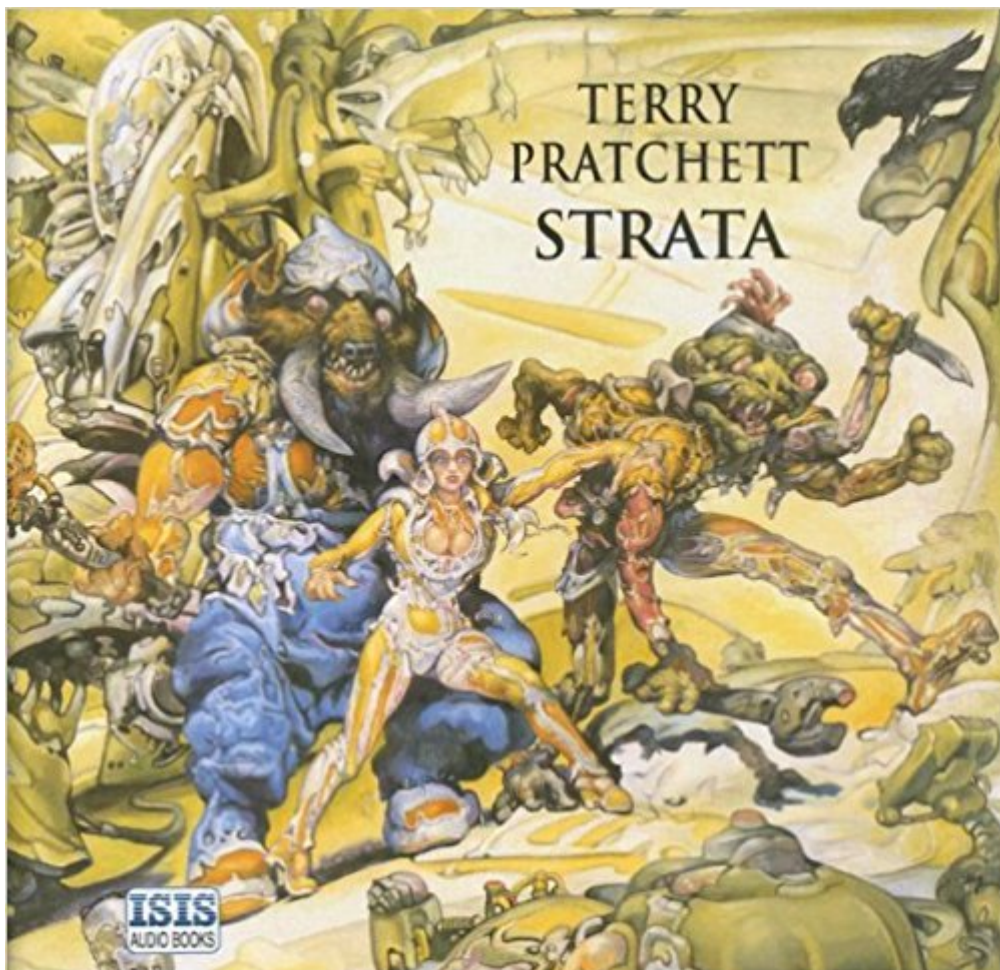


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Strata



Synopsis

The Company builds planets and after 21 decades of living Kin Arad is at the top of her profession. Then came a discovery of something that did intrigue Kin. A flat earth was something new...

Book Information

Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

"Pratchett's writing is a constant delight." Daily Mail --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

First published in 1981, Strata is an early exploration of the idea that was to become the best-selling Discworld series. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

As one of his pre-Discworld novels, it lacks the pervasive character satire and subtle comedy one generally finds with his later writing - it's there, but not as developed. It's apparent he was just starting on the flat-world idea at that point, and it's interesting at least from a science-fiction perspective. The alien characters had to earn personalities since they weren't based on familiars like werewolves, witches and vampires. Overall, it was enjoyable but still harder to read than many of his other novels that tend toward fantasy over science-fiction. We certainly do miss you, Terry Pratchett; rest in peace.

I enjoyed the book, but I have to say, among Pratchett's work it seems rather minor. I enjoy seeing him stretch himself and do a little sci-fi, but the story was overall just lacking in, for lack of a better

word, "wow." I enjoyed it perfectly fine as I read it; I recall having a rather good time. But that's all I can remember about it. The story, the characters, all just kind of slid right out of my mind when I was done reading. Like I said, it was good, but considering how phenomenal Pratchett can be, it was hardly great.

Very early effort by Pratchett, as I understand it. "Strata" is a straight-forward science fiction novel, somewhat akin to Larry Niven's "Ringworld" series. For that reason, fans of Pratchett's "Discworld" books may not entirely enjoy "Strata". But if you like straight SF by authors such as Niven, Brin, or Clarke, you will probably enjoy "Strata". The story moves right along, with interesting characters and a very entertaining plot, with a few good twists to keep you interested. Pratchett's descriptive narrative is very vivid, as well. In short, if you can set aside any expectations you may have for a "Terry Pratchett novel", it's a great read! I recommend it.

This is NOT your normal version of Discworld... which is an odd statement to make, I understand. Imagine his Fantasy/Adventure/Satire world done as straight Science Fiction.

Fabulous!

If you are a Terry Pratchett fan, this is a must. I think it is one of the first, if not the first, Pratchett books (one of you experts out there must know). It looks and feels something like science fiction but you get the early snippets of Pratchett's Disc World beginnings.

Science fiction, in the purest form. Imagining something beyond what is next, or even what comes after that. At the same time, Strata manages to smash cliché. Formative, certainly, and you can tell it's an early work. Pratchett's ability to encapsulate lengthy stories without flash forwards developed later. Still, a piece of very fine craftsmanship from someone who would go on to become the master.

A scifi/fantasy blend about a jaded planetary designer who gets embroiled in a mission with two very alien aliens to a disc shaped world where magic appears to work, this early work by Terry Pratchett also deftly parodies Larry Niven's Ringworld as well as several fantasy tropes. This is the first book outside of the Discworld series by Terry Pratchett that I have read and it will not be the last. The humor here is more subdued than with the Discworld books but it still is present more or less

throughout the story. There is a sense in reading that Pratchett is finding his wings as the book progresses. The beginning is a bit rigid, however by the end the author relaxes and the style becomes more playful. It was a pleasure reading this book and I strongly recommend anyone who likes Pratchett's work to give it a try.

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Strata

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