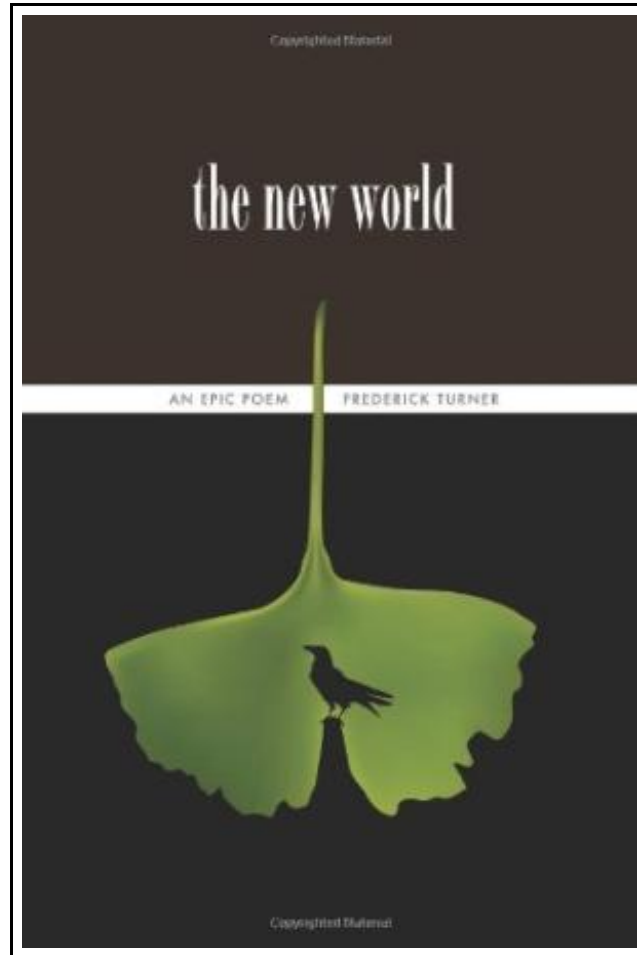


The New World: An Epic Poem



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Reviews

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THE NEW WORLD: AN EPIC POEM

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The Ilium Press, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition. 213 x 137 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Set four hundred years in the future, Frederick Turner s epic poem, The New World, celebrates American culture in A.D. 2376. As the book opens, the nation-state has been fragmented and replaced by new political forms: the Riots, violent anarchistic matriarchies, whose members are addicted to psychedelic joyjuice; the Burbs, populations descended from the old middle classes and now slaves to the Riots; the Mad Counties, religious theocracies dominated by fanatical fundamentalists; and the Free Counties, Jeffersonian democracies where arts and sciences flourish. Within this setting, Turner s epic tells the story of a tragic family feud involving Ruth Jefferson, daughter of the political leader, Shaker McCloud; Antony Manse, a handsome aristocrat; Ruth s half-brother, the ambitious Simon Raven McCloud, who is under the influence of his grandmother, the witch Faith Raven; and the hero, James George Quincy. When banished from the Free Counties, the vengeful Simon Raven transforms himself into a messianic figure who inspires a league of Mad Counties to launch a holy war to annihilate the Free Counties. Turner s epic calls for a cultural commitment to transcend the contemporary choice between blind faith and hedonistic relativism. This bold work challenges many conventional assumptions about modern poetry and its relationship to other literary forms and the culture at large.Praise for Frederick Turner This is a grand, glowing poem. A thousand bravos! - James Merrill, Pulitzer Prize winning poet The New World may be the first straight-forward heroic epic since Tennyson that really works. Turner s stroke of genius was to place the story in the future and tell it in a science-fiction mode. Suddenly all the epic formulas become not...

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