lack of surprise in anyone who has read Lawrence Block or the like, but the notion that Gygax's increasingly competent uber-character can be so credulous is an interesting flaw.

The way that Gygax links it with the events of "Cat or Pigeon?"--the con artists are part of some governmental conspiracy, what?--is incredibly bizarre and forced, and the denouement of the latter talks itself into a pretzel justifying the unlikely connection, a connection that only exists as a convenience to draw Gord into the plot. The entire situation is a shame because the link is unnecessary and serves to weaken both stories.
