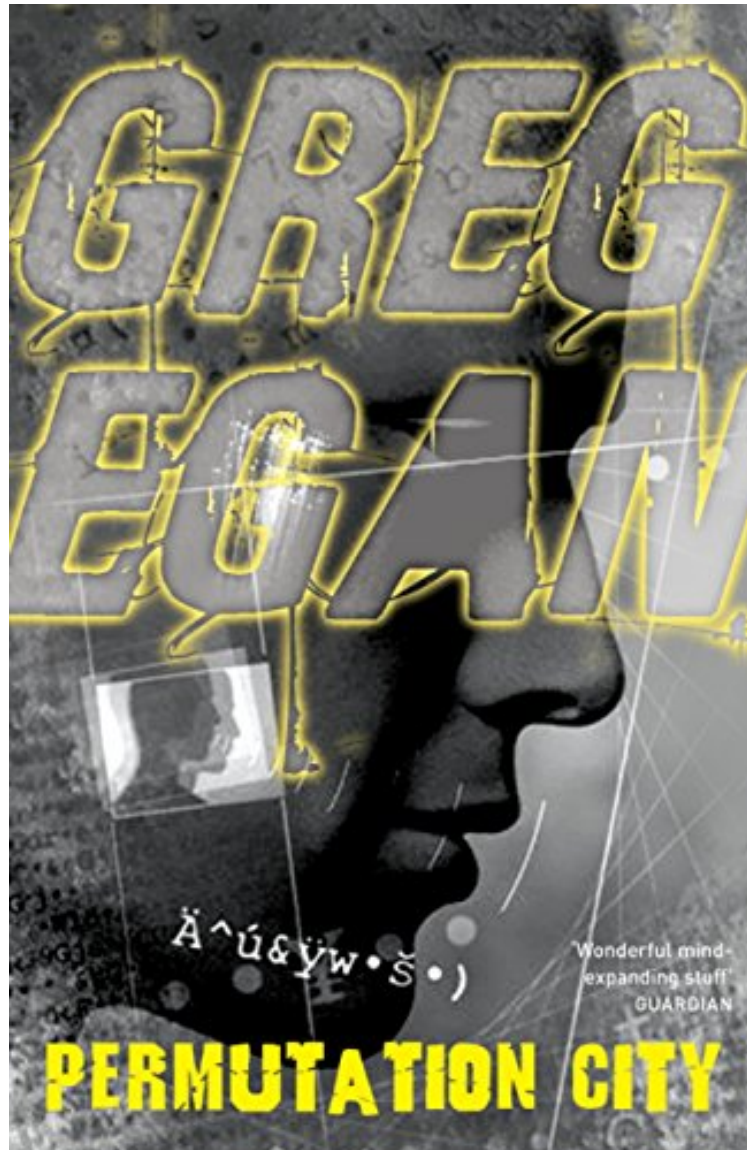


(Download pdf ebook) Permutation City (English Edition)

Permutation City (English Edition)

Von Greg Egan

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Von Greg Egan : Permutation City (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Permutation City (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hard to read, but worth to readVon Vienna2012I already read "Diaspora" from the same author. This book basically contains the same idea, to be scanned and live in a virtual reality, but where the so called Introdus in "Diaspora" leads to a very abstract and utopian new form of living, "Permutation City" has a lot to say about the feelings and motivations of

people to be scanned or not. On the other hand, the final threat to the universe is much more abstract in this book, but nonetheless very real to the protagonists. What really overwhelmed me was the unique idea of turning abstract, platonic concepts like Universal Turing Machines and cellular automata into "real" and usable technology. This is truly a crazy idea, but Greg Egan manages to bring up some good arguments for it. The number of open questions that arise from this idea are numerous: Ethical questions about the rights of a simulated intelligence, philosophical questions about the reality of a mere idea and about reality itself, theological questions about heaven and hell. And Greg Egan manages to put all of this together in a thrilling story that runs on different levels. Read this book if you like hard SF! ;-)

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good in parts, mundane otherwise
Von mundkur@ece.uci.edu
Permutation City certainly has its hard sf elements, but its essential hard sf core is not immortality (as heavily advertised and misunderstood), but causality. The whole edifice of the plot is based on an almost grade-school variation of causality and existence, and leaves giant sf loopholes that some of the characters in fact comment on, but never and cannot answer satisfactorily. The only interesting portions I found were the ones that dealt with nested and recursive simulations towards the end, which were much more plausible. This was definitely a plod most of the time. The other thing that irritated me was its gratuitous use of names from the techie world for characters (Lesbeque, Riemann, Lambert,...)

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A glimpse of immortality
Von Mark Linroth
What a delight to find this gem in a pile of used paperbacks we inherited! This is one of the best works I've come across exploring the nature of consciousness, reality, and immortality. (What, exactly does it mean for something to be 'REAL' anyway?) This is a futuristic work of fiction set in a time when people can actually inhabit computers. A virtual reality simulation of consciousness might be more accurate. This book is spellbinding and thought-provoking. If they ever do invent such computers -- I want in! Don't worry about somebody telling you the ending -- you have to read the entire journey for it to have any meaning anyway. And what a journey it is! Throughout the book I was constantly wondering 'what in the world is going to happen next?' in very much the same sense as in *WATERSHIP DOWN*. The introduction is interesting and the pace picks up from there and never slows down. There is only one short scene which might jostle the squeamish and it doesn't impact the story line at all. As befits a book about immortality I was still hungry for more when I finished it but the book wraps up nicely and leaves one with a lot to ponder. I highly recommend this book.

Kurzbeschreibung
The story of a man with a vision - immortality : for those who can afford it is found in cyberspace. Permutation city is the tale of a man with a vision - how to create immortality - and how that vision becomes something way beyond his control. Encompassing the lives and struggles of an artificial life junkie desperate to save her dying mother, a billionaire banker scarred by a terrible crime, the lovers for whom, in their timeless virtual world, love is not enough - and much more - Permutation city is filled with the sense of wonder..de
What would happen if you could copy your memories and personality into a computer generated universe, live there, and return?
Greg Egan, author of *Quarantine* explores the possibilities in this suspenseful book. Battles rage on different levels as computer personalities on a locked chip fight to escape. Meanwhile sticky legal questions are raised in the real world. Think about the copyright laws, and what about the legal rights of computer programs?

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