



## The Chosen Seed

*Sarah Pinborough*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# The Chosen Seed

*Sarah Pinborough*

## **The Chosen Seed** Sarah Pinborough

His nephew has been kidnapped and, as he works desperately to save Luke, Detective Inspector Cass Jones has been framed for murder. He's on the run, being hunted by former colleagues, and is unwelcome wherever he goes . . . until he gets help from a very unexpected figure from his past. Detectives Hask and Ramsey are on a different case - searching for the killer behind the lethal Strain II virus currently sweeping its way through London . . . a search which throws up an unexpected clue that suggests Cass might be innocent of murder after all. But when they're ordered not to investigate further, they realise the mystery behind the murder is far greater than they thought. Somehow it's linked to Mr Bright, and to the Network which manipulates everyone from the shadows. A rift is growing between these rival factions as Strain II takes a firmer hold on the city, and as the Interventionists warn of a final battle which will bring them all together - or, once and for all, tear everything apart. Cass Jones is going up against The Bank and its sinister employees one last time. He needs every ally he can get, and this time he means to find answers - even if he has to uncover the true history of humanity to do it. And the more he learns, the more everything hinges on finding Luke.

## **The Chosen Seed Details**

Date : Published February 16th 2012 by Gollancz

ISBN : 9780575089532

Author : Sarah Pinborough

Format : Hardcover 384 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Horror, Mystery, Crime, Fiction, Thriller

 [Download The Chosen Seed ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Chosen Seed ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Chosen Seed Sarah Pinborough**

---

## From Reader Review *The Chosen Seed* for online ebook

### Richard Wright says

A grand conclusion to the exceptionally creative Dog-Faced Gods trilogy. DI Cass Jones is a fugitive from both the law, and the secret order which has operated society for its own ends for centuries. Immortal creatures are at large. Jones's blood is the key to the end, or beginning, of all things. For all of this, we have here a story which still functions primarily on a local level, in intimate conversations and grubby beatings in back alleys, in drug deals and twisted family ties. Having consumed a good deal of supernatural noir in the last couple of years, I've found this trilogy to be a thing operating wholly on its own level, giving abeyance to none of the conventions that it's supposed to ascribe to, and thus offering that rarest of things – something superficially very familiar, which goes on to offer surprises and delights I haven't found in fiction before. On its own terms, it's a transcendent piece of work, entirely appropriate given the broader theme of transcendence (or a failure to transcend) that develops through the trilogy.

---

### Sara Townsend says

THE CHOSEN SEED is the third book in Sarah Pinborough's "Dog-Faced Gods" trilogy. And the main point I want to make is it is a trilogy. This book is not so much a book in itself as Act 3 in a three act play, and I would urge you to go and read A MATTER OF BLOOD (#1) and SHADOWS OF THE SOUL (#2) before you come to this one.

When I read the first book I was a little confused about what genre I was reading. The setting is London in a near-future dystopia. It's a London that's familiar, but considerably worse than the one we know. The only definitive reference to timescale we have is that 2011 was the year everything went wrong, and society has now completely broken down, with mass unemployment, no prospects and no hope. In the midst of this a disillusioned cop, Cassius Jones, deals with a series of apparently gang-related murders. But there's something strange about the set-up, and then Cass has to investigate the apparent suicide of his brother, who killed his wife and child before killing himself. The ghost of Cass's brother Christian appears to Cass, and it becomes evident that things are not as they seem. I had a bit of trouble by this point pinning the genre of this series down (and I do like to make sure all my books are on the right Goodreads shelves). Is it SF? Horror? Crime? A combination of all three?

As Cass delves deeper into his family history, trying to get to the bottom of what happened to his brother, his discoveries raise more questions than they answer. I got to the end of the first book feeling that the story wasn't actually finished. And indeed, it isn't. In order to get to the end of the story you have to read all three books, in order. But I would recommend you do this because it's an awesome story. At the very end of THE CHOSEN SEED, everything falls into place, and it all makes perfect sense. The final revelation, when it comes, makes so much sense you start to wonder why you didn't see it coming, even though there's no way you could have. I was also left with the feeling that maybe Sarah Pinborough knows something we don't - and maybe this isn't quite so far removed from the world we know as we were initially led to believe.

Having got to the end of the series, I can also say with confidence that this is a horror story. It's the sort of horror story we don't see enough of these days. I am left in awe of the author's skill in weaving this tightly-plotted and dense story, and also slightly envious. Because I know I'm never going to be able to write anything this good.

---

## **Miriam Michalak says**

A cracking finale to a bit of a slow-burn trilogy. The pace really picked up & the reveal was excellent. loved it!

---

## **G.R. Yeates says**

The Dog-Faced Gods trilogy comes to an end in assured and satisfying fashion. Picking up from where The Shadow of the Soul left off, we are presented with another crazed killer on the loose but this device is used here more to ground the reader with familiar structure than to form the main thread of the plot as the elements that have remained in the background up until now come to the fore. That said, the Angel of Death is as effectively macabre an avatar as the Man of Flies - his means of bestowing death fuses Biblical horror with contemporary pandemic fears to stomach-churning and deeply disturbing effect.

But the focus here is Cass Jones as he approaches his final confrontation with Mr Bright and the Network. This trilogy has always been his story as he drags himself out of the personal mire his life had sunken into at the beginning and makes his faltering way towards a redemption he is not sure he really wants any part of. The Chosen Seed is where he truly shines, or shall I say Glows, in his determined quest to track down his nephew. Here, he is more driven than he has been before and, as a reader, you are with him every step of the way.

It is also in the mythic aspects that The Chosen Seed really works for me. There are some highly effective episodes of surrealism and nightmare here echoing with a convincing sense of cosmic horror that I admit I was not expecting to find in this trilogy. To tell of the revelations that explain what has really been going on behind the scenes in the world of the Dog-Faced Gods would, of course, constitute a massive spoiler so all I will say is that I found, when they were presented, that they formed a well-crafted coda to everything that had gone before after the dust settled and the battle was done.

And yes, you do get to find out just what the Dog-Faced Gods actually means, at last.  
Recommended.

---

## **Isidore says**

This trilogy seems greatly overrated to me. The first two books are mostly banal police procedural stuff with a modest overlay of the uncanny, and an even smaller amount of speculation about what our society will be like in the near future. Of these, the last struck me as the most intriguing, but after a promising start the sf element received no further development.

The uncanny element, an uneasy mixture of paranoid fantasy, ghosts, and mysterious psychic powers, does offer some fine moments. The bizarre Interventionists, the dark, tantalizing references to a strange Experiment which invariably leaves those who attempt it screaming with madness, are all pretty stimulating. So, while the first two books are uneven, they at least furnish sufficient mystery to keep you reading through the dull bits as policemen argue with each other, and Cass agonizes endlessly (if unproductively) over his assorted misdeeds.

Unfortunately, the author resolves her mysteries by recourse to extremely familiar Christian myths. Not only

does she show her hand too early, spoiling her "surprise" ending, but her explanation is absurd. The "secret" history of mankind which is finally revealed presupposes that our entire planet is Christian, as it leaves no room for the millions (billions?) whose beliefs have never involved anything like the Judaeo-Christian god, fallen angels, or Jesus Christ. Frankly, it all smacks of cultural chauvinism.

---

### **Brian Hamilton says**

A rather disappointing end to the trilogy. I was given the answers that I wanted since the first book, but they were the answers I had suspected all along, and didn't want - because those answers were lazy and uninspired.

Also, the epilogue seems to be a complete 180-degree turn for Cass as a character. It seems to be a rushed job at some sort of closure that fails.

---

### **Joy says**

This was a very decent mystery up until the conclusion. You had many clues that the behind the scenes creatures were the bases for the angel myth and I had hopes it would end with aliens or Eldritch Gods. Sadly it just fell into a twist on Abrahamic creation myth. God is a despot, his human creations made in his image, cruel and self serving just like his winged subjects, the angels, that revolt because he's such a cruel bastard. All very myopic as a world creation story.

---

### **OpenBookSociety.com says**

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/th...>

Brought to you by OBS reviewer Heidi

the-chosen-seed-the-forgotten-gods-sarah-pinborough Cass Jones is a man on the run. Wanted for a pair of murders he didn't commit. But he knows his fellow police officers will never believe his innocence, they all think he cracked after his brother's death. So now he's forced to live in the shadows, depending on a few solid friends to help him along the way.

But while living the invisible life he also is still hunting down Mr. Bright and trying to find his kidnapped nephew. He WILL find Luke, even if saving him costs Cass his own life. He owes Christian that much; to see his boy safe.

The first book in this series blew me away, it was just soooo good. But I've found that I've liked each of the following two installments a little bit less than the one before it. I think a lot of it has to do with just forgetting so much of what happened from book to book, there are no refreshers in this series! These last two have had so many characters narrating and being involved in general that I just can't keep them all straight!

But I have finally gotten used to the U.K. spellings of things! I know, took me long enough! It didn't bother me in this installment in the least!

This book was so detailed oriented and had so much going on that a majority of the book really did go in one ear and out the other. I would read something, especially in the first half of the book, and have no clue what I read when I was done. It took a lot longer than usual to get into it, and I couldn't for the life of me remember who Cass was accused of murdering until pretty late in the book, when they said something about the knife.

Once Cass found what he thought was his nephew the book got interesting and I enjoyed it. But it took so long to get to that point. I just wish the book could have started there!

I found the ending of this novel to be pretty interesting. Cass becoming what he never in a million years would have expected. The series completely came full-circle with this ending.

I highly recommend reading this trilogy back-to-back so that you don't miss any of the details. I unfortunately had to wait between books for the installments to be released, and I think it really did hamper my enjoyment of the series as a whole.

---

### **Sharon says**

Yes!!!! The final part of the Dog-Faced Gods trilogy by Sarah Pinborough and how awesome that part 3 is by no means a letdown - in fact it's a cracker read and wraps up the series brilliantly. Quite often it seems that series run out of steam but this just got better and better. Just loved the series. Why had I not heard of this author before now?????

One thing though - whoever edited the book needs a smack! Lol. Too many mistakes throughout.

---

### **Chloë Yates says**

Bloody bloody good read. The entire trilogy is rip-roaring stuff. Get it, read it.

---

### **Helen says**

This book exemplifies why I should read trilogies within a reasonable time frame, not years apart!

I'd forgotten so much from the first two books, and there are no recaps here, so I'd urge readers to read this series in quick succession, lest you mar your enjoyment of the tale.

And it's a good one - I'd just forgotten the details of it, and this series is *all about the details*.

Cass Jones is a wonderfully well-drawn character, as is the enigmatic Mr. Bright, other characters less so, but this is likely due to the vast gaps I left between reading each book.

The ending is brilliantly done, and a very clever take on religious belief and humankind's need for something greater than itself to look up to.

Top-notch writing, I just spent a lot of this read trying to remember what the Hell had happened before, and this kind of spoiled it for me. So read it all in one yummy book-binge!

---

## **M. Sprouse says**

The Chosen Seed, succeeds where the first two books of the trilogy only have moderate appeal. The strength in this final offering from Sarah Pinborough is that the actions and "reveals" move at a more satisfactory pace than books 1 and 2. The previous books I liked, but were just adequate to keep me going from book to book. The concluding novel was just what a finisher should be and makes you almost forget the slowness of the beginning two. Except for the overly spelled out story of the creation of earth and mankind that was ludicrous, not to mention blasphemous this was a good story. Sure it's just a horror story, but our good and gracious God should not be mocked (yeah, I'm one of THOSE).

Except for the above mentioned problem, I found this book quite enjoyable and interesting. However, a couple of things others mentioned as strengths, I felt fell short. First, I never felt like I really knew or felt Cass Jones. He seems a bit different in each book and often his brooding and anger made him very one dimensional character. Also, several reviewers raved about the setting and how gritty and dark it was. To me it felt more like it could be next year or two years from now in London. If that's what the Author was shooting for, then mission accomplished. However, I thought she missed dozens of opportunities for us to picture the supposed economic downturns and gloomy aspects that could have been so much more vivid. Again, I really liked this book, I guess I'm just a little peeved that the other two books could have been more like this one. Overall I give the trilogy a B-.

---

## **Lucian Poll says**

Note: this review for "The Chosen Seed" contains spoilers for "The Shadow of the Soul" and "A Matter of Blood".

"The Chosen Seed" is the final book of Sarah Pinborough's "Dog-Faced Gods" trilogy (also known as the "Forgotten Gods" trilogy in the US) and concludes the story of Detective Inspector Cassius Jones following the frantic conclusion of "The Shadow of the Soul".

Dr Hask and DI Ramsay are hunting for the newest killer stalking London, one who is murdering people using the lethal Strain II virus, a stronger derivative of HIV. A dying victim recalls a clean-cut man in his early thirties saying to her "For this is the word of your God. Spread it." Shortly afterwards she began to display symptoms.

Meanwhile Cass Jones is on the run following the murder of a man linked to the disappearance of his nephew, Luke, and also that of Adam Bradley (the real murderer). While his former colleagues, Hask and Ramsay, have a hard time accepting his guilt, Jones' former partner, DS Armstrong, has no such concerns. He is hell-bent on bringing Jones to justice.

Jones lies low while his underworld contacts arrange a new identity for him, but his mind is alive with the mysterious Mr Bright, a man who has long pulled his strings and those of his family, and someone who most certainly knows what happened to Luke. Events take an unusual turn, however, when Jones' murky undercover past comes back to haunt him.

All is not well within Mr Bright's world and those of the Cohort - his fellow eternal, otherworldly beings. Not only do some find themselves dying, but now it appears an emissary has appeared, having seemingly

come to Jones' rescue at the end of the previous book. Her presence is a bad omen that suggests the imminent arrival of Him and the onset of the Rapture. At the same time the first of their kind has finally woken from his comatose state and is found to be in no fit state to lead the Cohort as hoped. He has woken an old man, meek and scared.

So here we have it, the final part of "The Dog-Faced Gods" trilogy, and while it's better than "A Matter of Blood", I didn't find it quite as good as "The Shadow of the Soul". The pages fly just as fast, the plot keeps on coming like a flood, the characters are just as good, and - yay! - there are no passwords being guessed, but... I don't know... there were a few things that kept the book tantalisingly short of excellent.

For example, the underlying threat of revenge hanging over Jones and his undercover past, touched upon several times during the previous two books, comes to very little. Any bad blood is all too quickly forgotten. The brutal cruelty meted out to one of the characters (you'll know when you get to it) also left a bad taste in the mouth. (The same could be said of Mr Craven's exploits in the previous book.) Finally, and this is for me a minor point, when you take a step back from the trilogy and consider it as a whole you could be left wondering why no other religions were touched upon at all, though this was perhaps a conscious decision to keep an already huge story as lean as possible.

That said, there are some excellent scenes too. The finale is well worked, with a real sense of urgency and impending doom in the run-up. I couldn't turn the pages fast enough once it got going. The epilogue gives some real satisfying closure to the story. Yes, the story could be re-opened later down the line, but you at least feel there is no need to do so (i.e. there is no "Meanwhile at Camp Crystal..." bullshit to contend with at the end).

I think the faults I have with the trilogy mostly stem from the incredibly complex plot that spans all three books - nearly 1200 pages' worth. Beneath the main plot threads touched upon in my reviews you will find a ton of subplots, incidents and secondary characters. Given all that, it is perhaps inevitable that some panel-beating would be required to fit it all in. Taken as a whole, I'd suggest not looking too hard at the few niggles that exist and tuck in, folks. There's a lot of good stuff here to chew over.

The Dog-Faced Gods marked my first foray into Sarah Pinborough's work. Now if you'll excuse me I'm off to seek out "Mayhem".

4/5

---

## **Terry Weyna says**

Note: This review contains spoilers for the first two books in the FORGOTTEN GODS trilogy. The review of the first of the books in the trilogy, A Matter of Blood, is here; the review of the second, The Shadow of the Soul, is here.

The first two books of Sarah Pinborough's FORGOTTEN GODS trilogy opened with one of the members of the shadowy group known as The Bank committing murder most foul — and supernatural — and The Chosen Seed continues that pattern. This time, though, the murders are even more explicitly sacrilegious, for the killer is calling his means of infecting people with an amped-up version of AIDS “the word of your God.” The police know that someone is deliberately infecting random people, but they have little to go on to try to catch him.



Cass Jones is no longer in a position to go after the killer, for he is himself on the run from the police, and has been for months, ever since Mr. Bright framed him for murder. At least Cass has begun to recover from the shot he took to the shoulder, and the weight he lost as a result of the injury has helped disguise him so that he can operate in plain sight. Because Cass still has work to do: he needs to find Luke, his nephew, who was stolen by The Bank at birth. He's turned for help to people who knows on the wrong side of the law, some of whom still have scores to settle with him, but he has little choice.

Pinborough follows these two threads in alternating chapters, deftly building suspense, and then bringing in yet another, that of Mr. Bright and his attempts to keep control of a growing cadre at The Bank who believe that their own control of the world is growing tenuous. In fact, they're looking for a way home. By now readers will have figured out who these shadowy men are in the grand scheme of things, and that "home" is not in this world or even this universe. But God seems to have abandoned them just as thoroughly as he seems to have abandoned mankind, and he is not opening the Pearly Gates to anyone, it seems, though the members of The Bank will do whatever it takes to find the way.

Deftly moving from this character to that, balancing the tension among all the different threads, and finally weaving them all into a satisfactory and unexpected conclusion, Pinborough has written a series that keeps readers compulsively turning pages. I especially enjoyed the challenges to religious beliefs, or to the lack of them, that Pinborough poses for her readers; no one, regardless of his or her religious affiliation, can feel entirely comfortable throughout this trilogy, fiction though it may be. Endings are difficult to get right, but Pinborough hits this one right on the nose.

With this trilogy, Pinborough has landed herself on my list of horror writers whose books I will purchase without knowing anything about them except that she wrote them. It's short list, but she has definitely earned her place on it.

Originally published at <http://www.fantasyliterature.com/revi...> 4.5 stars rounded up to 5.

---

### **Sillylittlefishey says**

This book was just too hard for me to get into! Too much going on and too many details from the previous two that I couldn't remember!

---