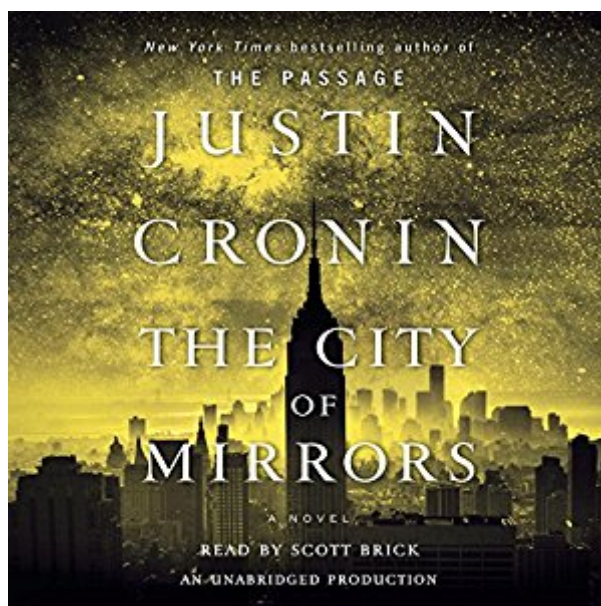


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The City Of Mirrors: The Passage Trilogy, Book Three



Synopsis

In *The Passage* and *The Twelve*, Justin Cronin brilliantly imagined the fall of civilization and humanity's desperate fight to survive. Now all is quiet on the horizon - but does silence promise the nightmare's end or the second coming of unspeakable darkness? At last this best-selling epic races to its breathtaking finale. The world we knew is gone. What world will rise in its place? *The Twelve* have been destroyed, and the 100-year reign of darkness that descended upon the world has ended. The survivors are stepping outside their walls, determined to build society anew - and daring to dream of a hopeful future. But far from them, in a dead metropolis, he waits: Zero. The First. Father of the Twelve. The anguish that shattered his human life haunts him, and the hatred spawned by his transformation burns bright. His fury will be quenched only when he destroys Amy - humanity's only hope, the Girl from Nowhere who grew up to rise against him. One last time light and dark will clash, and at last Amy and her friends will know their fate.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Justin Cronin's *THE CITY OF MIRRORS* sets out to do the seemingly impossible - wrap up scores of characters and an immense landscape of action in a way that will satisfy readers who have waited four years for the publication of this book. Well, I guess Cronin can do the impossible! Because *CITY* is a brilliant novel, powerful in its message and extraordinarily satisfying in its concluding pages. Spanning almost a thousand years, the story manages to keep the reader intimately connected to a group of characters we've known since the first installment (*THE PASSAGE*) while also letting us glimpse the vast scope of a story that touches the entire human

race. This is a novel about hope, love, and human endurance set against a truly terrifying landscape that threatens the survival of humanity itself. Some have called this a classic "good vs. evil" story, but I don't agree. It's really a story about our own inner conflicts, the very human battles between our better natures and the urges that seek to undo us. What saves us, says Cronin, is love. If only we can recognize it. CITY begins just after the end of the second installment (THE TWELVE), but it quickly jumps ahead three years, and then another nineteen. The characters Cronin focuses on are ones we know very well – Peter, Alicia, Sara, Hollis, Michael, Lucius, Caleb, Kate. Some were children when we first met them; some may be grandparents when we meet them again. Cronin provides a brief summary of sorts at the start of this novel, which does help to refresh our recollections (this was a big help to me, since I didn't have an opportunity to re-read THE TWELVE before diving into CITY). But it took little time to become invested again in these people and the world they are trying to build.

Fans of this trilogy have waited a long long time for the ending and it is finally here. You absolutely should not read this book without having first read *The Passage: A Novel* (Book One of The Passage Trilogy) and *The Twelve (Book Two of The Passage Trilogy): A Novel*. If you have time, I strongly recommend re-reading (or listening to the audiobooks) the first two books before starting this book. I know that is a lot of reading -- these books are big time commitments to read -- but I wish I had made time to at least skim through them. The reason for revisiting the first two books is because it has been so long since *The Twelve* came out and I had not only forgotten a lot of the details of what happened in the first two books, but more importantly I had lost my emotional connection to the characters. This meant it took me a long time to get invested in what was happening. I have a warning for the fans of this trilogy who love the parts where the characters are fighting the virals/dracs and who didn't really care for the parts of the previous books that were more background or emotional -- you might have a hard time with the first couple hundred pages of this book. The book starts with a prologue that is a summary of what happened in *The Twelve* in the form of passages from a "historical book" presented at one of the global conferences on the North American Quarantine Period that have been a part of all the books.

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