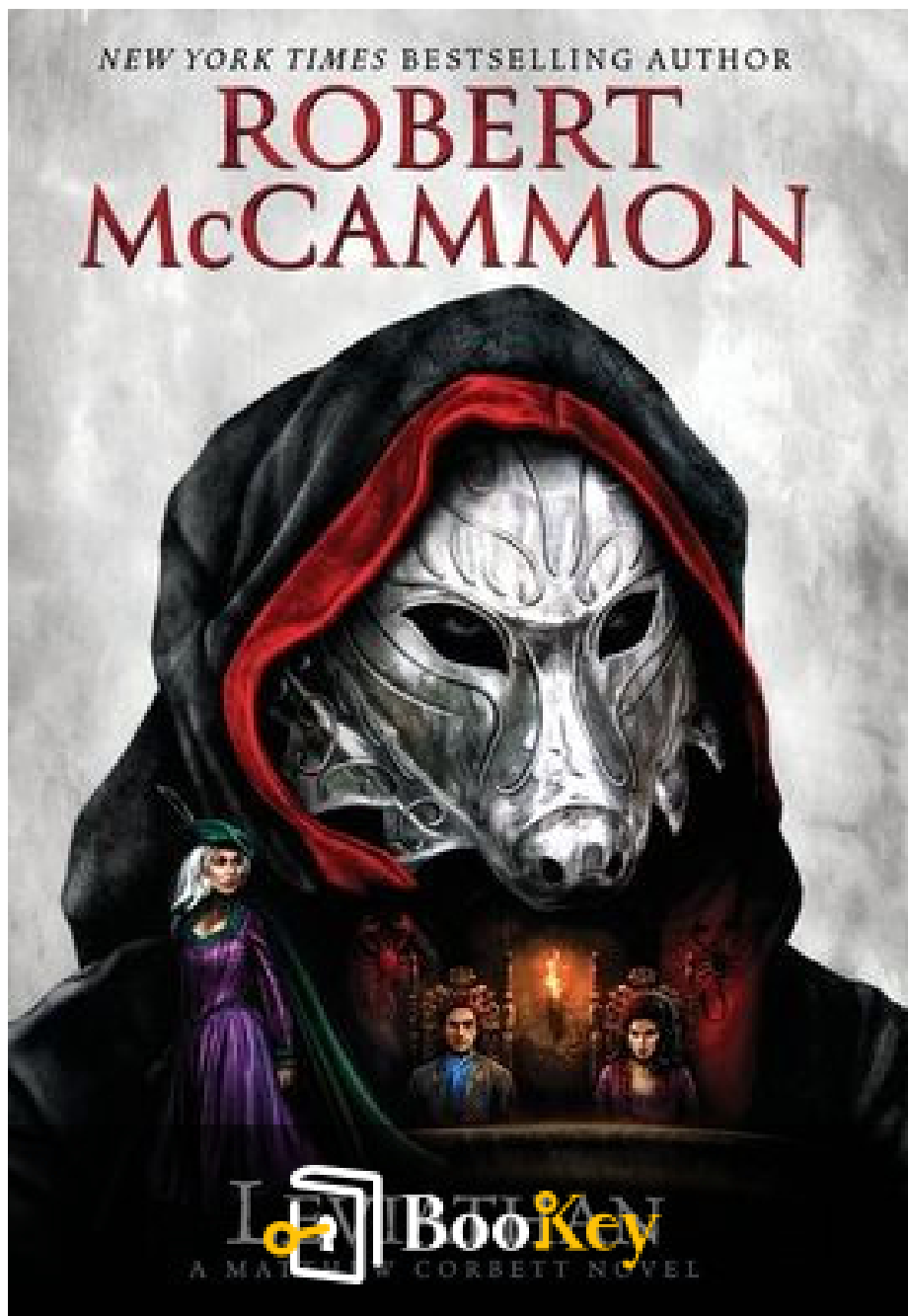


Leviathan PDF (Limited Copy)

Robert McCammon



More Free Book



Scan to Download

Leviathan Summary

"Inescapable Shadows in a World of Dark Mysteries."

Written by Books1

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the book

In the depths where shadows dance with the murmur of forgotten seas, "Leviathan" weaves a haunting tale that echoes the timeless battle between dark primordial forces and the light of human resilience. Robert McCammon's masterstroke of suspense drags readers into a labyrinthine world where myth unfurls its wings to challenge reality and the whispers of ancient mariners spark across storm-tossed pages. As fate's hand draws together an unlikely cadre of souls, their dreams and fears entwine in a gripping odyssey that questions the boundaries of courage, loyalty, and sacrifice. Journey with them beneath the crests of treachery and wonder, as McCammon's prose unshackles leviathan truths lying dormant in each of us, awaiting the stir of imagination's call.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the author

Robert R. McCammon is a distinguished American novelist renowned for his distinct contributions to the horror and dark fantasy genre. Born on July 17, 1952, in Birmingham, Alabama, he developed an early fascination with the macabre and storytelling. This passion burgeoned into a prolific career, marked by his initiation into the literary world with his 1978 novel, "Baal." Gaining prominence in the 1980s and 1990s, McCammon's mastery of suspense and vivid imagination earned him a significant reader base and critical acclaim. Often heralded for his ability to blend intense plots with deeply humanized characters, his works transcend traditional genre boundaries. Titles like "Swan Song," "Boy's Life," and the "Matthew Corbett" series highlight his versatility and enduring appeal. With an impressive oeuvre that balances preternatural elements with emotional depth, McCammon solidifies his status as a pivotal figure in contemporary speculative fiction.

More Free Book



Scan to Download



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock **1000+** Titles, **80+** Topics

New titles added every week

Brand

 Leadership & Collaboration

 Time Management

 Relationship & Communication



Business Strategy

 Creativity

 Public

 Money & Investing

 Know Yourself

 Positive Psychology

 Entrepreneurship

 World History

 Parent-Child Communication

 Self-care

 Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey



Summary Content List

Chapter 1: Prologue

Chapter 2: One: Down among the Dead Men

Chapter 3: Two: Harm's Way

Chapter 4: Three: Daughter of the Spike

Chapter 5: Four: Black Key

Chapter 6: Five: Vendemmia

Chapter 7: Epilogue

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 1 Summary: Prologue

In the haunting setting of a former monastery, now a gathering place for the enigmatic Famiglia dello Scorpione, a prologue unfolds rife with intrigue and ominous purpose. The ancient site, steeped in tragedy and lore, casts a shadow of foreboding over the clandestine assembly. At the heart of this meeting, a man in formal attire addresses his audience, a group of thirty-nine individuals seated in a circular gallery. The setting is reminiscent of an era marked by betrayal and darkness, with the monastery's walls echoing tales of madness and murder perpetrated by a monk long ago.

The meeting opens with a report from Master Argella, a dignified man with gray hair, who details the organization's recent successful but perilous exploits in Lombardy. They have audaciously intercepted shipments bound for military powers, including gunpowder and weaponry, seeking profit from the chaos of war. Despite losses, their actions illustrate a cold pragmatism devoid of political allegiance, motivated only by financial gain. The exploits of the Famiglia dello Scorpione remain shrouded in mystery as they balance the precarious line between mercenaries and ghosts of the past.

Attention shifts to Master Trazini, a formidable figure from Veneto, who outlines the group's research concerning a legendary artifact—a mirror crafted by Ciro Valeriani, purportedly with ties to the mystical and the dead. Trazini's logical mind finds disdain in such tales, but the higher powers,



represented by the enigmatic siblings—referred to simply as Grandmaster and Grandmistress—insist on the pursuit. They are an eerie pair, enhancing the room's dread with their peculiar hair patterns of interwoven darkness and redness, possibly symbolic of their tight, almost symbiotic bond. Yet, their silence speaks of unyielding power, brokering no dissent.

The narrative intensifies as Trazini recounts the dubious findings from a self-proclaimed sorcerer, Nerio Bianchi, who claims to communicate with the deceased via 'spirit writing.' The tale takes an apocalyptic turn when the ghost of Senna Salastre allegedly provides a single clue—'Leviathan.' Speculation arises around this cryptic word, but meaning slips through the fingers of the queried until the discussion circles back to finding Brazio, Valeriani's son, who may hold the key to the elusive mirror's location.

The meeting crescendos to a grim showcase of loyalty and retribution. Antonio Nuncia, accused of treachery, is brought before the gallery. His fate is sealed by his betrayal, and the violence that unfolds is both a punishment and a deterrent to any who would consider similar disloyalty. His gruesome end, alongside his family, at the hands of Lupo, a fearsome executioner clad in a wolf's mask, serves as a chilling reminder of the cost of betrayal among this circle of power.

With the business of the night concluded, members disperse into the night, leaving behind raw silence and a haunting presence within the stone walls.



The Famiglia dello Scorpione, embodying the sinister legacy of its name, remains a shadowy force in this web of schemes and vendettas. Through the malevolent interplay of power, past and present, their pursuit of the mysterious mirror promises to unravel secrets and awaken dangers lurking within the recesses of history. As the night seals its secrets in darkness, the undying legacy of the scorpion slumbers, yet never truly rests.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Unyielding pursuit despite the unknown

Critical Interpretation: The first chapter of 'Leviathan' encapsulates an unwavering dedication to pursuing goals even amidst obscurity and uncertainty. This allegiance to a high-stakes mission, no matter the personal risk or mystery involved, is embodied by the Famiglia dello Scorpione. Their relentless search for the legendary mirror, rumored to hold otherworldly powers, serves as a metaphor for facing the unknown in our lives. It inspires us to grasp our own mysteries and aspirations with determination and courage, pushing forward regardless of the shadows that may obscure our path. Just as the tapestry of intrigue woven by the Famiglia beckons, so do our ambitions call for steadfastness on our journey.



Chapter 2 Summary: One: Down among the Dead Men

In the opening chapter of "Down Among the Dead Men," Matthew Corbett finds himself in a cemetery near Alghero, Sardinia, contemplating the fraught relationship between the English and the Spanish. It's the year 1704, a time when political tensions are high, and Matthew is acutely aware of the precarious position of the English in foreign lands. Upon arrival in Sardinia, he and his companions narrowly escaped becoming casualties of the Spanish defenses. This backdrop sets a tense stage for Matthew's interactions with the locals and his contemplation of his fate in this Spanish-owned territory.

As Matthew walks through the cemetery, he encounters a significant figure before a grave, hinting at the rich connections and histories tied to the resting place. This graveyard scene introduces a reflective undertone, setting the stage for the complex web of alliances and enmities that will unfold.

The story quickly escalates when Matthew faces Sardinia's military governor, Henri del Costa Santiago, a man whose Spanish pride and disdain for all things English are clear. With Matthew bound and presented as a prisoner, Santiago's disdainful comments underline the cultural and political tensions boiling beneath the surface. Matthew handles the situation with a blend of caution and wit, aware of the razor-thin line he treads as an Englishman in enemy territory.



Subsequently, the focus shifts to a conversation between Matthew and Professor Danton Idris Fell, an intriguing character with a dark past. Once a feared figure, Fell is now a man transformed, indulging in scholarly pursuits and the natural beauty of marine life in Sardinia. His shift from a criminal mastermind to a marine enthusiast presents a fascinating contrast, highlighting themes of redemption and change.

During their conversation, Fell excitedly informs Matthew of his discovery of a new species of seahorse, illustrating his new lease on life and detachment from past crimes. The interaction underlines a theme of transformation—Fell has left behind his former dark ambitions after the loss of the book "The Lesser Key of Solomon," which once drove his malevolent pursuits.

Meanwhile, Santiago's chess games with Matthew hint at a deeper game at play. There is political intrigue afoot, and Santiago's questions about Matthew's past and intentions reveal a layer of manipulation and stakes far beyond the board—stakes involving the mysterious mirror once owned by a supposed sorcerer, *Ciro Valeriani*.

Matthew's internal struggle is palpable as he grapples with his responsibility to his friends and the necessity of returning to Berry, his bride-to-be in New York. The pressure builds when new players, such as the enigmatic Camilla Espaziel—a witch hunter—are introduced, heightening the tension. Her



sharp presence and insistence on the supernatural aspect of the mirror add urgency to the quest.

The narrative then intertwines with a deeper exploration of human nature. Critical to the unfolding drama are Hudson Greathouse's debilitating guilt and self-destructive behavior following his wartime actions and the influence of Golgotha. Hudson's condition represents the broader themes of guilt, redemption, and the need for purpose.

The culmination of the political, personal, and supernatural threads occurs over a grand dinner hosted by Santiago. Here, Matthew learns that the Spanish authority seeks the mystical mirror, sensing its potential to sway the tides of power in their favor during the ongoing war of succession. This revelation propels Matthew, Professor Fell, and others on a mission fraught with peril and layered motivations.

Santiago's offer to free the Englishmen, including Hudson, catalyzes Matthew to accept the quest despite its inherent dangers. Yet, amidst the political maneuverings and supernatural elements, at its heart, "Down Among the Dead Men" explores change and the possibility of redemption, drawing its characters inexorably toward their intertwined fates.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: Transformation and Redemption

Critical Interpretation: Within the exhilarating tapestry woven by McCammon, you discover a recurring thread—one that traces the possibility of transformation and redemption through life's trials. Professor Danton Idris Fell, once a notorious figure, emerges as a beacon of hope, serving as a reminder that it is never too late for radical change. His journey from a life marked by sinister deeds to newfound passion in marine biology paints a vivid picture of the human capacity to reinvent oneself. Immersed in the natural beauty and mysteries of Sardinia, Fell's transformation embodies the potential to seek redemption, urging you to confront personal shadows and redefine your path. This key moment from Chapter 2 can inspire you to view life as an unfolding canvas, where past mistakes do not dictate your future narrative. It beckons you to step into the realm of self-discovery and harness the courage to pursue a life aligned with your truest self, regardless of past transgressions.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 3 Summary: Two: Harm's Way

In chapters six through ten, the narrative follows a diverse group on a Spanish caravel ship called *Estrella del Oeste* as they journey from Alghero towards Venice. This includes Hudson, a haunted man troubled by memories resurfaced on the island of Golgotha, and Camilla Espaziel, a mysterious and linguistically adept woman on a curious mission. The journey is marked by their interactions, especially with Hudson grappling with his guilt and secrets from his soldiering past, revealed through a tense conversation with Camilla. As the ship sails, they gather information on their destination, specifically tied to a mysterious mirror crafted by *Ciro Valeriani* with alleged supernatural properties, drawing them towards Venice, believed to be linked to *Brazio Valeriani*, *Ciro's* son.

Upon arrival in Venice, the story's pace quickens with *Matthew*, *Hudson*, and their companions navigating the vibrant city, discovering more about local culture, and enjoying brief moments of respite amidst their search. Their quest leads them to *Ottavio Meneghetti*, a prominent wine merchant, as they seek leads on *Brazio Valeriani*, supposedly tied to vineyards producing *Amarone* grapes. The complex task is laden with strategic undertakings to blend in with the locals, gather information, and avoid drawing attention to their mission, all while grappling with their pasts and strained partnerships. Notably, tensions are underscored by *Hudson's* inner battles and interactions with *Camilla*, who is regarding him with deep



curiosity.

Chapters eleven through fourteen pivot to a dramatic turn as the crew faces the chaotic aftermath of a battle near a vineyard in the region. They get caught in the crossfire, witnessing the brutal horrors of a war they are pulled into unwittingly. In the thick of mayhem, Hudson finds a chance for redeeming his tormented soul by rescuing a wounded soldier. It's a profound moment of introspection for him, as he faces his demons amidst a landscape of death. The narrative also introduces Silva Arcangelo and his charge Trovatello, a handless, tongueless archer with a shadowed past, adding layers to the crew's journey. Their arrival, combined with cryptic messages, redirects their pursuit back on trail towards Brazio Valeriani, kneading together the vivid setting of warfare and the looming chase for a feared mirror.

Finally, in the continued chronicles of the Scaramangas, Venus and Mars plot with merciless precision. They react to the encroachment on their aspirations by the Spanish witch hunter Camilla and her cohort. Their exploration of the mystical mirror reveals their greed, and Venus's eerie visions and malevolent intuitions add a layer of supernatural intrigue, hinting at the ties binding them to dark forces. This escalating pursuit of the mirror entwines a quest for power, redemption, and understanding, setting the stage for impending confrontations across the ominous Italian landscape.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Redemption through Action and Forgiveness

Critical Interpretation: In the tumult of war and chaos, you find a reflection of life's unpredictability and the battles you face every day. In this chapter, Hudson's journey takes a crucial turn when he rescues a wounded soldier, showing that even amidst devastation, you can find fragments of humanity that guide you towards redemption. It's a vivid reminder that no matter how overwhelming your past misdeeds or present challenges are, taking compassionate action can be a healing balm for your soul. Through embracing humility and extending a helping hand, you embark on a path towards forgiveness, both from others and within yourself, thereby transforming your darkest moments into a shared story of resilience and hope.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 4: Three: Daughter of the Spike

In these intense chapters, Matthew and his group embark on a perilous journey after hearing of a demonic mirror linked to Brazio Valeriani, who is living under the alias Brazio Nascosto. Meanwhile, the shadowy Scaramanga siblings, Mars and Venus, hunt for the same mirror, believing it holds supernatural powers. Unbeknownst to them, they are trailed by other sinister forces.

After some tense exchanges, Brazio finally admits the mirror exists, though he tries to convince them of its dangers, recounting how it drove his father insane. Despite his pleas, he is executed by one of Mars' henchmen, and chaos ensues. The siblings plan to torture Matthew and his companions for information about the mirror's whereabouts, intending to take them hostage in a large black coach.

While the Scaramangas look for answers, Matthew realizes that Brazio had hidden the mirror among many others in an abandoned Roman lighthouse named Leviathan. However, Matthew keeps this vital information to himself, waiting for the right moment to escape.

Throughout this ordeal, Matthew's quick thinking, combined with his allies' instincts, prove instrumental. Despite their dire circumstances, they hold onto the hope of turning the tables on their captors. Yet, time is running



short, and the stakes continue to rise as they are taken aboard the coach to an uncertain and dangerous fate.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 5 Summary: Four: Black Key

In these chapters, we follow Matthew, Hudson, Camilla, and Professor Fell as they find themselves in a perilous situation involving the Scaramanga family and their quest for a demonic mirror. With the dark backdrop of Italy and a series of intense events, the stakes are high as they embark on a journey filled with danger, betrayal, and the supernatural.

Chapter 20:

The narrative begins with Matthew, Camilla, Hudson, and the professor being prisoners in a wagon, their wrists bound, heading to what appears to be a certain doom. Venus Scaramanga has seized The Lesser Key of Solomon, and both the wagon and the coach are moving them away from a bloody scene they've left behind. They ponder an escape, with Hudson initiating a plan to cut their ties using a shard of glass hidden in his pocket. As Mars and Venus Scaramanga drive the operation, the group scrambles to find a solution that might preserve their lives.

The dynamic between the prisoners evolves, with a growing sense of desperation, self-blame, and determination. The mention of a mirror that can only be broken with an iron crucifix becomes crucial information. Just when things seem bleak, an ill-timed road obstacle from former allies, Silva Arcangelo and Trovatello, presents a narrow opportunity for Matthew and



the professor to escape. The two manage to flee into the wilderness, setting the stage for their fight for survival against the Scaramangas who have proven to be both resourceful and ruthless.

Chapter 21:

As Matthew and Fell evade capture, Silva Arcangelo and Trovatello remind them of forgotten allies. Trovatello's wariness regarding the wolfman and the Scorpion Family emerges as crucial information for Matthew and the professor. They learn about potential threats and opportunities hidden in this underworld of crime and demonology. A semblance of hope is found at Arcangelo's cottage, where revelations about the Scaramanga estate and Venician connections prompt Matthew toward a daring initiative to rescue Hudson and Camilla.

Chapter 22:

Fueled by desperation, Matthew drives hard to Venice to confront Meneghetti, the wine merchant who betrayed them to gain information crucial for saving his friends. Professor Fell's unexpected return and sardonic guidance lead to an unexpected breakthrough. Their relentless pursuit pays off when Meneghetti, under distress, divulges directions to the Scaramanga estate, uncovering new layers of betrayal and avarice in their journey. Matthew's unyielding pace is mirrored by Meneghetti's swift



demise, a cruel irony in their shared voyage driven by shadows of cruelty, survival, and hope.

Chapter 23:

Within the Scaramanga residence, Hudson and Camilla confront their imminent fates, dining with their captors, Mars and Venus Scaramanga. The elegant veneer does little to hide the depth of malice in their hosts, who probe for information on the mirror. Delaying tactics employed by Hudson pay fleeting dividends, yet their capture and coming torture by Venus is ominously clear. A formidable phantasm of supernatural influence, Dominus, begins to haunt Venus, challenging her own beliefs in the power of the mirror, destabilizing her already fragile composure.

Chapter 24:

Matthew and Fell infiltrate the villain's lair under the guise of allies but confront the grim reality of their situation. They barter crucial knowledge and offer an opportunity to awaken Venus' ambitions despite their own moral cost. Matthew's resolve is tested by Venus's descent into madness induced by hallucinations, her obsession with eternal beauty clashing with Dominus's spectral taunting. The spiraling downfall of her psyche culminates, ending in a grotesque self-destruction that underlines the silent horror beneath the Scaramanga's veneer of civility.



Chapter 25:

In the heart of horror, Hudson fights for survival alongside Camilla. The brutal conflict against Lupo, the wolf-masked enforcer, challenges Hudson both physically and mentally. Unanticipated bravery from Camilla and instinctive violence from Hudson unite them in facing death once more, as they dismantle the peril embodied by Lupo. It's a violent reaffirmation of their will to live, marked by Hudson's internal epiphany on violence, new-found love, and the yearning for peace. Their bold escape parades as a masquerade of prowess versus survival, a fusion of foe-turned-savior dynamics weaving through the continuing pursuit of freedom against their captors' looming shadows.

These chapters construct a tapestry of suspense, reflecting the themes of loyalty, redemption, and the perpetual struggle against darkness. They set the stage for the unfolding climax of Matthew's quest to save his friends and confront his demons, literal and metaphorical.



Critical Thinking

Key Point: Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Critical Interpretation: In the most challenging of times, the unyielding determination shown by Matthew and his companions serves as an inspiring lesson in resilience. Despite overwhelming odds and the intimidating presence of nefarious foes like the Scaramanga family, each character embodies a tenacious drive to overcome their dire circumstances. As you navigate life's obstacles, whether they be external pressures or internal struggles, embrace the powerful spirit of resilience. Draw strength from the hope that even in the shadow of despair, there lurks opportunity for triumph and personal growth. This indomitable spirit can propel you forward, transforming the darkest moments into stepping stones towards victory.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 6 Summary: Five: Vendemmia

In this intricate and thrilling tale, Matthew Corbett, a problem solver in 1705, finds himself entangled in a web of danger, mystery, and supernatural intrigue. His journey begins as he is coerced by Mars Scaramanga, the Grandmaster of the notorious Famiglia dello Scorpione, to sail out to the abandoned lighthouse, Leviathan, in pursuit of a mythical mirror said to possess dark powers capable of resurrecting the dead. Mars's obsession is driven by the death of his sister, Venus, and the hope of bringing her back to life through the mirror.

Accompanied by the reluctant Professor Danton Fell, a once-villain turned ally seeking peace, Matthew ventures into a storm-swept sea, confronting both natural elements and the tormented will of a man driven to madness. As they reach the lighthouse amidst flashing lightning and rolling thunder, an ominous sense of dread envelops them. Inside, they discover the mirrors, with one standing out—a dark, malevolent glass that seemingly absorbs light.

Mars demands an incantation to summon a demon, showing his desperation and reckless disregard for the dangers involved. Despite Fell's doubts about the mirror's power and sanity in Mars's quest, the ritual is attempted, but with horrifying results. A claw from the depths of the mirror reaches out, unleashing a terror that results in the deaths of Mars and Professor Fell, who



sacrifice themselves to end the threat.

Having survived this harrowing ordeal, Matthew destroys the cursed book of demons and the mirror, ensuring that its sinister influence is lost to the depths. He returns to shore against all odds, haunted by his experiences but determined to rescue his friends held captive by Mars's remaining forces.

Upon returning, Matthew finds that his companions, Hudson and Camilla, have already escaped after facing their own struggles, Hudson having defeated the formidable Lupo. The trio makes their way back to Venice, where they recount their tales of survival, love, and decisions about the future in a world filled with tension and pending conflicts.

Matthew's journey culminates in his return to New York, where he is joyously reunited with his love, Berry Grigsby. After a cascade of touching and heartfelt moments, their wedding takes place despite the chaos of the bustling and ever-growing city. The newlyweds face a future with both certainty in their love and the uncertainties of Matthew's continued role as a problem solver.

The narrative closes with a proposition for a new challenge—a haunted house, a mystery to be unraveled, and an opportunity for Matthew and Berry to hone their skills together. It promises a life filled with love's embrace, adventures to be shared, and the continuous seeking of truth amidst the

More Free Book



Scan to Download

shadows of the past and the bright promise of what lies ahead.

Aspect	Details
Main Character	Matthew Corbett
Setting	Year 1705
Antagonist	Mars Scaramanga
Mystical Element	Mythical mirror with dark powers
Purpose of Journey	To find a mirror that can resurrect the dead
Supporting Characters	Professor Danton Fell, Hudson, Camilla
Key Event at Lighthouse	Ritual to summon a demon; deaths occur
Resolution	Matthew destroys the cursed objects, ensuring their sinister influence is ended
Companion's Arc	Hudson and Camilla escape separately, overcoming their own challenges
Personal Arc	Matthew reunites with Berry Grigsby; they marry
Future Prospects	A new challenge involving a haunted house
Theme	Adventure, love, resilience, mystery, supernatural

More Free Book



undefined

Chapter 7 Summary: Epilogue

In the final chapter of Robert McCammon's novel, Matthew Corbett, a young lawyer from Charleston in the year 2052, finds himself on a personal quest in New York City. Walking through the serene grounds of Trinity Church Cemetery, situated at the historical junction of Wall Street and Broadway, Matthew seeks a connection to his past. He reflects on the gravestones of his ancestors, particularly that of his great-great-great-grandparents, and ponders their lives and legacies. This tranquil setting, amidst the bustling city, provides him a moment of introspection about his own life's direction.

Matthew's recent visit to the Hall of Ancestry sparked his contemplation of his professional path and a desire for something beyond his current career at Madison, Lopaka, and Bodie, a prestigious law firm where he feels his father's influence had secured his position. Despite a promising future in law, he yearns for adventure and meaningful challenges.

A conversation with Chey Bodie, a senior partner at the firm, lingers in Matthew's mind. Bodie had advised finding joy in unexpected pursuits and embracing the unforeseen pleasures of life, which resonates with Matthew's internal conflict about following a conventional path.

After paying respects to his forebears, Matthew hails an E-Lyft, a futuristic



vehicle service, and encounters John Huston, a rugged former athlete known as "Bighouse," who now works as a driver. Their mutual familiarity hints at their shared experiences in this futuristic world filled with technological marvels and dystopian undercurrents, including dangerous reality shows and the enigmatic billionaire Sultan Gore's VR creations.

In the interaction with Huston, Matthew blurts out his wish for adventure, contemplating a future as a private investigator—a role he believes remains irreplaceable despite technological advancements like the net. Huston encourages him to pursue this desire, handing Matthew his contact information for potential collaboration.

Faced with the decision of where to go, Matthew opts for the unknown and promising route of "the future." As the air car lifts off, Matthew feels the thrilling possibilities of his newly decided path, marking the beginning of his journey filled with curiosity and adventure.

