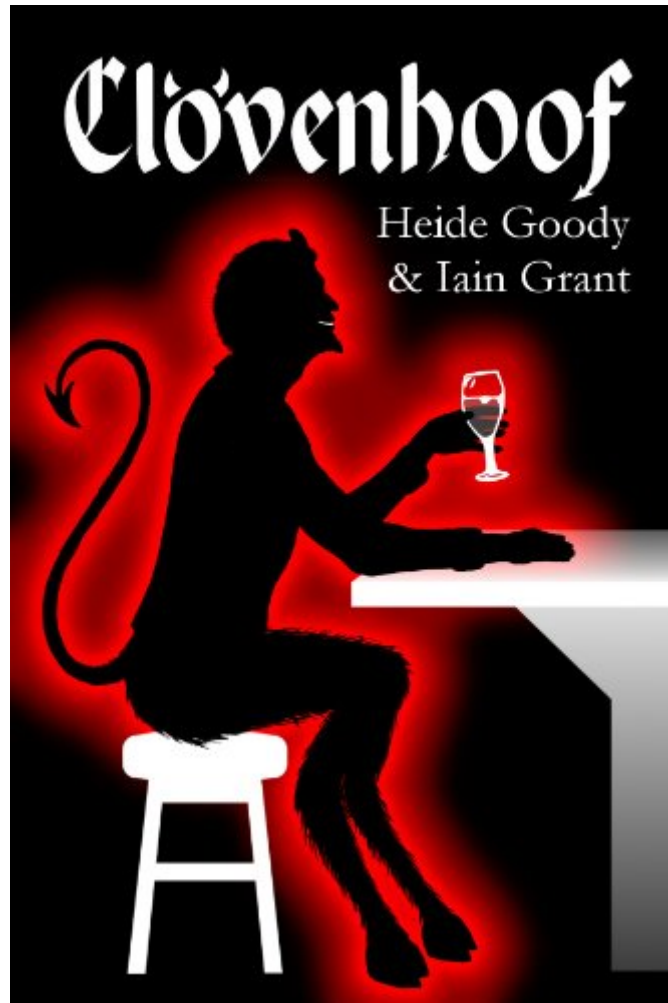




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Clovenhoof



Synopsis

Charged with gross incompetence, Satan is fired from his job as Prince of Hell and exiled to that most terrible of places: English suburbia. Forced to live as a human under the name of Jeremy Clovenhoof, the dark lord not only has to contend with the fact that no one recognises him or gives him the credit he deserves but also has to put up with the bookish wargamer next door and the voracious man-eater upstairs. Heaven, Hell and the city of Birmingham collide in a story that features murder, heavy metal, cannibalism, armed robbers, devious old ladies, Satanists who live with their mums, gentlemen of limited stature, dead vicars, petty archangels, flamethrowers, sex dolls, a blood-soaked school assembly and way too much alcohol. Clovenhoof is outrageous and irreverent (and laugh out loud funny!) but it is also filled with huge warmth and humanity. Written by first-time collaborators Heide Goody and Iain Grant, Clovenhoof will have you rooting for the bad guy like never before. F. Paul Wilson: "Clovenhoof is a delight. A funny, often hilarious romp with a dethroned Satan as he tries to adjust to modern suburbia. The breezy, ironic prose sets a perfect tone. If you need some laughs, here's the remedy." Voted "TBC Favourite Comedy 2015" by real readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A truly fun story. Satan isn't cutting it anymore and has been let go as the prince of darkness. Thankfully for him he's got a wonderful retirement package which sets him up nicely here on earth which is good for us because hilarity ensues. From accidentally robbing banks to resurrecting the dead Satan (now known as Jeremy) can't stay out of trouble. Befriending some of his quirky neighbors makes this story even more fun as they play off each other and add more interesting angles. If you're looking for some irreverent fun and a colorful look at the inner workings of the afterlife (OK it might not be how the afterlife ACTUALLY works) look no further.

Jeremy Clovenhoof has got a problem. He's been fired from his job, the one and only job he's ever had, and the only thing he knows how to do properly. Besides, he's been evicted from his house and obliged to move into an unknown city. Though this wouldn't be a desirable situation for anyone, it is a real tragedy for our main character, because Jeremy Clovenhoof is only one of his many pseudonyms, others being Old Nick, the Adversary, Old Scratch, The Angel of Bottomless Pit, The Fallen One... Yes, Jeremy Clovenhoof is Satan himself, who's been expelled from Hell because of his poor job performance and finds himself now exiled in the earth, in the city of Birmingham, London. Homesick and awestruck, Satan aka Jeremy tries to understand how and why he has come to this undesirable position. In his journey to adapt himself to his new situation, he makes some friends, almost finds love and even discovers a conspiracy to remove God from his Throne. I find this book hilarious. The plot is full of absurd situations which are really funny. The secondary characters, Ben and Nerys, round up, together with Jeremy, a perfect team of social misfits struggling to get along in a society which feels alien. There is a sharp criticism underlying some of the funniest scenes in the book (for example, when Jeremy finds out how credit cards work). Jeremy's point of view always hides a clever sarcasm. The conclusions this completely immoral character draws from our society are surprising. It is at least alarming the fact that, in the end, it is not that difficult for him to find himself at home and comfy settled down amongst humans. In conclusion, I have really enjoyed this story. Readable and funny, it also makes you think some things over. The only drawback I could point out in the book is the pace, which slows down a little towards the middle of the story, to gain rhythm again in the last chapters. In spite of this little flaw, the book is highly recommendable.

A book about Satan banished to earth, huh? I didn't expect much from this story but ended up really liking it and I'm calling it 4 1/2 Stars. Jeremy's escapades while dealing with humans were sometimes gross and oftentimes funny, and often they were both! Even when he had to best of intentions his efforts ended up getting him in trouble. The story had some slow parts or it would have been a straight 5 Stars. Surprisingly enough, the Devil can be a good, though rather dangerous, friend, and even more surprisingly, it turns out that angels aren't all angels - even the big name ones. I didn't see how it would ever end satisfactorily but Goody and Grant pulled it off and I do recommend it for a fun read.

I really enjoyed this book. Imagine heaven is becoming too crowded since its size is finite as described in scripture. So St. Peter and Michael the archangel come up with a plan to tighten up the criteria for entrance into heaven, once again holding to folks to levitical law which almost no one passes. This works, but it creates a huge overload on hell's population. People simply aren't being tormented properly because there's no time for individualized attention. Satan is scapegoated, relieved of his duties and forced to live on earth as a human. To say the least, he has trouble adjusting to living in suburban, working class England. The story revolves around him and his neighbors trying to deal with the situation and with each other while trying to set things straight. Funny premise and it's carried off quite well. This was the first in a series of books. I'd read another in the series, but didn't find it as good. I may give them yet another try after reading this one.

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