



Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy)

By Ludmila Zeman

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Gilgamesh, half-god and half-man, in his loneliness and isolation becomes a cruel tyrant over the citizens of Uruk. To impress them forever he orders a great wall to be built, driving his people to exhaustion and despair so that they cry to the Sun God for help. In answer, another kind of man, Enkidu, is sent to earth to live among the animals and learn kindness from them. He falls in love with Shamhat, a singer from the temple, and he follows her back to Uruk. There, Enkidu, the “uncivilized” beast from the forest, shows the evil Gilgamesh through friendship what it means to be human.

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Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy) By Ludmila Zeman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The Mesopotamian epic about a tyrannical king who finds his humanity and embarks on a quest for immortality here takes shape as a trio of books: *Gilgamesh the King*, *The Revenge of Ishtar* and *The Last Quest of Gilgamesh*. All three are illustrated with vivid pastels on black paper. Ages 8-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 3-6-- This picture book account of the first part of the ancient epic retains the main characters and events of the story that is Mesopotamia's claim to literary fame. The god-king Gilgamesh rules oppressively over the city of Uruk. The people cry to the gods for relief, which comes in the form of a wild man named Enkidu. Gilgamesh sends a temple woman, Shamhat, to lure Enkidu from the wilderness. He returns with her to the city, where he fights Gilgamesh and the two men become best friends. There are alterations (e.g., Shamhat is no longer a courtesan who seduces Enkidu, but a city favorite who falls in love with him, Gilgamesh no longer subdues Enkidu but falls off a wall and is saved by him) as well as additions and deletions. Granted, there are several versions of the story, but the reteller does not note that this is a rather free adaptation of the "standard" text. Though padding the Shamhat role seems more than a little anachronistic, the dramatic choices usually work well, setting up the rivalry/friendship that propels the rest of the epic (to be continued in two future volumes). Unfortunately, the telling lacks the feel of the ancient poetry; the cadences of oral tradition with its repetition and vivid description needn't have been sacrificed. The full-color illustrations, however, capture that ancient aura wonderfully well. Spreading horizontally and dominating the page, they incorporate elements from Sumerian, Assyrian, and Babylonian art. They remain rich and lively--sometimes almost cartoonlike--imparting a sense of personality and landscape. Bernarda Bryson's *Gilgamesh* (Harcourt, 1967; o.p.) retells the complete epic in more evocative language, but the ratio of text to illustrations is much greater, making it less accessible. In spite of its playing a bit fast and loose with history, this makes an attractive introduction to one of the world's oldest stories. --Nancy Palmer, The Little School, Bellevue, WA Junior High Up

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Review

The Gilgamesh Trilogy:

"A powerful version of the Gilgamesh epic...a stirring and sad tale."

—*The New Yorker*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tommy Heckman:

This *Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy)* book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is usually information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This specific *Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy)* without we comprehend teach the one who looking at it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't be worry *Gilgamesh the King (The*

Gilgamesh Trilogy) can bring once you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy) having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

John Bennett:

Reading a book tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. A great deal of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about the information about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on earth always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some research before they write to their book. One of them is this Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy).

Amy Christensen:

The reserve with title Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy) has lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This kind of book exist new information the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world right now. That is important to yo7u to learn how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you throughout new era of the glowbal growth. You can read the e-book on your own smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

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