



Time's Eye (Time Odyssey)

By Arthur C. Clarke, Stephen Baxter

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Sir Arthur C. Clarke is a living legend, a writer whose name has been synonymous with science fiction for more than fifty years. An indomitable believer in human and scientific potential, Clarke is a genuine visionary. If Clarke has an heir among today's science fiction writers, it is award-winning author Stephen Baxter. In each of his acclaimed novels, Baxter has demonstrated dazzling gifts of imagination and intellect, along with a rare ability to bring the most cerebral science dramatically to life. Now these two champions of humanism and scientific speculation have combined their talents in a novel sure to be one of the most talked-about of the year, a *2001* for the new millennium.

TIME'S EYE

For eons, Earth has been under observation by the Firstborn, beings almost as old as the universe itself. The Firstborn are unknown to humankind—until they act. In an instant, Earth is carved up and reassembled like a huge jigsaw puzzle. Suddenly the planet and every living thing on it no longer exist in a single timeline. Instead, the world becomes a patchwork of eras, from prehistory to 2037, each with its own indigenous inhabitants.

Scattered across the planet are floating silver orbs impervious to all weapons and impossible to communicate with. Are these technologically advanced devices responsible for creating and sustaining the rifts in time? Are they cameras through which inscrutable alien eyes are watching? Or are they something stranger and more terrifying still?

The answer may lie in the ancient city of Babylon, where two groups of refugees from 2037—three cosmonauts returning to Earth from the International Space Station, and three United Nations peacekeepers on a mission in Afghanistan—have detected radio signals: the only such signals on the planet, apart from their own. The peacekeepers find allies in nineteenth-century British troops and in the armies of Alexander the Great. The astronauts, crash-landed in the steppes of Asia, join forces with the Mongol horde led by Genghis Khan. The two sides set out for Babylon, each determined to win the race for knowledge . . . and the power that lies within.

Yet the real power is beyond human control, perhaps even human understanding.

As two great armies face off before the gates of Babylon, it watches, waiting. . . .

From the Hardcover edition.

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Time's Eye (Time Odyssey) By Arthur C. Clarke, Stephen Baxter Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #543051 in Books
- Brand: Del Rey
- Published on: 2005-03-01

- Released on: 2005-03-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.90" h x .80" w x 4.30" l,
- Binding: Mass Market Paperback
- 384 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Sir Arthur C. Clarke may be the greatest science fiction writer in the world; certainly, he's the best-known, not least because he wrote the novel and coauthored the screenplay of *2001: A Space Odyssey*. He's also the only SF writer to be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize or to be knighted by Her Majesty Elizabeth II. This god of SF has twice collaborated with one of the best SF writers to emerge in the 1990s, Stephen Baxter, winner of the British SF Award, the Locus Award, and the Philip K. Dick Award. Their first collaboration is the novel *The Light of Other Days*. Their second is the novel *Time's Eye: Book One of a Time Odyssey*.

As the subtitle indicates, *Time's Eye* is the first book of a series intended to do for time what *2001* did for space. Does *Time's Eye* succeed in this goal? No. In *2001*, humanity discovers a mysterious monolith on the moon, triggering a signal that astronauts pursue to one of the moons of Jupiter. In *Time's Eye*, mysterious satellites appear all around the Earth and scramble time, bringing together an ape-woman; twenty-first-century soldiers and astronauts; nineteenth-century British and Indian soldiers; and the armies of Genghis Khan and Alexander the Great. The characters march around in search of other survivors, then clash in epic battle. It's not until the end that the novel returns to the mystery of the tiny, eye-like satellites (and doesn't solve it). In other words, the plot of *Time's Eye* is a nearly 300-page digression, and *2001* fans expecting exploration of the scientific enigma and examination of the meaning of existence will be disappointed. However, fans of rousing and well-written transtemporal adventure in the tradition of S.M. Stirling's novel *Island in the Sea of Time* will enjoy *Time's Eye*. --Cynthia Ward

From Publishers Weekly

Clarke, with Baxter (Coalescent), probably the most talented of the former's several collaborators, have cooked up an exciting tale full of high-tech physics, military tactics and larger-than-life characters in the first of two novels related to the bestselling senior author's Space Odyssey series. In an awesome and unexplained catastrophe, the earth has been literally diced and put back together again. Each of the segments of terrain (and you can actually see the dividing lines between them) comes from a different era, some of them millions of years apart. As the novel opens, a 19th-century British army company, stationed on the Afghan-Pakistani border, captures an Australopithecine mother and child, just as a team of 21st-century U.N. peacekeepers crash their helicopter nearby. Later they join forces with Alexander the Great. Simultaneously, a Soyuz descent vehicle, having just left the International Space Station, crash-lands in the middle of Genghis Khan's army. Eventually, the armies of Alexander and the Khan converge on Babylon, the last remaining large city in Eurasia and a titanic battle seems imminent. Fans of *2001: A Space Odyssey* will have fun with the many references to that earlier novel. Although not flawless, this is probably the best book to appear with Clarke's name on it in a decade.

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From [Booklist](#)

Mysterious, incredibly superior alien beings assemble a new Earth out of bits and pieces of the old one, which they snatch from various eras. So a UN helicopter crew from 2037, a crew of astronauts from the same era, Genghis Khan and his Horde, Alexander the Great and his army, a British Indian outpost where Rudyard Kipling (rendered here in all his youthful complexity) is visiting, and a remnant of Babylon end up coexisting. Not at all peacefully, either, especially when one astronaut, a ruthless and foul-mouthed American woman, decides to aid and abet the Mongols in their career of world conquest, which can be halted only by the other civilized time travelers joining forces with a very well portrayed Alexander. In the end, civilization's prospects have been propped up, and one of the UN crew is off to find the aliens (her search

will be, one presumes, the subject of another book). With Clarke and Baxter collaborating smoothly, this is a fine exploration of themes that Clarke has explored regularly since *Childhood's End* (1953), at least, and good news for those who enjoy both men's work. Oh, yes, this book begins a new saga, entitled *A Time Odyssey*--does that ring a bell? *Roland Green*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Abrams:

Book is to be different for every grade. Book for children until finally adult are different content. As it is known to us that book is very important for all of us. The book *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*) was making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is very advantages for you. The book *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*) is not only giving you considerably more new information but also being your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship with all the book *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*). You never sense lose out for everything in the event you read some books.

Sharon Novick:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the publication untitled *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*) can be good book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Marlene Wiedman:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*), it is possible to enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its called reading friends.

John Almanzar:

This *Time's Eye* (*Time Odyssey*) is great publication for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who else always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. That book reveal it facts accurately using great coordinate word or we can say no rambling sentences inside it. So if you are read this hurriedly you can have whole info in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward

sentences but tough core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Time's Eye (Time Odyssey) in your hand like finding the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous 1. We can say that no reserve that offer you world inside ten or fifteen tiny right but this reserve already do that. So , it is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt in which?

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