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In The Hand Of The Goddess (Song Of The Lioness, Book 2)



Synopsis

From Tamora Pierce, the second book in the Song of the Lioness Quartet, honored with the Margaret A. Edwards Award. Alanna, disguised as a boy, becomes a squire to none other than the heir to the throne. Prince Jonathan is not only Alanna's liege lord, he is also her best friend and one of the few who knows the secret of her true identity. But when a vicious sorcerer threatens the prince's life, it will take all of Alanna's skill, strength, and magical power to protect him, even at the risk of surrendering her dreams. |

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 750 (What's this?)

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 19, 2011)

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars. See all reviews. (348 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #146,674 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #329 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Royalty #451 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends #495 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Survival Stories

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

I am giving this book 4 stars because it was really excellent. Most of this review is a warning though about what is in it. Don't take this the wrong way. Just read it and try to understand where I am coming from. This was a wonderful book filled with excitement and romance. I was a very advanced reader and read the books at a very small age throwing the books at the wall after reading them because I was confused why the books ended the way they did. Now that I am older I have come to an understanding which has opened my eyes. When I was younger I brought the book to camp and lent them to my friends who read them in a week. We sat on the bus sighing as we read the romantic parts to each other all squished up into one bus seat so that we could hear the reader.

Here is what I am saying to parents, kids, and anyone else who is wondering about this book. I know some girls who thought that the adventure was nothing and skimmed the book looking for romance. Let me tell you, you will miss a lot. Alanna's adventures show her strength as a female. Although, (please don't hate me for this) it is true that when Jon finds out that she is a girl in the first book, he starts to treat her like he would a woman, weak. She gratefully accepts his strong arm around her waist when they're riding along, she strains herself healing and he steers her out, and Jon holds her head for support while she's throwing up. Think about it, is she being treated equally? And although her friends know not of her womanhood, she is the one who gets extra care in the group. Perhaps because she is the smallest? But isn't that why women were treated lesser in society? Perhaps weaker? But she has proven herself against that. Alanna can fend for herself. Now, about the romance.

Dear Team of the world, I personally think that Tamora Pierce's In the Hand of the Goddess is a brilliant book. If you don't agree with me, here are some good reasons why I like it. This book has a great plot that just pulls you in and won't let you go. Some people who can't appreciate fantasy writing might say it's boring, but I assure you, it is by no means boring. There are no lengthy, dull introductions that give billions of little details no one would in their right mind would actually be interested in. This book is not taking ideas from anywhere I have seen. It's a new and unique idea. This book has a great plot. The first page, you find out a little about the character Alanna (introduction). Then she meets the "Great Mother Goddess" (narrative hook). There is a duel, and then a war. During the war, Alanna is taken prisoner (this is all the rising action) and is rescued by the prince, Jonathan. Then she goes to her friend's house, the friend is a woman who lives in the city. There she learns to act like a girl. That result is that she falls in love with Jonathan. She eventually graduates from the Prince's squire to a knight. She discovers that Jonathan's cousin, the popular Duke Roger, is killing the queen. She exposes him and they fight to the death (climax). After she wins, her real identity exposed, she rides off to the desert to "spend the rest of the winter being warm". That plot grabs you and holds you until you're done. This book gets to the point. It's not boring and it doesn't drone on and on in the beginning. As in paragraph two, there is a lot of action. Alanna meets the goddess and beats a boasting knight in the first two chapters! She is the squire to the prince of Tortall, next in line for the crown.

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