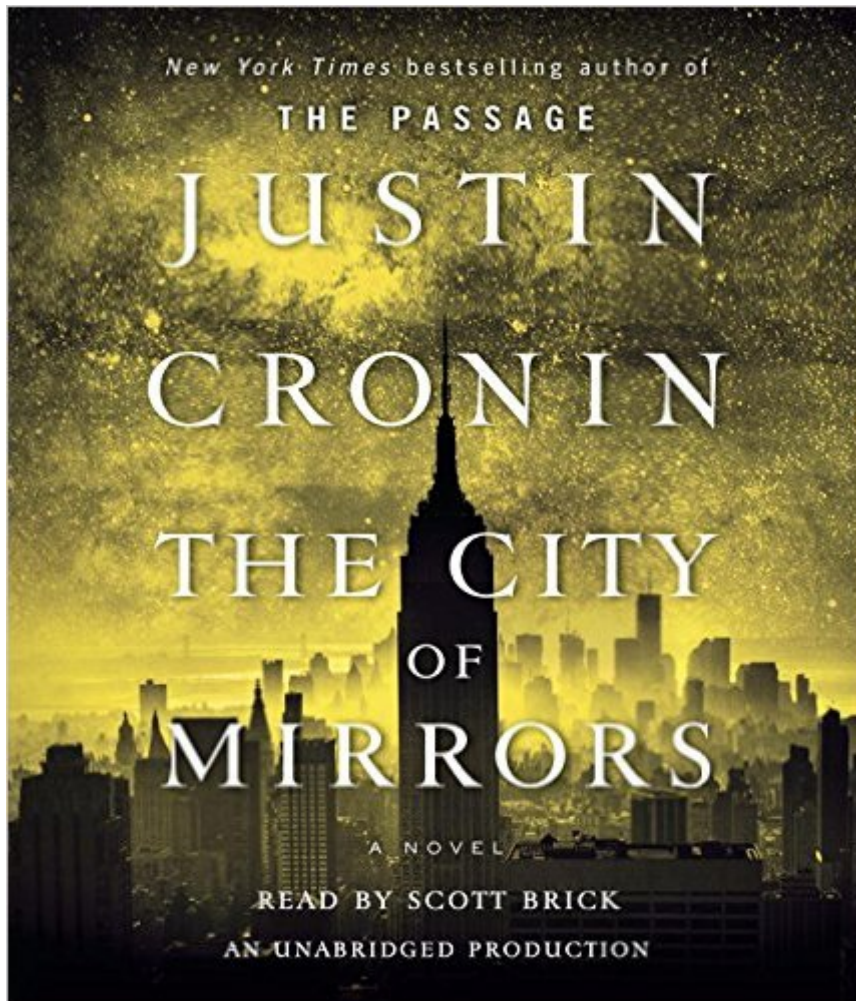


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# The City Of Mirrors: A Novel (Book Three Of The Passage Trilogy)



## Synopsis

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A thrilling finale to a trilogy that will stand as one of the great achievements in American fantasy fiction. • "Stephen King You followed *The Passage*. You faced *The Twelve*. Now enter *The City of Mirrors* for the final reckoning. As the bestselling epic races to its breathtaking finale, Justin Cronin's band of hardened survivors await the second coming of unspeakable darkness. The world we knew is gone. What world will rise in its place? The Twelve have been destroyed and the terrifying hundred-year reign of darkness that descended upon the world has ended. The survivors are stepping outside their walls, determined to build society anew—and daring to dream of a hopeful future. But far from them, in a dead metropolis, he waits: Zero. The First. Father of the Twelve. The anguish that shattered his human life haunts him, and the hatred spawned by his transformation burns bright. His fury will be quenched only when he destroys Amy's humanity's only hope, the Girl from Nowhere who grew up to rise against him. One last time light and dark will clash, and at last Amy and her friends will know their fate. Praise for *The City of Mirrors* • Compulsively readable. • "The New York Times Book Review • *The City of Mirrors* is poetry. Thrilling in every way it has to be, but poetry just the same . . . The writing is sumptuous, the language lovely, even when the action itself is dark and violent. • "The Huffington Post • This really is the big event you've been waiting for . . . • A true last stand that builds and comes with a bloody, roaring payoff you won't see coming, then builds again to the big face off you've been waiting for. • "NPR • A masterpiece . . . • with *The City of Mirrors*, the third volume in *The Passage* trilogy, Justin Cronin puts paid to what may well be the finest post-apocalyptic epic in our dystopian-glutted times. A stunning achievement by virtually every measure. • "The National Post • Justin Cronin's *Passage* trilogy is remarkable for the unremitting drive of its narrative, for the breathtaking sweep of its imagined future, and for the clear lucidity of its language. • "Stephen King's • Superb . . . This conclusion to bestseller Cronin's apocalyptic thriller trilogy ends with all of the heartbreak, joy, and unexpected twists of fate that events in *The Passage* and *The Twelve* foreordained. • "Publishers Weekly (starred review) • Readers who have been patiently awaiting the conclusion to Cronin's sweeping postapocalyptic trilogy are richly rewarded with this epic, heart-wrenching novel. . . . Not only does this title bring the series to a thrilling and satisfying conclusion, but it also exhibits Cronin's moving exploration of love as both a destructive force and an elemental need, elevating this work among its dystopian peers. • "Library Journal (starred review) Praise for Justin Cronin • One of those rare authors who work on two different levels, blending elegantly crafted literary fiction with cliff-hanging thrills. • "Fort Worth Star-Telegram From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Justin Cronin's THE CITY OF MIRRORS sets out to do the seemingly impossible – wrap up scores of characters and an immense landscape of action in a way that will satisfy readers who have waited four years for the publication of this book. Well, I guess Cronin can do the impossible! Because CITY is a brilliant novel, powerful in its message and extraordinarily satisfying in its concluding pages. Spanning almost a thousand years, the story manages to keep the reader intimately connected to a group of characters we've known since the first installment (THE PASSAGE) while also letting us glimpse the vast scope of a story that touches the entire human race. This is a novel about hope, love, and human endurance set against a truly terrifying landscape that threatens the survival of humanity itself. Some have called this a classic – good vs. evil – story, but I don't agree. It's really a story about our own inner conflicts, the very human battles between our better natures and the urges that seek to undo us. What saves us, says Cronin, is love. If only we can recognize it. CITY begins just after the end of the second installment (THE TWELVE), but it quickly jumps ahead three years, and then another nineteen. The characters Cronin focuses on are ones we know very well – Peter, Alicia, Sara, Hollis, Michael, Lucius, Caleb, Kate. Some were children when we first met them; some may be grandparents when we meet them again. Cronin provides a brief summary of sorts at the start of this novel, which does help to refresh our recollections (this was a big help to me, since I didn't have an opportunity to re-read THE TWELVE before diving into CITY). But it took little time to become invested again in these people

and the world they are trying to build.

Fans of this trilogy have waited a long long time for the ending and it is finally here. You absolutely should not read this book without having first read *The Passage: A Novel* (Book One of The Passage Trilogy) and *The Twelve* (Book Two of The Passage Trilogy): A Novel. If you have time, I strongly recommend re-reading (or listening to the audiobooks) the first two books before starting this book. I know that is a lot of reading -- these books are big time commitments to read -- but I wish I had made time to at least skim through them. The reason for revisiting the first two books is because it has been so long since *The Twelve* came out and I had not only forgotten a lot of the details of what happened in the first two books, but more importantly I had lost my emotional connection to the characters. This meant it took me a long time to get invested in what was happening. I have a warning for the fans of this trilogy who love the parts where the characters are fighting the virals/dracs and who didn't really care for the parts of the previous books that were more background or emotional -- you might have a hard time with the first couple hundred pages of this book. The book starts with a prologue that is a summary of what happened in *The Twelve* in the form of passages from a "historical book" presented at one of the global conferences on the North American Quarantine Period that have been a part of all the books.

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