



Mission Clockwork

Arthur Slade

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Mission Clockwork Details

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Author : Arthur Slade

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From Reader Review Mission Clockwork for online ebook

Robert D Grady says

Interesting premise

Wasn't sure what to expect, but was pleasantly surprised. Modo is an interesting character. Story held my interest. Hope that the characters continue to develop in subsequent books.

Jane Mercer says

A cracking good Victorian steampunk novel aimed at the YA market but a great read for adults, our hero, Modo, is a hunchback, ugly as sin but can mold his features at will holding the new face for hours,, he's found as a child by the mysterious Mr Socrates, who trains him up to be a secret agent.

When Modo reaches the tender age of fourteenish,, he's an orphan unsure of his exact age, Mr Socrates abandons him to the streets of London to make his own way. A test to see if he can survive on his wits, Modo manages very well until Olivia comes along and they team up to help uncover a menace to England. The characters are well written, the action entertaining and it kept me awake until 3.30 a.m, as I wanted to finish it.

Ken Robson says

These books are set in a steampunkish Victorian era. This is more about the character than the setting, and Arthur Slade works hard to make you like his characters.

Very much a YA book, this deals with things in a way that is both enjoyable and different. The main character Modo, is a youth who has the ability to shapeshift his body to appear as different people. However his own body is that of a hunchback and he doesn't like people to see it.

I received a free copy of this (e)book

Steven R. McEvoy says

This book is like a cross between a William Gibson Novel, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and the Matrix. Modo is a secret agent; he was raised almost from birth by Mr. Socrates who is a member of a secret agency within, or on top of, the British Government. Their goal is to protect all things British and to make the world in its own image. But unlike Neo's ability to shape his reality, Modo can shape himself. He can change his looks and appearance and Mr. Socrates believes this gift will make him an excellent agent. Therefore he invests years in his upbringing and training in all the skills he will require.

The story is classed as SteamPunk. It takes a historic setting, time and place and adds in technology they did not have at the time. Kind of an alternate reality storyline. Once the adventure begins the story is a race to the climax. Modo meets another agent of Socrates, a beautiful young woman named Octavia Milkweed and

together they must discover the truth around missing children - a missing grandson of the queen and strange stories of feral children with incredible strength, and bolts coming out of their shoulders. Their enemies are a mysterious Clockwork Guild and their mad scientist Dr. Hyde.

This story was great fun to read. After the first few chapters about Modo's upbringing, it races through to a great battle. The story is compelling and Modo, with his abilities and his difficulties, is a charming protagonist. It is another great novel by Governor General Award-winning Canadian author, Arthur Slade. We can only hope it will be the first in a series, for upon finishing the book you are left wanting more and wondering what will happen between Modo and Octavia.

Note: In Canada this series is published as The Hunchback assignments, and this book has the same title The Hunchback Assignments Mission Clockwork.

Margaret says

Mission Clockwork is my first Arthur Slade book, but won't be my last! Unlike anything I have read before, this thriller is amazing. I lost a lot of sleep. Hard to put down. Modo is found by Mr. Socrates in a cage in a traveling grotesqueries wagon he stops on a road. Socrates buys/rescues him and raises him for 13 years. Things get mighty exciting from there on. I was given a pre-publication copy of this book and am reviewing it voluntarily.

Marshall Clowers says

Interesting take on a young "Quasimoto"

Educated by a governess, taught combat skills by untouchable, and bankrolled by a mysterious benefactor. Familiar creatures and a few familiar stories meet up in Victorian London (and below it).

Mimi Davis Hopkins says

The Minds of Man

This is quite an unusual and very well written story. Great story, the characters are well defined and the theme is something special. If you are looking for a story filled Acton, excitement, the unexpected, laughter, and pure I enjoyment, please do read this book.

Rachel Friedland says

You wouldn't think so because of the premise, but this book was surprisingly boring. I ended up skimming the last few chapters because I was just too ready for the end. The characters were flat (with like, one exception, and of course he was a minor character), and the plot just seemed like too many others I've read before. I also feel like the author was trying to gross readers out, or something like that. In about every chapter, there was some kind of reference to phlegm, or Modo was spitting on something. It just seemed

pointless. And his whole relationship with Octavia was really contrived. The most tragic thing is that the premise of the sequel sounds significantly better, but I won't be reading it any time soon.

Birgit Seibold says

Mission Well Done - Because the author had me from page 1 until the end.

A well-written and fast paced story, rich in action, contains some humor therefore leaves not much to be desired. You'll love the characters which the author has affectionately risen to life for you.

These are the ingredients for this book which I highly recommend.

Jack Keener says

I read a teaser for the full book, really just what would be a long prologue chapter. It was good though and I enjoyed the idea of Quasimodo in Victorian England. His story seems something quite at home in that setting. The characterizations were very well done and now I have another book series to add to my ever increasing back log.

Phyllis says

I received this book free in exchange for an honest review which follows.

This book was an unexpected read. If the first sentence doesn't grab and hold your attention, nothing ever will.

The story-line is logical, straight-forward and clear. The characters are well-drawn and the main character isunusual as you will see.

Well done !!

Phyllis S.

B.D.Shellman says

a product.

10 hrs

?

Mission Clockwork

a product.

10 hrs

?

Great read

Mission Clockwork

Using a child to make a wild animal. Master's name Hyde. What can we expect. After training a shape shifting, deformed 1 year old to become a spy, Modo is abandoned at 11 or 12 on the streets of England.

Can't stop here get book 2 to get all the details.

Book 2 tells how it started as it continues.

Read on, I will.

Donna says

A breathtaking read that's so imaginative. The central character, Modo, has his roots in the Hunchback of Notre Dame, but Arthur Slade has taken the character and elevated him to an amazingly gifted spy, even at only c14 years old. The story of his upbringing is heartbreaking, especially the way his 'saviour' Mr Socrates treats him, but the way he battles adversity and fights to save everyone makes you want to cheer him. A real page turner that'll keep you hooked until the very end, then wondering what'll be next for Modo and his friends. Highly recommended!

NB I received a complimentary copy of this book, but I always give an HONEST review based wholly on my own opinions

Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says

Review: MISSION CLOCKWORK by Arthur Slade

This is my second novel intriguing read from author Arthur Slade. Victorian Steampunk plus upper-class manipulation, behind-the-scenes political intrigue, spies, secret conclave, and a true mad scientist (he is a clever devotee of biology, chemistry, and clean clockwork mechanisms; and he is definitely "mad" in the sociopathic sense: knowledge of course is the ultimate goal, and the costs never matter) roil in a rapid-paced blizzard of intrigue, conspiracy, and excitement. Think Mr. Hyde, if he maintained Dr. Jekyll's intellect, learning, and charisma. Think H. G. Wells' ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU. Stir in a protagonist who will wrench your heartstrings with pity, sympathy, empathy, and admiration (now think Victor Hugo).

Jack Webb says

Entertaining

A fun read, and set in the "proper" time period for Steampunk. Some curious steam-driven and clockwork goodies, imaginative chemistry, nefarious schemes, and interesting characters made for a good start to a series.
