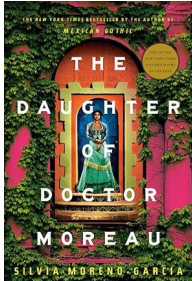




Lambda Sci-Fi
DC Area Gaylaxians



The Daughter of Doctor Moreau
By Silvia Moreno-Garcia
Discussed September 2025

Characters

- Carlota Moreau – title character
- Dr. Gustave Moreau – physician, scientist, creator of the “hybrids” (French)
- Montgomery Laughton – new mayordomo at Yaxaktun (English)
- Cachito & Lupe – young hybrid companions to Carlota
- Ramona – housekeeper at Yaxaktun
- Hernando Lizalde – hacendado and patrón
- Eduardo Lizalde – son of Hernando
- Isidro Lizalde – cousin of and companion to Eduardo

Discussion Questions

1. Did you finish it? Did you enjoy it?
2. Have you read anything else written by Silvia Moreno-Garcia? Based on this novel, would you consider reading anything else she's written?
3. Some reviewers have noted that Moreno-Garcia's works often address aspects of “colonialism” and “feminism.” Does this novel include these themes?
4. Have you read *The Island of Doctor Moreau* by H.G. Wells or seen any of the film versions (including *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3*)? How does this novel compare?
5. As with Moreno-Garcia's other novels, this story is set in Mexico. Does her depiction of the Yucatan in the 1870s seem realistic to you?
6. How does the novel deal with the concept of animal experimentation? How does this novel compare with depictions of animal experimentation in other versions of the Dr. Moreau story (including in the original novel by H.G. Wells)?
7. What does this novel say about the concept of “humanity”?
8. Compare the relationships of various characters with the hybrids: Dr. Moreau, Carlota, Montgomery, the Lizaldes.
9. What do you think about the ending?

Other books by Silvia Moreno-Garcia:

- Gods of Jade and Shadow (2019)
- Mexican Gothic (2020)
- Certain Dark Things (2021)
- Silver Nitrate (2023)
- The Seventh Veil of Salome (2024)

Versions of the Dr. Moreau story:

- The Island of Dr. Moreau by H.G. Wells (1896)
- Sherlock Holmes and the House of Pain by Stephen Seitz (MX Publishing, 2015)
- The Mighty Thor #132 to #134 (Sept. to Nov. 1966): the High Evolutionary introduced; has appeared in many different Marvel comics since then.

Film versions:

- Island of the Lost (1921) – “loose unauthorized version” (silent, German), directed by Urban Gad.
- Island of Lost Souls (1932) – starring Charles Laughton, Richard Arlen, and Kathleen Burke; directed by Erle C. Kenton.
- The Island of Dr. Moreau (1977) – starring Burt Lancaster, Michael York, Nigel Davenport, and Barbara Carrera; directed by Don Taylor.
- The Island of Dr. Moreau (1996) – starring Marlon Brando, Val Kilmer, David Thewlis, and Fairuza Balk; directed by John Frankenheimer.
- Atlantis, the Lost Continent (1962) – starring Anthony Hall, Joyce Taylor, and John Dall; produced and directed by George Pal.
- Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (2023) – starring Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, and Chuckwudi Iwujii; written & directed by James Gunn.