GARDEN OF RAMA (Sequel to Rama II)

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Tensions mount as, twelve years into their journey, three cosmonauts trapped aboard a mysterious Raman spacecraft hurtle toward an uncertain destination, preyed upon by octospiders

In the spellbinding Arthur C. Clarke tradition, here is an exhilarating adventure into the hearts of both the Universe and mankind...

By the twenty-third century Earth has already had two encounters with massive, mysterious robotic spacecraft from beyond our solar system--the incontestable proof of an alien technology that far exceeds our own. Now three human cosmonauts are trapped aboard a labyrinthine Raman vessel, where it will take all of their physical and mental resources to surviv. Only twelve years into their journey do these intrepid travelers learn their destination and face their ultimate challenge: a rendevous with a Raman base--and the unseen architects of their galactic home. The cosmonauts have given up family, friends, and possessions to live a new kind of life. But the answers that await them at the Raman Node will require an even greater sacrifice--if humanity is indeed ready to learn the awe-inspiring truth.

Arthur C. Clarke was the world's best known and bestselling author of science fiction, winner of many awards and accolades for his writing. He died in February 2008. Other Books

Islands in the Sky, Homer provides an enormous challenge to the student; the potentialities of these lengthy texts are legion and the scholarship vast. The author has relied upon her knowledge of symbolic discourse to make a fresh study of the Odyssey, prioritising early neighbouring religions, their mythology, and shamanic practice. The latter has yielded particularly rich material concerning the axis of the world (axis mundi) as a route to the stars and the world of the gods. Man's shared experience of the night skies has also provided some remarkably consistent patterns for the geography of an Otherworld in the skies and the means to reach the gods residing there. By applying world-wide motifs of the soul journey, the initiatory process and established points of transformation along a solar path, it has been possible to recast the hero's sea voyage in cosmic terms and give a celestial homeland to the many islands visited by Odysseus and his companions. The result gives a surprising twist to the meaning of the epic and reveals Homer the poet as both philosopher and student of the cosmos. The 'wine-dark sea' is revealed as none other than the night sky which serves as backdrop to the hero's adventures among the stars, and Ithaka itself with its many conflicts finds a place at the very centre of the known universe of Bronze Age Greece.

 ? ? ? ? . (1947) 'Symplegades: Clashing Rocks,' in Studies in the History of Science and Learning, offered in homage to George Sarton. ... Davidson, H. R. Ellis (1988) Myths and Symbols in Pagan Europe. Early Scandinavian and Celtic Religions."