



Press Release



Step Into Another Universe...

Philip Pullman's spellbinding and controversial series has sold over 12 million copies, been translated into 37 languages and cemented its place as a classic of children's literature by winning the Carnegie of Carnegie's. With the much-anticipated film out later this year, now is the time to brush up on Pullman's alternate worlds and to distinguish your Daemons from your dust.

The Rough Guide to Philip Pullman's His Dark Materials explores the beguiling worlds of Philip Pullman's classic trilogy. Taking you on a journey through Pullman's inspirations, influences, key characters, and locations and of course all the background on the cast and filming of the screen adaptation. So, if you want to discover where Lord Asriel finds his favourite tipple, exactly how much Pullman has in common with his nemesis or learn exactly how to pronounce Xaphania, this is the book for you.

The Raw Materials – Pullman's inspirations from science and literature, including string theory, climate change and dark matter, John Milton, William Blake and fantasy fiction.

The Story – The key mysteries and events and, how everyone from Lyra Belacqua to the golden monkey daemon fit into the author's grand design.

The Movie – All the back-story behind the filming and cast of the first His Dark Materials film, The Golden Compass, starring Daniel Craig and Nicole Kidman.

The Locations – How the Victorian era shaped Pullman's imagination, with a tour of Oxford's Exeter College, Geneva (home of the Magisterium) and Venice (Cittègàzze), and of course, where to catch the Northern Lights.

The Controversies – What Pullman has to say about religion and what organised religion has to say about his books.

Notes for editors:

OUT NOW

Title: The Rough Guide to Philip Pullman's His Dark Materials

Author: Paul Simpson

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