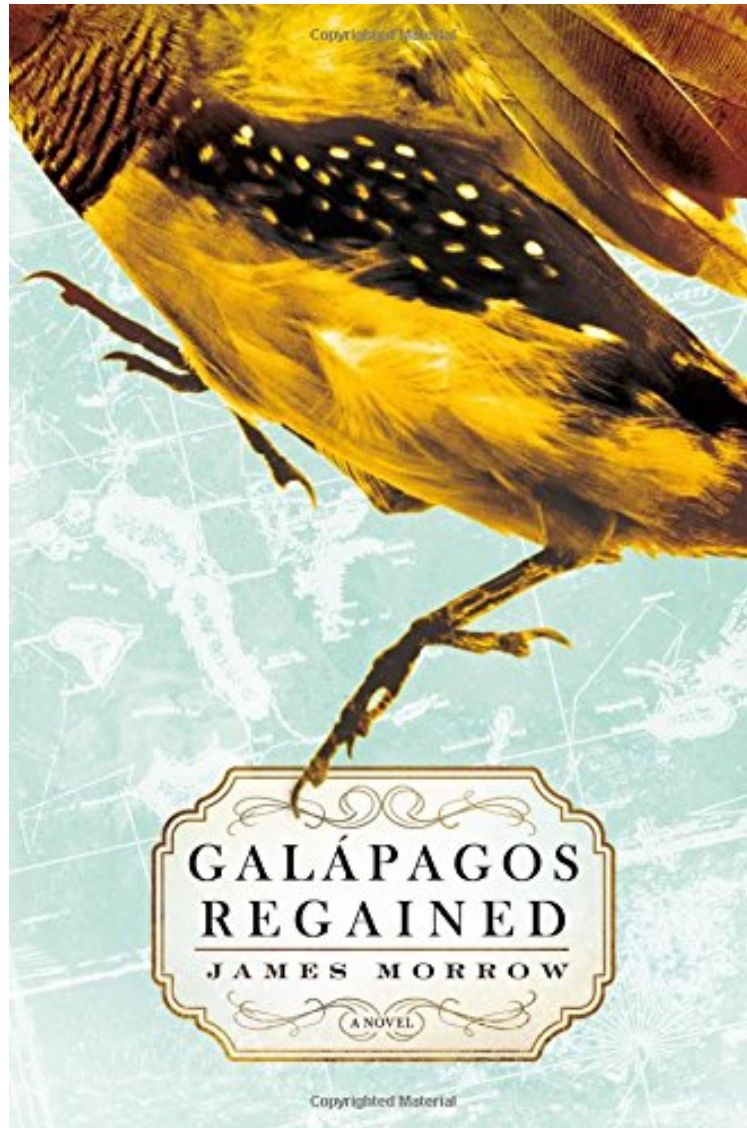


(Mobile book) Galapagos Regained: A Novel

Galapagos Regained: A Novel

James Morrow

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James Morrow : Galapagos Regained: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Galapagos Regained: A Novel:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Just one regretBy MJHThe regret being that this wonderful book was 70 years too late. Several decades before achieving the craggy gorgeousness of her old age, the late Katherine Hepburn was transcendently beautiful and already possessed of a gift for mesmerizing camera and viewers. She would have been perfect as Chloe Bathurst.Now to the good parts: zany enough to captivate Douglas Adams, satirical

enough to satisfy Gilbert and Sullivan, those fearless senders-up of all things Victorian; ingenious plotting that sends two groups off on mutually incompatible missions; wonderful dialogue and, even better, conversation among three or more, which apparently is more difficult to write; several instances of deus (actually deae) ex machina; eccentric and fascinating characters; and, finally, the author's ability to incorporate into the story generally accepted concepts about evolution in a way that is both accurate (not an expert, but you don't need to be, that's not why we're her today) and so poignant. This is probably the best book I'll read this year. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. This is a wildly fun book to read. By Reggie Lutz This is a wildly fun book to read. While tackling ideas of huge importance, James Morrow manages to deliver a fast-moving narrative replete with explosions, shipwrecks, love, lust and skirmishes both physical and intellectual as it follows the misadventures of actress Chloe Bathurst. Her motivations are relatable: she wants to save her father from the workhouse and pay off his debts. Opportunity arises in the form of the fictional Shelley Prize, a reward offered to settle the question about whether or not God exists. She plans to use the ideas of a reticent Charles Darwin to disprove the existence of God, and thus begins a wild ride with unexpected twists and turns which includes [redacted spoiler]. Did I mention there is swash-buckling? There's swashbuckling. Hoorah! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Love Morrow's work. By Sam Lake Love James' Morrow's books--- great writer---not for everyone but he is for me! Wonderful characters, story with a grand imagination:) My favorite: Only Begotten Daughter.

James Morrow's *Galpagos Regained* centers on the fictional Chloe Bathurst, an unemployed Victorian actress who finds work on Charles Darwin's estate, nurturing the strange birds, exotic lizards, and giant tortoises he brought back from his trip around the world. When Chloe gets wind of the Great God Contest, sponsored by the Percy Bysshe Shelley Society 10,000 to the first petitioner who can prove or disprove the existence of a Supreme Being she decides that Mr. Darwin's materialist theory of speciation might just turn the trick. (If Nature gave God nothing to do, maybe He was never around in the first place.) Before she knows it, her ambitions send her off on a wild adventure a voyage by brigantine to Brazil, a steamboat trip up the Amazon, a hot-air balloon flight across the Andes bound for the Galpagos archipelago, where she intends to collect the live specimens through which she might demonstrate evolutionary theory to the contest judges.

Morrow has proven a master at combining rollicking adventure and sly, bawdy humor with attention to ideas and a skewed look at history ... It's almost a crime for a novel to be as much fun as this one is. *Library Journal* (starred review) [This] complex tale is a round-the-world romp of improbable but delightful fun and harrowing adventures, a cross between Phileas Fogg and Lara Croft. *Publishers Weekly* *Galpagos Regained* reads like a riotous conflation of *Candide* and *Around the World in 80 Days*. By turns harrowing, hilarious, and thought-provoking, the adventures of Darwin's zookeeper, the fictional Chloe Bathurst, make for a delectable historical epic. Paolo Bacigalupi, Hugo and Nebula Award-winning author of *The Windup Girl* Jim Morrow's madcap brilliance and exuberant erudition are on the move again, and *Galpagos Regained* is a triumph. It's an adventure story that's not only bursting with page-turning plot but with dangerous ideas of the very best kind. Riding the wild narrative waves of *Galpagos Regained* is an exhilarating experience that is not to be missed. Rebecca Newberger Goldstein, author of *Plato at the Googleplex* A witty and wisecracking Victorian adventure, an Indiana Jones caper with Charles Darwin lurking in the wings, as if Jules Verne was retold by Tom Stoppard. Rollicking, preposterously enchanting, and--as with all of Morrow's work--cagily profound. Wilton Barnhardt, author of *Lookaway, Lookaway* James Morrow's uncanny genius for creating imagined worlds within historical ones finds its full flowering in *Galapagos Regained*. In Chloe Bathurst, sometime assistant to Charles Darwin, the author has forged one of his most memorable characters--a young woman who risks life and livelihood in an epic quest to save her destitute father. Erudite, hilarious, prodigiously inventive on every page, *Galapagos Regained* is simply intoxicating in its originality and wisdom. Bradford Morrow, author of *The Forgers* Here are storytelling, showmanship and provocative book-club bait (try finding another recent novel that rivals this one for erudite talking points), all rolled into one inventive feat. Janet Maslin, *The NY Times* Novelist James Morrow addresses controversial topics in *The Philosopher's Apprentice* without being heavy-handed, and infuses the narrative with a wit that pragmatists and idealists alike will appreciate. *Entertainment Weekly* Grim and gorgeous, earthy and erudite as well, Morrow's "Witchfinder" woos readers with a secularist vision of reason triumphant, rewarding its followers richly, giving them all the world and ample time in which to enjoy it. *The Seattle Times* Sporting an oeuvre that puts him in the highest ranks of comedic novelists and satirical writers, Morrow is long overdue for a mainstream audience. *The Denver Post* This tour-de-force of early America bears a buoyant humor to lighten its macabre load. PW, starred review About the Author JAMES MORROW is the award-winning author of over ten novels, as well as novellas and short-story collections. His critically acclaimed works include *Blameless in Abaddon*, *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, and *The Last Witchfinder* called "provocative book-club bait" and "an inventive feat" by critic Janet Maslin. He has twice received the World Fantasy Award, for *Only Begotten Daughter* and *Towing Jehovah*, and has also won the Nebula Award and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award. He lives in State College,

Pennsylvania, with his wife and their two enigmatic dogs.