



Calling on Dragons

Patricia C. Wrede , Peter de Sève (Illustrator)

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Those wicked wizards are back--and they've become very smart. (Sort of.) They intend to take over the Enchanted Forest once and for all . . . unless Cimorene finds a way to stop them. And some people think being queen is *easy*.

Calling on Dragons Details

Date : Published March 1st 2003 by HMH Books for Young Readers (first published 1993)

ISBN : 9780152046927

Author : Patricia C. Wrede , Peter de Sève (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 244 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Dragons, Fiction, Childrens

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From Reader Review Calling on Dragons for online ebook

ShoSho says

Annoying characters (Killer and Telemain voices grates on my nerves!) and a very bad cliffhanger :(

Iryna (Book and Sword) says

4.5/5stars

This was my 4th time reading the series and it was just as good as the first 3 times. Also I was able to notice and focus on many things that I haven't before.

I really like how each book focuses on different set of main characters - this way by the end of the series the reader gets to know everybody from different points of view.

This will probably forever be my favorite middle grade series and I am very happy to say that I still enjoy them after so many re-reads, and even if I'm probably way too old for these books :)

Also, there are many, many cats in this book. And they are **hilarious**.

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Kathryn says

Calling on Dragons, though it does give us great background information on witches in general and Morwen in particular, is by far the weakest entry in the series.

My dislike, or perhaps I should say my lack of liking, for this book is primarily due to the character Killer, an enchanted bunny that Morwen finds in her garden. He's a hopping, talking MacGuffin; because a wizard was involved with his enchantment, Morwen takes him to the castle to consult with Mendarbar and Cimorene (who, incidentally, is pregnant), thus kickstarting the plot.

As the story goes on, far, FAR too much time is spent discussing Killer and letting us know what he said and did and how everyone else (especially Morwen's cats, each one of whom has to get in his/her say on everything*) reacted to it. And he's taken along on the main quest for a spurious reason. (The real reason is because the author thinks she needs to deliver exposition, and a character who doesn't know anything is a handy way to do that.)

Maybe if Killer were funny (which he's supposed to be), I could forgive this hamfisted approach, but he's just so annoying. Every time he talks, I want him to shut up because Cimorene, Kazul, or Morwen, all of whom are awesome, could be talking. And he keeps doing stupid things that end up being important later. He's like

the Mary Sue of giant blue flying donkeys that are actually small brown rabbits.

Also, as mentioned previously, I read *Searching for Dragons* first and love it best, so the lack of Mendenbar in this book is a negative for me. It's still a nice, light read, though.

*YMMV if you are a cat person. I'm decidedly not, which may be part of why I found them annoying.

Jannah (Cloud Child) says

2.5/5 (warning: swearing involved)

Ugh. What a long boring pile of snore.

I couldn't even be happy that it ended because of the cliffhanger epilogue.

The first two books of this series are delightful, with lovely fun characters and an interesting plot.

However, this book failed because of the following:

- The plot basically had the same bad guys, the wizards, which worked the first time, but is seriously tiring now, the cart is broken, the horse has run off, so please take a fuckin' rest with this. Can you just kill the bad guys, please for once commit actual murder, because they keep doing shitty shitty things.

- The whole witch Morwen and her cats speaking farce. Only Morwen and other animals could hear what they said, therefore it was a little unnecessarily confusing to navigate through..

- Telemain the magician, was the main reason I kept falling asleep, because he would of course speak about EVERYTHING in a technical way and then some other character would be like "wtf did u say?" so someone else would have to explain it. A good third of the book could be removed without this unnecessary slog.

- The fact that the epilogue was tiny but apparently squished two months worth of story time in it, and I have to read the last book now because at the end the castle is besieged by wizards so the next book must show how they won or something obvious like that.

- BUT MOST OF ALL KILLER THE ASS-BRAINED RABBIT.

I could have dealt with everything else and probably given a higher rating if it were not for this gigantic shlump of a being whom killed any goodwill I had left.

Killer the rabbit, turned into a giant rabbit, then a donkey, then a blue donkey, then a flying donkey, then a ghost..all because of a lack of boundaries when it came to eating things which were CLEARLY unsafe.

Sounds interesting and funny in theory..but in reality makes you want to bang your head on a wall repeatedly. The bleeding idiot makes stupid look good on other people. I get it, you're hungry all the fucking time I fucking get it, I wish you'd eaten something poisonous and died at the beginning so we wouldn't have to deal with your pathetic whining BULLSHIT.

It really surprised me that the group could put up with him at all, with only the cats being snarky when he did something dumbass. This donkey is the equivalent of Veruca Salt-Bella. Apparently they needed him. God knows why. #snowflakeplotdevice

Seriously? No. Fuck no. I'm done. #latelymybadreviewsmakemelooklikeIhavealotofzeangerissues

Hebah says

This one felt like a middle book. It was a charming installment, but it was definitely the setup for a concluding volume. The cats were delightful, but some of the gags like Killer's enchantments and Telemain's academic mumbo-jumbo felt a little overused.

MrsJoseph says

3 Stars

Tamika,

This series is SO incredibly cute! I have to admit that books 1 and 2 are my favorites but I think the entire series is worth the read. It is a Young Adult fantasy series that (mostly) stars a woman and has a little bit of gendered role reversal. Cute!

Caveat: Books 3 and 4 are pretty annoying and book 3 (this one) has THE WORSE ENDING. Seriously. If you decide not to read them, give me a call and I'll give you the run-down. Have water handy, lol.

<http://bookslifewine.com/r-calling-on...>

Sara Saif says

Sweet and smooth. The kind you can finish in one sitting. Loved it but the first one still remains the best. This time the spotlight belongs to Morwen, the witch who helped Cimorene and Kazul on previous occasions. She has more than half a dozen cats named like Trouble, Scorn, Miss Eliza, and she talks to all of them. She's quirky, unusual for a witch and the only one who understands what the bananas Telemain is talking about. I find the whole melting-wizards business really funny. Things got a little serious at the end. I was *not* expecting that. To make the short review long, this was really good but nothing new compared to the previous ones.

Kailey (BooksforMKs) says

I adore every book in this series! Imaginative setting, quirky characters, and an adventurous plot full of magic and dragons, secrets and intrigue.

It's just as wonderful re-reading each book as it was the first time.

Gwyn says

Yet another delightful adventure from the Enchanted Forest! I especially loved this one because the point of view switched to Morwen, whom I adore. I mean, she's a young, red haired witch who hates the traditional witchy things, has 9 hodgepodge cats with the BEST names, and grows lilacs in her garden. And she's just so no-nonsense and I love her ^_^ (unimportant but still: I really like the front cover but it's a shame Morwen has a witch's hat on as she never wore them :/) Those cats were probably my favourite aspect of the book. They were all so *catty* and it was just a joy to read. I do kind of wish she'd touched on their descriptions now and again throughout the book though, because they are all described in the beginning, but it IS hard to keep track of the physical appearances of nine different cats :P

Ahmed Ejaz says

?MY FEELINGS

This book was very interesting from the beginning. I was very gripped by this book. For once I thought this book will be the best book in this series. BUT I think this book was very predictable for me after reading its previous books.

Nevertheless, This was a very enjoyable and interesting read for me. I am satisfied that this book didn't hurt me like its second book did.

Be Alert! Don't open any spoiler if you are looking forward to read this book or you don't want any revelations. Without opening spoilers you will be safe from any hints.

I think this series follows the same pattern:

(view spoiler)

?MAJOR CHARACTERS

Mowen

Bio:

--She is the witch and always appeared in the previous books.

My feelings:

--This book focuses on her. She was adorable. I liked her way of story telling.

Cimorene

Bio:

--She is the Queen of Enchanted Forest and the wife of Mendanber, the King of Enchanted Forest

My feelings:

--As always, she is very well written. I liked her.

Telemain

Bio:

--A magician.

My feelings:

--He was adorable. I liked him in this book more then in second book.

KILLER (new)**Bio:**

--He is literally a rabbit BUT he is always the target of some weird magics Like:(view spoiler)

My feelings:

--I didn't give a bit of my attention to this character because he was so irritating. He always made unnecessary interuptions. But(view spoiler)

?OVERVIEW

Morwen finds Killer in an unusual form which is different from the typical rabbits. She assumes that maybe the effect of wizards' magic. She immediately calls Telemain to tell him that maybe wizards have come to the Forest again (*Wizards are dangerous as they absorb magic which can cause death of the Forest*). So, They tell all about this to the King and Queen of Enchanted Forest. King considers this matter and plans to solve this problem. But They find out that Mendanber's Magical Sword is missing which is necessary to keep wizards of out of Forest (*Mandenber and Telemain casted the spell in the second book which job was to keep the wizards out of the Forest. To maintain that spell Sword and Mendanber should be in the forest.*) So; Morwen, Telemain, Cimorene and Kazul go on the quest to search the Sword.

?THINGS I LIKED**Beginning**

I liked it very much. This was very interesting and the best beginning I have ever read in this series.

The Story

This was very powerful. There was a threat of lose of magic of Enchanted Forest because when the sword will be outside the Forest it will start leaking magic of the Forest.

The Ending

That was just full of suspense. That looks like the story will continue in the last book. *Feeling So Excited!*

Setting, Scenes, Dialogues & Writings Style = Awesome!

?THINGS I DIDN'T LIKE

(view spoiler)

I am very confused between 3 to 4 stars....

According to facts I mentioned above, I would like to give:

****3.5 Bright Stars** (round off to 4 stars)**

Next book will be the last book of this series. I really hope that will be a good ending of this series.

?RECOMMENDATION

I highly recommend this book to children below 10. But it will be fine for teens also.

Feel free to point out my mistakes in the review if you find any. I would be happy to see that! ^__^

Thanks for your attention!

Joy says

Although I am so reluctant to recommend books in which a Dragon is turned into a protagonist, (curious why? Excellent non-fiction on the topic of myth and popular culture today is "A Landscape With Dragons"--highly recommend it to parents who have children heavily invested in fantasy literature. You don't have to agree with all his points to realize that he is raising an issue than many parents might not even know is there. <http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10...>) I cannot help but love these books! A spunky heroine, a imaginative story line, a colorful cast of characters, and great twists on classic fairy-tale fare. And I love the hardcover art by Trina Schart Hyman (if you can find it!). Book 1 is the best, but the series is entertaining, though written for a young audience.

Clare Fitzgerald says

Calling on Dragons was possibly my favorite one of the *Enchanted Forest Chronicles* books when I was younger. It's a little bit darker and a little bit weirder than the other ones, but this is offset by a heightened number of sassy talking animals.

Calling on Dragons is told from the perspective of the witch Morwen, who has been previously established as totally awesome in the first two volumes. While it's great to hear a story from Morwen's perspective just because Morwen is awesome, the real treat here is that Morwen is the only human who can understand her cats when they talk. Morwen owns nine cats—none of whom are black—and they are fantastically catlike, filling the whole range of cat personalities from lazy to snobbish to hungry. (Fiddlesticks in particular reminds me of our own lovely dumb cat Khaleesi.)

Morwen is dealing with her usual witchy business—namely, planning a garden show and trying to avoid the whinings of a cranky traditionalist named Arona Michelear Grinogian Vamist who thinks she's not stereotypical enough—when her cats find a six-foot-tall white rabbit named Killer. Killer is not actually supposed to be six feet tall; he has accidentally gotten enchanted. In investigating Killer's size issues, Morwen also finds evidence of wizards, who are supposed to be banned from the Enchanted Forest. With the help of the nerdtastic mage Telemain, one of the architects of the spell that is supposed to stop wizards from causing trouble, Morwen reports to King Mendarbar and Queen Cimorene of the Enchanted Forest, where they discover two very important things: one, Queen Cimorene is pregnant, and two, Mendarbar's magical sword is missing.

You might think Mendarbar would be the most obvious member of the royal household to go a-questing for his sword, since it's his sword and he's not pregnant, but this is impossible due to nerdy magic reasons. (Mendarbar is predictably unhappy about this.) So Morwen, Telemain, Cimorene, Killer (who is now a floating blue donkey), Kazul the King of the Dragons, and two of Morwen's cats go a-questing to get the

sword back from the Society of Wizards instead. Killer picks up a few more unfortunate enchantments, we run into a lot of characters that make amusing meta references to other fairy tales (including one Farmer MacDonald), that annoying Vamist dude turns up again, and eventually, after many wacky hijinks and parody/metahumor/deconstruction of fairy tale conventions, the sword is retrieved. Unfortunately, they do not live happily ever after; they are instead mercilessly CLIFFHANGERED and then you have to go read the fourth book.

Rereading this book again as an adult (and being helped along by the perspective of someone who has no idea what's going on... this person, as usual, being Mark Oshiro, my #1 source of cheating on my annual book challenge and of not passing out from boredom at work), I got to re-appreciate how clever a lot of the jokes are (you know how jokes start to seem more obvious than they are when you're familiar with them), but also how some of the stuff dealt with in this book is a bit more... heavy? Real-world-y? There are a lot of ways in which this book is a little bit less about fairy tales and more about, like, regular bad people. The first two books were full of the heroes temporarily melting wizards; in this one, Kazul finally loses her patience giving them chances to regroup and starts actually eating them. Up until this point the series had really shied away from characters the reader has met actually dying. Arona Vamist is very much a garden-variety bully, conformist, and authoritarian; he's not a magical creature in any way, just a busybody using fear, lies, and social pressure to screw innocent people over in the name of abstract ideas like "tradition." And, of course, there's the ending, in which it turns out that it will take years to undo the mess the wizards left them in, rather than everything getting wrapped up in a nice shiny bow at the end of a few weeks. There's also a strong message of "don't eat random shit that you don't know what it is, particularly when people tell you not to eat it."

On the other hand, there's also cranky magic mirrors and an always-hungry floating blue donkey who keeps getting insulted by sassy cats, so it's not like the book is overall much of a downer.

Originally posted at <http://bloodygranaile.livejournal.co....>

Andrea says

A story of many magnificent cats, and one of the most annoying rabbits in all of invention.

Kaethe says

9 October, 2007

cliffhanger ending, wow

5 September, 2015

I am perhaps most inclined to love this volume because Morwen, a witch with lots of cats she can talk to and books. But that stupid rabbit is annoying as hell and just won't ever stop whining. It's like being trapped in a car with the worst toddler imaginable for eternity.

Tirzah Eleora says

I liked the third installment in the *Enchanted Forest Chronicles* better than the second. Morwen's POV was fun and we get to see lots of her cats, who were definitely some of the best secondary characters. Killer the giant blue donkey/rabbit and the fire witch (can't remember his name right now) were both great supporting cast as well and there is a lot more action.

One thing I'm not a big fan of in the sequels so far is the references to well-known fairytales. I don't recall there being any references to other stories in the first book, and in my opinion they detract from the originality of the books.

Ann says

I enjoyed "Calling on Dragons" but not nearly as much as the first two. Now, I wasn't able to read this nearly as quickly as I was the previous two, so I'm sure I lost a bit of the flow because I had to stop and start so much. But, I just felt the book plodded more than its predecessors, and that every time we got close to something interesting, the story would back off and resort to something funny, or take that climax moment and start explaining something that really didn't need to be explained in such tedious detail. It was almost like the book was written for a very young audience -- that it was explaining the events, instead of letting the readers draw the conclusions themselves. But, the characters are so much older that the typical MG or YA protagonists -- Cimorene is married and pregnant in this tale. So, it felt a little disconnected to me.

I did love the cats being such pivotal characters, and was glad to see this tale told from Morwen's perspective, but I was sad Mendenbar wasn't in it more. Also, I'm not sure how I feel about the ending... I'd think a lot of fans of Cimorene and Mendenbar might be a bit unhappy, but I'd have to wait to say for sure until I read the next installment. Which I plan to do, just not right away.

I still love the world of the Enchanted Forest, but for some reason this book didn't feel as captivating as the others.

Caitlin says

Not bad, but nowhere near as good as the first two.

In *Calling on Dragons*, the ever annoying Society of Wizards decides to become a serious threat to Mendenbar, Cimorene and the entire Enchanted Forest. They want the magic that's omnipresent in the forest and have decided that they're not going to let Mendenbar and his magic sword prevent them from getting it. So when the sword gets stolen, Cimorene, the witch Morwen, the magician Telemain, the dragon king Kazul and an assorted number of beasts including some cats and a rabbit (whose penchant for eating magical things gets him in a lot of trouble) set off to get it back before the wizards can do real damage to the forest.

This book is essentially filler and as such, it isn't overly interesting. It's not bad, mostly because the characters are still entertaining, but it's really just setting the scene for the final book in the series. While I flew through the other books, I kept checking the pages to see when this one would be over. There's also a lot of Morwen and her cats in just about every scene and since much of the story is in Morwen's point of view, we get to hear all the conversations between her and the cats. What's cute for a scene or two gets extremely old by the end of the book.

I do have to admit that I thoroughly enjoyed getting to see more of Telemain. He's your typical distracted scholar who can't help speaking in more complicated terms but he's always fun. And the fire witches were a neat touch, but even between the two I ended up having to force myself to finish it so I could read the last book. **Overall though, if you like the series, it's worth a read just to see where they're headed with the last book.**

Michaela June says

Unfortunately, most of this book is just *irritating*.

I know that part of this is that the charm of the writing wears off with each addition of the series. But I think that the author made some mistakes in this book. The biggest one (yes, I made a pun) is the inclusion of Killer the rabbit. I understand that he is important for the premise of the book, but he detracted from the rest of the story. I *think* that he is meant to be comedic, but he was just annoying the entire novel. His comments were repetitive and added nothing to plot or dialogue. And since Morwen's cats were making snarky comments through the whole story, more comedy wasn't even needed. Honestly, his portion of the dialogue just seemed like filler to add length the story. Not even the other characters could stand him.

The rest of a novel was okay, but merely okay. I didn't enjoy the story being told from Morwen's point of view as much I had expected, and part of that is because most of her life is listening to the whining of cats, dragons, donkeys, and rabbits. I did appreciate her no nonsense attitude with both Cimorene and Kazul.

One final note is that I think that this book broke from the formula from the other books. Unlike the previous two books, this book requires a sequel whereas the previous two books were solid stand alones (you could honestly read book two without book one because of the intracharacter recaps). But this book doesn't have a tidy ending like the others. That's not a bad thing, necessarily, but I felt that it broke the flow of the series. Also, from a formulaic perspective, the story shouldn't have been told from Morwen's point of view. Each of the other three books is told from the point of view of a character *new* to the series. Since we have already gotten to know her in the previous two books, we lose the exploration of a character like we get in the other stories.

Magrat Ajostiernos says

'Calling on dragons' no me ha gustado ni de lejos tanto como las dos primeras partes de la saga (mucha culpa la tiene el estúpido personaje de *Killer* ¬¬) pero aún así sigue siendo un libro infantil entrañable y divertido, además deja con ganas del cuarto y último volumen que parece que va a ser bastante diferente a los anteriores :)

Laura says

?????

For *Trouble* and *Scorn* and their other 7 feline companions who looked nothing like proper witch's cats, and for *Killer* the ever hungry rabbit turned to a bright blue six-foot donkey with wings.

They are amazing!!!
