



A Shadow All of Light: A Novel

By Fred Chappell

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Fred Chappell's *A Shadow All of Light*, a stylish, episodic fantasy novel, follows the exploits of Falco, a young man from the country, who arrives in the port city of Tardocco with the ambition of becoming an apprentice to a master shadow thief. Maestro Astolfo, whose mysterious powers of observation would rival those of Sherlock Holmes, sees Falco's potential and puts him through a grueling series of physical lessons and intellectual tests.

Falco's adventures coalesce into one overarching story of con men, monsters, ingenious detection, cats, and pirates. A wry humor leavens this fantastical concoction, and the style is as rich and textured as one would hope for from Chappell, a distinguished poet as well as a World Fantasy Award-winning fantasy writer.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Sword and sorcery with Shakepearian panache.” *?World Magazine*

“More than the sum of its parts.” *?Locus*

“The humor, inventiveness and suspense are top-notch, and the concept is as sly as Lewis Carroll’s Cheshire.” *?Asheville Citizen-Times*

“Chappell has a deft touch for comedy and for capers, and his witty, elegant prose shows a poet’s deep love for words.” *?Publishers Weekly*

About the Author

FRED CHAPPELL is an author, poet, and former professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He was the Poet Laureate of North Carolina from 1997 to 2002. His 1968 novel *Dagon* was named the Best Foreign Book of the Year by the Académie Française. Chappell's literary awards include the Aiken Taylor Award for Modern American Poetry, the Prix de Meilleur des Livres Etrangers, the Bollingen Prize, and the T. S. Eliot Prize. He has also won two World Fantasy Awards.

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