



The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction)

By David Ian Paddy

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J. G. Ballard once declared that the most truly alien planet is Earth and in his science fiction he abandoned the traditional imagery of rocket ships traveling to distant galaxies to address the otherworldliness of this world. *The Empires of J. G. Ballard* is the first extensive study of Ballard's critical vision of nation and empire, of the political geography of this planet. Paddy examines how Ballard's self-perceived status as an outsider and exile, the Sheppertonian from Shanghai, generated an outlook that celebrated worldliness and condemned parochialism. This book brings to light how Ballard wrestled with notions of national identity and speculated upon the social and psychological implications of the post-war transformation of older models of empire into new imperialisms of consumerism and globalization. Presenting analyses of Ballard's full body of work with its tales of reverse colonization, psychological imperialism, the savagery of civilization, estranged Englishmen abroad and at home, and multinational communities built on crime, *The Empires of J. G. Ballard* offers a fresh perspective on the fiction of J. G. Ballard.

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Editorial Review

Review

The Empires of J.G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography offers a sustained and highly convincing analysis of the imperial and post-imperial histories and networks that shape and energise Ballard's fictional and non-fictional writings. To what extent can Ballard be considered an international writer? What happens to our understanding of his post-war science fictions when they are opened up to the language and logics of post-colonialism? And what creative and critical roles do the spectres of empire play in Ballard's visions of modernity? Paddy follows these and other fascinating lines of enquiry in a study that is not only essential reading for Ballard students and scholars, but for anyone interested in the intersections of modern and contemporary literature, history and politics. --Jeannette Baxter, Anglia Ruskin University

Shanghai made my father. Arriving in England after WW2, he was a person of the world who d witnessed extremes of human experience, and remained the outsider observing life from his home in Shepperton. 1930s Shanghai, Paris of the East , was a mix of international sophistication and violence, unfettered capitalism and acute poverty, American cars, martinis and Coca Cola, a place marked by death and war. It had a profound influence on my father and his imagination.

Dr Paddy s fascinating book explores my father's fiction within an international context and offers a profound reading of a man who always kept his eyes and mind open to the world. --Fay Ballard

Users Review

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Patricia Spear:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children until adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important usually. The book *The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction)* had been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book *The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction)* is not only giving you more new information but also being your friend when you feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your e-book. Try to make relationship while using book *The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction)*. You never experience lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

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Willie Isaac:

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Taylor Becker:

The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction) can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to put every word into joy arrangement in writing *The Empires of J. G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography* (SF Storyworlds: Critical Studies in Science Fiction) nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be among it. This great information may drawn you into fresh stage of crucial imagining.

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