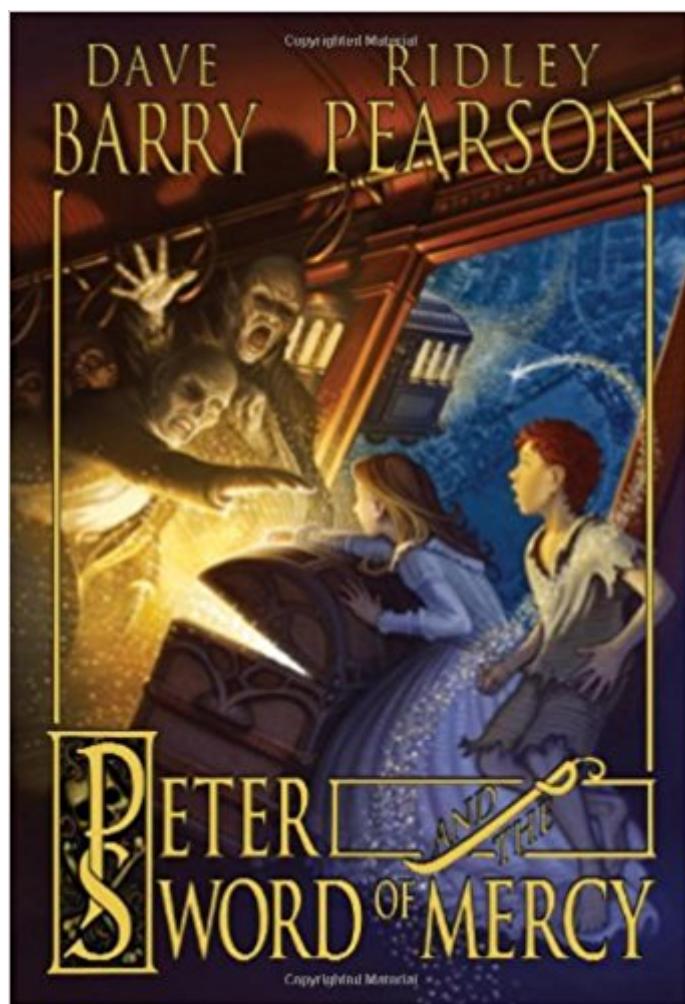


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Peter And The Sword Of Mercy (Peter And The Starcatchers)



Synopsis

The year is 1901—it's been twenty-three years since Peter and the Lost Boys returned from Rundoon. Since then, nobody on the island has grown a day older, and the Lost Boys continue their friendship with the Mollusk tribe, and their rivalry with Captain Hook. Meanwhile in London, Molly has married George Darling and is raising three children: Wendy, Michael, and John. One night a visitor appears at her door; it's James, one of Peter's original Lost Boys. He is now working for Scotland Yard and suspects that the heir to England's throne, Prince Albert Edward, is under the influence of shadow creatures. These shadow creatures are determined to find a secret cache of starstuff which fell to London many centuries ago. The starstuff is hidden in an underground vault which has only one key: the Sword of Mercy, a legendary weapon kept with the Crown Jewels. Molly is determined to help, but when she suddenly goes missing, it is up to her eleven-year-old daughter, Wendy, to keep the starstuff out of the Others' clutches. She has heard her mother's stories of a flying boy named Peter Pan, and he may be her only hope in saving the world from a shadowy doom...

Book Information

Series: Peter and the Starcatchers

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion (January 18, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1423130707

ISBN-13: 978-1423130703

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 119 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #66,742 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Children's Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe #294 in Books > Deals in Books #1034 in Children's Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Grade 5—Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson's fourth prequel (Hyperion, 2009) to J. M. Barrie's Peter Pan is set in 1902, 23 years after Molly Aster's last adventure with Peter, the Lost

Boys, and Captain Hook. There is a new danger facing the heir to England's throne. When Molly tries to investigate and is kidnapped, her daughter Wendy must set out to find the mysterious Peter, who may be the only one who can rescue Molly and save the throne. This is a thrilling adventure with an overseas flight on a makeshift helicopter, constant escapes from crooked authorities and pirates, exciting flights with Peter, and loyal friendship and familial love. Grammy-winning Jim Dale's narration is pure magic. While the first three books in the series form a coherent trilogy, this volume can stand alone for listeners unfamiliar with the previous titles. An excellent addition to library collections. •Jessica Miller, New Britain Public Library, CT Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

The fourth title in the Peter and the Starcatchers series (originally planned as a trilogy of prequels to Barrie's classic Peter Pan), this adventure involves a magical sword once wielded by Charlemagne and now held by the forces of evil as they attempt to seize a cache of starstuff, the powerful substance that the Starcatchers must protect. Wendy steps into her mother's shoes as the story's heroine, while the action zigzags from one set of characters and locales to another. Full of narrow escapes from nasty villains and bits of humor, this fast-paced adventure delivers plenty of thrills. --Carolyn Phelan

Peter and the Sword of Mercy is a continuation of the Peter and the Starcatchers series. It is book four. The books are by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson. They wrote this series together beginning at an attempt to answer questions their children had about Peter Pan. Interestingly, they wrote these long distance communicating by phone, email and texting, and fax. They managed to make it seem as though only one person wrote the books. They are simply fascinating especially for those who love Barrie's Peter Pan. Molly Darling, once Molly Aster, had an unexpected visitor. It was James Smith, one of the original Lost Boys of Neverland. He had come back with Molly along with Prentis, Thomas and Ted and had grown up in the "real" world. The boys kept in contact with each other; but Molly only rarely did. James told her his suspicions about von Schatten having some type of hold on the King and the possibility that Ombra was back. He wanted her help. She didn't want to help; but agreed to talk to him the next day. When he left, she ended up telling her eleven-year old daughter, Wendy, about the Starcatchers and their adventures in Neverland and Peter Pan. When George Darling came home, Molly told him about James's visit and he vehemently told her to forget it. His reputation was at stake as was any possible promotion. The next day when James did not appear, Molly became very

concerned. She went to Scotland Yard to talk to his boss to see if anything had happened to James. She was assured he was on vacation and not to worry. Of course, being Molly, she did worry. She decided the following day to visit her father and see if he could shed any light on the matter. Before she left, she gave Wendy her locket just as a precaution. As she drove away in a cab, she waved back at Wendy and that was the last Wendy saw of her. Molly went missing. Wendy and her brothers were sent to Uncle Neville's until George could find out something about Molly. However, Wendy couldn't help herself and she began tracking down her Mother on her own. Her only hope was to go to Neverland and persuade Peter Pan to help her. Of course, with Peter came Tinker Bell. Once more the Starcatchers are out to save the Starstuff. Where were James, Molly, and George? What does the King have to do with any of this, he is just going to be crowned at his coronation? Will Peter help? This is a fascinating book just like the others. I can't wait to read the next book, The Bridge to Neverland. Luckily it is sitting next to my computer so I don't have to wait long.

The book that I received is a UNCORRECTED GALLEY PROOF book, something I HAVE NEVER SEEN THIS TYPE OF BOOK BEFORE. None of the art work is in this book and it has spelling errors in it. Having listened to the book and read a regular printed hard cover copy, I feel privileged to see what a book looks like BEFORE it is put out for the readers. The story line is that 20 years had gone by and the Starcatchers are no longer able to protect the star stuff, and Molly's daughter is suddenly pushed into protecting the star stuff, and with the help of Peter, who is still a boy, must fight the OTHERS for the last of the Star Stuff. Very enjoyable book and another in the series that you don't want to miss.

It's been 23 years since we last visited Peter and Molly. While life hasn't changed much on the island, Molly has grown up, married George, and had three kids of her own. The Others have been silent all this time, and the Starcatchers have been lulled into a feeling of security. All that changes when James shows up with some disturbing news about what is happening in the palace. But when he disappears, Molly really worries. Molly is the next to vanish, and it is up to her daughter Wendy to find help against the new forces of darkness. Meanwhile, on Mollusk Island, four shipwrecked men appear. Their story doesn't quite hold together, and Fighting Prawn wants them off the island as quickly as possible. Is he right to be suspicious? Are The Others on the move again? Can Peter stop them? Obviously, there is a lot going on, and those who have enjoyed the previous three books about Peter Pan will enjoy this one as well. Once again, the story starts quickly and the danger just

keeps building until we reach the suspenseful climax. For once, the story on the island felt as important as the story in London, and both kept me turning pages. The characters are fun as well, and I enjoyed getting lost in the story. Don't start here since it is assumed you know what has happened before. But if you have read the previous volumes, you'll find this one just as captivating.

My son, who has a PhD in mathematics, introduced me to this series; I was initially skeptical about reading another book about Peter Pan, after all, what more could be said I thought. I read the book as a child, and had seen the animated movie so what could possibly be left to write about? Was I ever wrong about that notion, I was captivated by "Peter and the Starcatchers" and became a devoted fan of this series! What a fun trip to read of Peter's beginning and an explanation of how he became the boy who would never grow up as ably and entertainingly penned by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson. The incredibly fertile imaginations of these writers seemed to really blossom as they decided to fill in the details that get us to the point where J. M. Barrie takes up the narrative. I have had the joy and pleasure of reading "Peter and the Starcatchers," "Peter and the Shadow Thieves," "Peter and the Secret of Rundoon," and now "Peter and the Sword of Mercy." All four books have been a delightful romp through sometimes humorous, yet sometimes threatening, action filled adventures as the reader follows the story of Peter and his friends. Some of the imaginative villains in these books make Captain Hook seem like a "not so bad" kind of guy. I was definitely amused as I read the suggested age range for these books, 9-12; there is no question in my mind that children in that age range who enjoy reading a good adventure should certainly enjoy all of the books in the series. The truth of the matter, at least in my experience, is that readers of almost any age who enjoy a well written adventure story will have fun reading these books not only once but more than once. I am truly pleased to have read them and have them available to read again. I can recommend them highly to anyone whose inner child has not shriveled and died.

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