



Damnation Alley

By Roger Zelazny

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Hell Tanner isn't the sort of guy you'd mistake for a hero: he's a fast-driving car thief, a smuggler, and a stone-cold killer. Facing life in prison for his various crimes, he's given a choice: Rot away his remaining years in a tiny jail cell, or drive cross-country and deliver a case of antiserum to the plague-ridden people of Boston, Massachusetts. The chance of a full pardon does wonders for getting his attention. And don't mistake this mission of mercy for any kind of normal road trip-not when there are radioactive storms, hordes of carnivorous beasts, and giant, mutated scorpions to be found along every deadly mile between Los Angeles and the East Coast. But then, this is no normal part of America, you see. This is Damnation Alley....

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Damnation Alley By Roger Zelazny Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

You've gotta love to hate the 1977 movie *Damnation Alley*, a cheese-filled classic from sci-fi's cinematic canon. But there's at least one good thing you can say about this otherwise awful flick: it's prevented the movie's far superior source material from being forgotten. Roger Zelazny's post-apocalypse novel predates the George Peppard-Jan-Michael Vincent vehicle by about a decade and represents the fine storytelling talents of one of science fiction and fantasy's most daring writers (likely best remembered for his imaginative Amber series).

Speaking of vehicles: the coolest part of the movie--and likely, thankfully, the only part most people remember--turns out to be even cooler in the book: the flame-spewing, .50-caliber-bullet-belching, grenade-throwing, gigantic all-terrain vehicle that's responsible for getting a crucial antiserum shipment from Los Angeles to Boston to stop a deadly plague. The driver, a despicable lowlife named Hell Tanner, has been given a not-so-difficult choice. He can either get the drugs to the East Coast intact, save humanity, and receive a full pardon for his crimes, or he can refuse and spend the rest of his life in a "zebra suit." So what's the catch? Thanks to World War III, Middle America is now an electrical-storm-torn, heavily irradiated playground for dino-sized Gila monsters, "freak spiders," humongous bats "that eat off the mutie fruit trees down Mexico way," and 120-foot-long snakes as big around as garbage cans. And the native humans still scrambling around the wasteland aren't much less dangerous.

Damnation Alley might not be Zelazny's best, but for reading on, say, a road trip, you can't do much better. Throw in some '60s-style, freak-out closing riffs, and a trip down the *Alley* becomes pretty hard to pass up. -
-Paul Hughes

About the Author

Roger Zelazny (1937-1995) studied Elizabethan and Jacobean drama at Columbia University before bursting on to the science fiction scene while still in his mid-twenties. Among his many books are *Four for Tomorrow*, *The Dream Master*, *A Rose for Ecclesiastes* and the many titles in the *Chronicle of Amber*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lauren Marine:

The particular book *Damnation Alley* has a lot associated with on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was written by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research previous to write this book. That book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading this book.

Janice Smith:

This *Damnation Alley* is great guide for you because the content that is full of information for you who else always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it facts accurately using great organize word or we can claim no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read that

hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but tricky core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Damnation Alley in your hand like finding the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no e-book that offer you world with ten or fifteen small right but this reserve already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that will?

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Steven Perez:

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