

IMMORTAL FOR A DAY

Journal: Issue #1

What's the purpose of this document?

I wanted a less formal forum where I could answer frequently asked questions or simply share my thoughts on the book, its themes, the science, or whatever.

Introduction

Immortal for a Day took me a long time to write, a very long time. We're talking decades. That said, this wasn't a full-time effort as the day job, family and real life in general had an annoying habit of getting in the way. However, even when I wasn't actually writing, I was definitely still thinking about the book—to the extent that it became a bit of an obsession.

While this may have started as a pet project, it certainly didn't finish as one.

If you decide to read it, I hope you enjoy it and perhaps it will inspire you as it did me.

What's the book about?

This may be a simple question, but I find it incredibly difficult to answer. Potential responses include:

- *The protagonist's traumatic journey within a future that promised paradise but delivered hell.*
- *Discover how extraordinary circumstances affect different people—their relationships, their beliefs and the choices they make.*
- *Explore the psychological and philosophical questions that weren't all specifically intended to be asked at the offset, but nevertheless emerged naturally as the story developed.*

The reality is that the book is all of the above, and much more.

What's with the 2020 publication date?

In no small part because of the time it was taking, I was under a lot of pressure to publish something before it was 'too late'—a concern that, sadly, proved justified. As such, it was published before it was ready.

No attempt was made to launch it and it was unpublished soon after.

After six more years of endless revisions and iterations—with real life often getting in the way again—it is now finished to my satisfaction. About time too, some would say.

Is the book science fiction?

Yes and no.

The worldbuilding requires a level of science and engineering that far exceeds current capabilities, although every aspect is intended to be plausible (aka hard or speculative sci-fi). However, the setting merely enables and enriches the story, but it isn't 'the' story.

The reading experience is far more a character-driven, psychological thriller.

Is the worldbuilding really plausible?

Yes, without a doubt. The issue is not whether it is possible, it is more a question of when.

The events are set seven thousand years in the future, but it could just as easily be seven million. The date is arbitrary.

If a brain is perfectly preserved and there is a mechanism for the advancement of the necessary sciences, such as a sufficiently capable AI, then the only limits are those set by the laws of the universe.

All we have to do is die, then wait patiently for it all to happen.

Why 'Immortal for a Day'?

The title is a reference to the fact that while the characters can theoretically live forever, they are not invulnerable—still fragile, still human.

Is there a sequel planned?

Absolutely, and potentially more beyond that.

I have a clear vision of the next instalment, with the sequence of events mapped out and writing underway. It promises to be as hard-hitting and thought-provoking as the first—if not more so. Well, definitely more.

However, whether writing this is a dedicated activity that's turned around in a couple of years or a pet project that consumes my remaining years is, quite frankly, entirely dependent on the success of the first book.

Unfortunately, my crystal ball isn't working at the moment...

Bio

Let's be real, the book is far more interesting than I am, but if you insist:

- *Career in corporate finance, qualified accountant, maths graduate—not exactly the conventional route to becoming an author. That said, the analytical background may have helped me manage the complex interactions between an intricate, multi-layered plot, diverse characters, nuanced psychology and a scientifically advanced world.*
- *I'm often asked which characters I most associate with. The real answer is all of them. I empathise with Evelyn's cynicism, Richard's fear of death, Rupert's passion for solutions (although his means are questionable), Megan's joie de vivre, Clarise's curiosity and yeah, Luke's isolation—having sat alone for what felt like thousands of years, working. I think I may need to see a therapist.*
- *I'm from the UK, although the book was written in US English to reflect Evelyn's voice—which was a fun challenge.*

Will there be more issues of this journal?

I very much hope so, but much like the sequel, the longevity of this output depends on whether the book gains any momentum.

The website contains a brief discussion of the themes and sciences, but these descriptions only scratch the surface—the topics are often far more complex than they may seem at first.

Requesting your help

If you enjoyed the book, I would greatly appreciate your support so it finds a larger audience and realises its potential.

A review on Amazon, recommending it to friends, or simply mentioning it in causal conversation. No obligation, but these things will really help. Thank you.

