




Not in the Eye

C.Z. Hazard , Nico Reznick (Editor)

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In a world running rapidly out of new ideas, the most precious commodity is innovation. In a future so near that it may already be upon us, Western society faces cultural bankruptcy. Our creative heritage has been looted, recycled and plagiarised to the point of exhaustion. The entertainment industry has traded artistic merit for commercial success and mass appeal. Everything is just a rehash of something that came before. Nothing is original. When a radical new phenomenon erupts (quite literally) onto the porno scene, it changes the industry forever, and forces audiences, jaded by endless reiteration, to sit up and take notice. It's a watershed moment in these culturally bereft times, and - for a select few - it's a chance to make some serious money. But wherever there's serious money to be made, you can bet there's a lawsuit just around the corner. Join Indigo Julius, self-styled godfather of NuGonzo journalism, as he searches for the story behind the story behind the most controversial porn sensation in history, and examines its far-reaching consequences. Across a series of probing interviews with the stars of this media spectacular, Indigo brings you their compelling - if often conflicting - versions of events, as everyone tries to stake a claim in this pornographic goldrush. Novella, 27,000 words Edited by Nico Reznick, with a cover design by Nick Calloway."

Not in the Eye Details

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From Reader Review Not in the Eye for online ebook

Stephanie Jane (Literary Flits) says

C Z Hazard is Nico Reznick's editor so I discovered this book of his after reading her novel, Anhedonia. Told through a series of overlapping interviews, Not In The Eye explores an imagined consequence of society's insatiable search for novelty and drama in a near-future America. Humorously named writer, John Thomas (a running gag), might have invented an innovative gimmick that made incredible profits for the pornography industry. Or maybe his then boss, Mike Man, should have all the credit? Either way, their protracted court case means the only people profiting right now are lawyers and possibly influential journalist Indigo Julius, our interviewer, who is piggybacking on John and Mike's notoriety to increase his own mass appeal.

As an examination of the lengths industries will go to to maintain audience interest, Not In The Eye provides a light but thoughtful look at Taking It Too Far. I liked the story idea and wouldn't be surprised if something along those lines becomes (or already is!) reality in a struggling studio. However I didn't think the character portrayals were strong enough to set our protagonists up as individual people. Perhaps that was the point - they are all actually shallow media-tarts - but without additional detail to round out these creations, I found it difficult to really become involved with their story.

See more of my book reviews on my blog, Stephanie Jane

Nico Reznick says

Biting, bold, truthful, hilarious, incisive, tragic and effortlessly cool. If you've ever felt dismayed by the lack of original ideas in mainstream contemporary culture, then you need to read this book. A blistering indictment of the stagnation of our entertainment industry, this novel bristles with pop/subculture references, as it explores where we lost our way and how we let originality die out in favour of guaranteed commercial success.

The writing is fluent and awesomely readable, the style is slick and the whole book crackles with a wild and subversive kind of energy.

Andrew Mitchell says

One of the strangest and most surreal books I have read in a long time. A thoroughly enjoyable read.

C Z Hazard says

I'm biased obviously, but the responses from people who have read it so far have been very encouraging. I welcome all reviews and all feedback. Thanks.

Dave Shorter says

I've watched a lot of videos and read various journals concerning the porn industry, but this was easily the most amusing, and least arousing.

Nico Reznick says

Riotous, fast-paced, deliciously transgressive storytelling set in the adult entertainment industry of the not-so-distant future.

As the above description implies, this book isn't for the faint-hearted. If you get offended easily, give this a wide berth. If you're made of slightly sterner stuff, then read this now! It's hilarious, yet profoundly insightful and an absolute delight to read, with characters that really come to life and dialogue that just streams off the page.

It satirises modern society with brutal accuracy, and a plethora of pop and subculture references provide texture and colour to this sublimely unusual little tale.

EroticaAfterDark (Lilith) says

I'm not sure if I want to read this. Five star rating by the author himself is always daunting.

SQ Gray says

Great fun to read. Fast-paced, clever, caustic and very funny, with some surprisingly touching moments. Naturally edgy without ever feeling like it's trying too hard.

Hope we can expect more from this writer soon.
