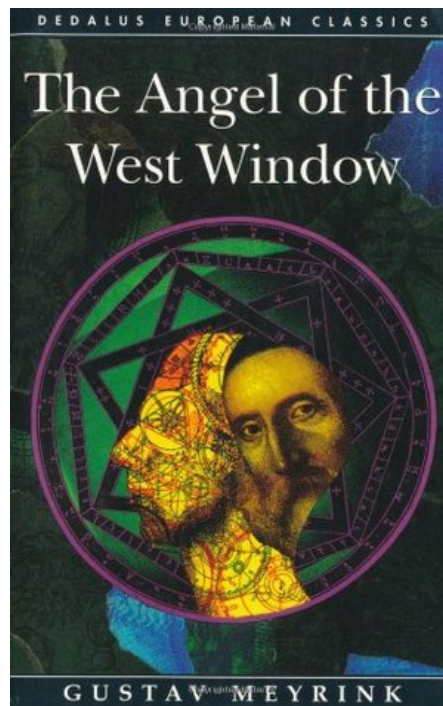




# Angel of the West Window

*Gustav Meyrink*

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*Gustav Meyrink*

**Angel of the West Window** Gustav Meyrink  
novel of Elizabethan magus John Dee, tr M Mitchell

## Angel of the West Window Details

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Author : Gustav Meyrink

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European Literature, German Literature

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# From Reader Review *Angel of the West Window* for online ebook

## David Sierra says

Un libro oscuro de puro estilo gótico, lleno de simbolismos, que, sin duda, ofrece diferentes lecturas según el conocimiento semiótico del lector. Se nota su influencia en Umberto Eco, claramente en *El Cementerio de Praga* y *El Péndulo de Foucault*, aunque al ser más breve es de lectura más llevadera que el segundo. Qué curioso que nadie haya intentado una película o cómic de esta novela, en estos tiempos que vivimos...

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## Vit Babenco says

Jorge Luis Borges called *The Angel of the West Window* “a chronicle of confused miracles, barely salvaged, from time to time, by its poetic ambience”.

**Gustav Meyrink** wrote this enigmatic book on so many levels: the present and the past, historical novel and Gothic tale, expressionism and decadence, mysticism and satire, grotesque and poetic imagery, reality and mystique, sanity and madness... Everything is juxtaposed and interweaved.

“And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.” *Revelation 10:9*

This is a kind of manuscript the protagonist of *The Angel of the West Window* reads and this is the story

**Gustav Meyrink** writes: uncertainty, suspense, ambiguity, ambivalence... Everything is obscured by mystical vagueness.

Is the Angel the creature of good or evil?

The lips of the Angel were red as rubies and formed into a strange smile, turned up at the corners, where they tapered to a delicate point. The child before had seemed unnatural in its flatness, this gigantic creature was stupefying in its corporeal presence, which surpassed all earthly measure: there was not the slightest shadow cast by its garments to give it emphasis or perspective. Yet in spite of — or perhaps because of — that, it made me feel that until that point I had in my whole life on earth seen nothing but flat surfaces, when compared with the sight of this being from another world.

Human soul is an arena where good and evil fight and their battle is eternal.

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## Juan del Desierto says

Ésta es la novela más larga de Gustav Meyrink y, aunque no es tan elegante e indefinida como “El Golem”, no tiene desperdicio. Hay que destacar la angustia fantasmagórica que va acumulándose en el relato y el solapamiento de las perspectivas del protagonista. Alquimia, evocaciones, rituales y objetos mágicos hacen de ésta la novela más explícita de Meyrink aunque reduzca el nivel de exposición de ideas esotéricas.

Resulta toda una exhibición de narrativa fantástica en varios niveles de complejidad que se entrecruzan, hábilmente manejada hasta un final que sólo desluzca ligeramente el conjunto por concretar demasiado y, a la vez, no hacerlo satisfactoriamente. Toda una paradoja, como aquellas de las que Meyrink y los taoístas gustaban.

Muy recomendable para cualquier lector sin prejuicios hacia el simbolismo y los múltiples niveles de significado.

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## J-Man says

Vrlo dobar roman sa okultnom tematikom koji u centar zapleta stavlja jednu od omiljenih figura okultista, Džona Dija, za kojeg se ako se ne varam verovalo da je Kristijan Rozenkrojc, mitski osnivač reda Ružinog Krsta. Doduše, to se ne pominje u ovom delu koje se pre svega bavi onim demonskim i mračnim u ljudskoj duši, koje nas tera da neizbežno srljamo u sopstvenu propast poput moljaca privučenih plamenom. Jedna od glavnih tema je takođe i suprotnost između dve vrste erosa oličena u likovima dve žene, jedne koja označava svetlost i zdravi eros, i druge koja predstavlja mračne i destruktivne strasti putenosti.

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## Diletta says

Demoni, riti, discendenza e antichissimi re e più recenti regine, manufatti, tempo che si riproduce per poi inghiottirsi di nuovo, realtà doppia. Se si parla di Grande Romanzo Americano credo si possa parlare anche di Grande Romanzo Esoterico.

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## Özgür says

Kitap uzun u?ra?lar sonucunda bitirdim.

*Kitap anlam, sembol ve kendi mecazlar?n? kafan?zda çözmeniz gibi inanılmaz yorucu bir beklenti içine giriyor.*

Bu türde birçok eser okudum fakat Meyrink'i onlardan ayıran, *fantastik, kabalistik ve gizem taşıyan tüm öğeleri yan yana getirip aynı zamanda Dil'le alakâlı? çözümlemelere girmek isteyince ortaya deneysel sayılabilecekimiz bir eser çıkmış?.*

Kıssacası yazar, ezoterizm, okültizm, siyaha, bilim ve batı maneviyatı?n? 100 adet terimle harmanlamaya çalışarak, dili, konusu, örgüsü kurgusu iç içe geçmi? sürekli ara verme ve nefes alma ihtiyacı hissettiren 455 sayfalık kendini sürekli tekrar eden bir roman ortaya çıkartmış?.

*Bazı kaynaklarda bu eserin "R. John Fowles'ın Büyücü" eseriyle karıştırdığını? gördüğümde ise, insanın kışkıyla kitap okuması?n? ne kadar zor olduğunu da sanmış?m anladım. Hatta J.Fowles fanatizminden dolayı, Meyrink'in Golem'ini de okumaktan vazgeçip, koyacağı?m noktadan sonra Müllerin yanan evi gibi benim için tarihe karışmış? olacak?r.*

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## Ignacio Senao f says

Un libro complejo, como ya mostro en “el Golem”. La mezcla de lo real con lo onírico complica situarse en la historia.

Se narra la vida de Deep, mediante cartas y diarios, y por otro lado en el presente que fue escrita la novela, un joven narra cómo lee esta información recibida por un primo suyo y empieza a mezclarse su vida con lo que lee. Ya no sabe quién es, si el él presente, o Deep del pasado.

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## Deniz Balç says

Hem pek be?enip hem de hiç be?enmedi?im bir eser oldu. Son yüz sayfadaki okültizm teorileri o kadar lezzetli hikayenin içine yedirilmi?ti ki kitab?n kredisini benim için yükseltti. Al???k olmad???m?z kitaplar bunlar, ke?ke daha çok yazar elini ta??n alt?na koymu? olsayd?.

Uzunca, nedenleri nas?llar? ile be?endi?im ve be?enmedi?im yanlar?n? anlatmak isterdim ama bilgisayar?n olmad??? bir yerde telefondan yazman?n yaratt??? ü?engeçli?i ya??yorum:)

Arkas?n? okuduktan sonra bir merak duygusu olu?uyorsa, Okültizm, ezoterizm vs ilgi alan?n?zsa kesinlikle okuyun derim.

7/10

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## Nosemonkey says

Borges apparently loved this, which should have been a good sign. It's about John Dee, a figure I find entertaining. But after slogging more than three quarters of the damned thing, the tone and writing style - not to mention the melodramatic idiocy of the narrator, the constant repetitions of "I, John Dee!", the over-use of exclamation marks - I've had enough. I don't care any more. I'm rooting for the bad guys, just to get the hero to shut up.

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## Lohmatii says

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## Nadezda says

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## sofia says

*Conoscevo una fiaba in cui si narra di un granato luminoso che risplende dall'alto di una vetta - ma l'ho dimenticata.*

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## Aras says

<http://electric-pages.livejournal.com...>

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## Cole says

Having just finished a small survey of Christian esoterism in the Elizabethan age which featured a section on Dee himself I couldnt imagine anyone more capable of enjoying this book than me. And boy am I glad I read it. This book was perfect.

Despite my minor knowledge I still had to look up and spend a few extracurricular hours studying beliefs and cults that Meyrink casually references. One ritual in particular the so called Taghairm was really really interesting to look up and if you didnt a lot of the following sections wouldnt make sense. Just from that one word.

If you enjoy historical narratives that are more like puzzles waiting to be unraveled than stories then you will like this book. Just be prepared to do some serious research, I cant imagine reading this before the internet.

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## Nancy Oakes says

You have to REALLY be interested in and somewhat (even a teensy bit like myself) knowledgeable about the basics of alchemy in its "spiritual" form to get through this book. It's pretty good, very interesting and definitely one to reread at some point.

The narrator of this story is one Baron Muller, who inherits a bunch of old papers & diaries that belonged to the Elizabethan astrologer/physician/magician/chemist Dr. John Dee. He decides to go through them randomly, and as he does, he comes to realize that he is holding the life story of Dee, and that in Dee's lifetime he left many things undone that need to be finished. In the introduction to this book, Mike Mitchell (who is also the translator in my edition), wrote that "Meyrink's universe is multi-layered and different worlds exist alongside, interlinked with, each other." (15) And as the story goes on, Muller becomes aware that his fate is linked with that of Dee's unfinished business, and that he has a responsibility to pick up various threads across time and space to fulfill both his and Dee's destiny.

If you're into the occult at all, or into alchemy in its various forms, or if you're interested in the story of Doctor John Dee, you may want to try this. I'm always fascinated by this person, and the story did not let me down. It is a book you need to read slowly because it is so incredibly full, but well worth it in the end. You should also wait until the end to read the introduction.

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