BOOK REVIEWS

STARBOOK – A Magical Tale of Love and Regeneration by Ben Okri

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The Starbook is a must read for everyone, both young and old, students and professionals alike. In today’s world of confusion and struggle-strife, the Starbook is like a drop of fresh morning dew, which transports the reader to a fantasy land of eternal bliss. It presents the equivocal yet pertinent principles of selfless devotion, ratifying the all-encompassing existence of everlasting, humble love-faith versus the strong, power clenching current which works in the name of collective social goodwill across civilizations.

The book enables the reader to discover a revelation of the secrets of life through the understanding of enchantment, mediation, meditation and harmonising with the elements of nature. The vivid description of natural beauty and its ability to teach human species the best of all modes of survival is captivating.

In the early pages of the book the reader needs to be placid, relaxed and emotionally hibernating to allow the content to reach the subconscious level of thinking, after which the author’s explicit description takes over the capacity of the reader to put the book down. The restlessness of the protagonists and the helplessness of the characters’ dire state of affairs is almost tangible by the author’s extraordinary ability.
to encourage the reader to transcend the various emotions through the imagination and profound explanations of the interwoven themes.


As an introduction to the state of affairs in this faraway land, the first part describes the main character, the prince, who lives in different realms at the same time. Interlinking stories emphasise the concepts of the individual living in and carrying the burdens of society and civilizations. Ailments in the nature of social structures are reflected through these special beings as they live the life of enigmatic entities. In the second part there is a description of ‘signs, omens, symbols, resonances, the secret messages, the hints, the enigmas, the mysteries and the meaning to be sensed in the inscriptions of the world’ (p.71). Okri, as a true creative author, explains the power of creation and how this power can be harnessed to cross the limits of our logical mind’s eye, allowing human mortals to achieve unimaginable heights through hard work, even inspiring the Gods to awe!

The last two parts deal with the intricate relationships between the different characters developed by the author and the teachings about nature, the environment and animals as being the best mentors for ultimate survival. This book is a work which explains beyond the here and now objectivity of today’s life. It has the ability to generate compassion, selflessness and radiance for betterment.

Ben Okri’s STARBOOK is surely a masterpiece meant to give a serene, soothing pleasure to the reader on a materialistic/physical level. Simultaneously, this book helps to look into a canvass of life, which weaves some greater purposes meant to be used in the existence of communities and civilizations. In spite of the mystical narrations, it serves to be a guiding star for the over-all well-being of the human race.

**Title:** STARBOOK - A Magical Tale of Love and Regeneration  
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

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