



Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom

By Cory Doctorow



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On The Skids In The Transhuman Future

Jules is a young man barely a century old. He's lived long enough to see the cure for death and the end of scarcity, to learn ten languages and compose three symphonies...and to realize his boyhood dream of taking up residence in Disney World.

Disney World! The greatest artistic achievement of the long-ago twentieth century. Now in the keeping of a network of "ad-hocs" who keep the classic attractions running as they always have, enhanced with only the smallest high-tech touches.

Now, though, the "ad hocs" are under attack. A new group has taken over the Hall of the Presidents, and is replacing its venerable audioanimatronics with new, immersive direct-to-brain interfaces that give guests the illusion of being Washington, Lincoln, and all the others. For Jules, this is an attack on the artistic purity of Disney World itself.

Worse: it appears this new group has had Jules killed. This upsets him. (It's only his fourth death and revival, after all.) Now it's war....

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Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom By Cory Doctorow Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A lot of ideas are packed into this short novel, but Doctorow's own best idea was setting his story in Disney World, where it's hard to tell whether technology serves dreams or vice versa. Jules, a relative youngster at more than a century old, is a contented citizen of the Bitchun Society that has filled Earth and near-space since shortage and death were overcome. People are free to do whatever they wish, since the only wealth is respect and since constant internal interface lets all monitor exactly how successful they are at being liked. What Jules wants to do is move to Disney World, join the ad-hoc crew that runs the park and fine-tune the Haunted Mansion ride to make it even more wonderful. When his prudently stored consciousness abruptly awakens in a cloned body, he learns that he was murdered; evidently he's in the way of somebody else's dreams. Jules first suspects, then becomes viciously obsessed by, the innovative group that has turned the Hall of Presidents into a virtual experience. In the conflict that follows, he loses his lover, his job, his respect—even his interface connection—but gains perspective that the other Bitchun citizens lack. Jules's narrative unfolds so smoothly that readers may forget that all this raging passion is over amusement park rides. Then they can ask what that shows about the novel's supposedly mature, liberated characters. Doctorow has served up a nicely understated dish: meringue laced with caffeine.
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From [Booklist](#)

Welcome to Bitchun society, where all today's commonplace problems have been solved: even death is a minor inconvenience, since one can make regular backups. Our hero has gone to Disneyland--his habit at times of major personal crisis--where he works for the ad-hocracy that runs the Haunted Mansion and the Hall of Presidents. It is a great honor to be working on the pinnacle of late-twentieth-century cultural and artistic achievement--Disneyland, that would be--and it inspires great loyalty. Our man begins feeling the pressure of change, however, after a cookie-cutter teenybopper shoots him dead for apparently no reason at all. Convinced that a new ad-hocracy on the block used his death to take over the Hall of Presidents, he vows to sabotage their plans and protect the sanctity of the Haunted Mansion. Thus begins a cycle of destruction and conflict with unexpected ramifications for the park--and his personal life. An excellent ride, entertaining and unpredictable. *Regina Schroeder*
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Review

“He sparkles! He fizzes! He does backflips and breaks the furniture! Science fiction needs Cory Doctorow.”
?Bruce Sterling, author of *The Hacker Crackdown* and *Distraction*

“This is science fiction for the non-SF reader as well as for hardcore fans of the genre--think Carl Hiassen crossed with Philip K. Dick, with just a dash of Disney magic” ?*Kathryn Lively, author of Saints Preserve Us*

“In a world of affluence and immortality, the big battles will be fought over culture, not politics. That's the starting-point of *Wired* contributor Doctorow's daring novel.... Few challenges to copyright giants are as entertaining as this book.” ?*Wired*

“Cory Doctorow is the most interesting new SF writer I've come across in years. He starts out at the point

where older SF writers' speculations end.” ?Rudy Rucker, author of Spaceland

“A kinetic, immersive yarn...wholly entertaining.” ?*The Onion AV Club*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

George Clark:

What do you with regards to book? It is not important along? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what you problem? How about your time? Or are you busy man or woman? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is give you a sense of feeling bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. They should answer that question simply because just their can do which. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on jardín de infancia until university need this Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom to read.

Ruth Barnett:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book could be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Daniel McCullough:

Beside this kind of Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom in your phone, it could possibly give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or facts. The information and the knowledge you are going to got here is fresh from your oven so don't be worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow town. It is good thing to have Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom because this book offers to your account readable information. Do you sometimes have book but you seldom get what it's exactly about. Oh come on, that will not end up to happen if you have this with your hand. The Enjoyable arrangement here cannot be questionable, like treasuring beautiful island. Techniques you still want to miss the idea? Find this book and read it from currently!

Ariane Swanson:

Some individuals said that they feel weary when they reading a guide. They are directly felt that when they get a half elements of the book. You can choose the actual book Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom to

make your current reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading expertise is developing when you including reading. Try to choose very simple book to make you enjoy to learn it and mingle the opinion about book and looking at especially. It is to be initially opinion for you to like to open up a book and learn it. Beside that the reserve Down and Out in the Magic Kingdom can to be a newly purchased friend when you're really feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of this time.

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