



Wren to the Rescue

Sherwood Smith

Download now

Read Online 

Wren to the Rescue

Sherwood Smith

Wren to the Rescue Sherwood Smith

All her life Wren has hoped for an adventure. Now she has one-with a kidnapped princess, a handsome prince, and a magician. What does it matter if the princess is only Tess, her best friend from the orphanage; if the prince is a youngest son with no chance of becoming king; and the magician is an apprentice? Wren leads the other three over mountains and past killing spells, fighting battles along the way. But then she finds herself up against some shape-changing magic that may end her life as a human forever!

Wren to the Rescue Details

Date : Published May 24th 2004 by Firebird (first published 1990)

ISBN : 9780142401606

Author : Sherwood Smith

Format : Paperback 216 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Adventure, Fiction, Childrens, Middle Grade, Magic

 [Download Wren to the Rescue ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Wren to the Rescue ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Wren to the Rescue Sherwood Smith

From Reader Review *Wren to the Rescue* for online ebook

Wealththeow says

Wren is a young orphan whose bff Tess confesses that far from being an orphan too, she's actually their country's princess. The time has come for Tess to stop hiding from her parents' enemies, and she takes *Wren* along to the palace for courage and companionship. Once there, they see the king and queen--but Tess is abruptly kidnapped! While the powerful nobility gather their forces for war, *Wren* slips away unnoticed to mount her own rescue attempt. She is quickly joined by two Mage prentices, who have secrets and causes of their own. The three young would-be-heroes undertake the quest together.

The plot itself is fairly simple and straightforward. It's the characterization that shines here. *Wren* is the very definition of "pluck": stalwart and true to her friends, always resourceful and cheerful. Far too many fantasy novels [i]tell[/i] us that the companions become friends, but this quest showcases their growing trust and friendship. And I 100% bought that Tess and *Wren* had been friends since infancy, from their in-jokes to their rock-hard belief in each other.

This is a really sweet fantasy novel, particularly for tweens. There's no forced romance, but there's loads of believable, heartfelt friendships and low-key heroism.

Quicksilver_ink says

This book is one of my childhood favorites, and although it's aimed at a younger audience I still occasionally re-read it as an adult.

I found the title a little silly even when I first read it at age eleven, but the unusual name (*Wren*) drew me to at least read the summary on the back, which lead me to read the first page... and then I was hooked. *Wren* is a cheerful, energetic protagonist who immediately captured my heart, I quickly grew fond of the other youthful protagonists, and I loved reading their adventures.

However, what really made this book memorable for me was a supporting cast member who was both an adult and morally ambiguous -- even though these were both character traits I found hard to respect as a child.

At age eleven, I had never really questioned why villains did bad things, assuming they did evil for the sake of doing evil. It took this key adult character relating her childhood (her family did not speak of morality, but simply of power, and what it could accomplish) to get me questioning the characterization and motivation of antagonists. (Somewhat ironically, the Evil Emperor in this book comes off as a pretty standard "evil because he wants to be" villain.)

This character is not the only adult character I found likable in the *Wren* series. Unlike the adults in so many childrens' books that feature clueless and/or boring adults, the adult characters in this book are written as competent, complex people whose interactions with the child protagonists are marked with understanding and attention rather than condescension.

So I remember this book not only because it was fun and exciting, but because it quietly broke from the

cliches I had grown used to, and because I learned from it.

Reepacheep says

This is a wonderfully written story about a young orphan and her friends and the quest that brings them all together. I enjoyed it immensely myself and would consider reading it to my children.

Melissa says

This was a fun girls adventure book. I like it when characters have to go on a quest. The book was a little jumbuly. She adds characters that you wonder why they are here in this book, they have no relevance (the brother with the army)(the Uncle) but I think they are set up for the next book. You can tell the author has this whole world detailed out in her head and we just get a glimps of it in this book. I liked Wren she is funny, plucky and knows when to keep her mouth shut. I thought it unrealistic at first but then you discover she has her characteristic because of living in the orphanages. I will be reading the rest of this series to see how Wren does.

Jaylee says

I absolutely ADORED this series when I was a little kid. I remember thinking that while it was kind of a worn-out story (orphan girl suddenly realizes she's a princess with powers!) it was a lot more complex than other fantasy books I was reading at the time (I was all of 9. So.) There was a lot more discussion of politics and how each character had something they wanted, and those wants often conflicted. I think it was the first book I read that actually made me think about whether or not I agreed with what the "good guys" were doing, or if the "villains" were all that bad.

I really want to re-read this book and see how I feel about it as an adult. :) But I seriously LOVED these as a kid.

Theresa says

Wonderful, well-rounded, and relatable characters. Wren is imperfect but not the overused imperfectly perfect heroine. The kids are smart and spunky but not ridiculously precocious, and the adults are given their due as full characters, even the villains and antiheroes. The story sucks you in, and the world building is good.

Audrey Henning says

I just could not get into this book for some reason. When I picked it up at the library it looked very interesting to me, but as I started reading it, my mind just kept wandering. I had a hard time following what

was going on because the story moves pretty fast.

To be honest, I may try to pick this up again at some point because it really does sound like a good story, but at this point it just wasn't hitting home :/

Erin says

Re-read! I read this not too long after it first came out, when I was in 8th or 9th grade, and I've re-read it several times since. Still a cracking good adventure and a comfort read.

I wish someone would publish book 4 in this series! IIRC, Sherwood Smith has had it written for ages.

Also, re-reading it as an adult has made me want to know more about the adults, who are necessarily somewhat secondary to the kids in this one. Idres Rhiscarlan fanfic, anyone?

Andrea says

Re-reading this series as a kind of palate cleanser - so wonderful to have scads of female characters - especially ones who aren't aliens from Planet Women-Are-Inscrutable-Vixens.

Wren is indefatigable - but my fave is Idres, a powerful mage with a bad reputation.

Elentarien says

A fairly simple read and a semi-classic fantasy. Prisoner taken, questors head off to the big-bad fortress to rescue said prisoner. But still, it was a fun, and fairly light read. The children were a bit younger than I expected, but they came across well enough to be able to handle the adventure, and when the main character gets shape-changed things take an interesting little twist.

Good ending, and all comes right, as a proper story should. Nothing too heavy or dark in the story, so it was quite enjoyable for a light read.

I did find the 'modern' speech of the children a little bit odd, given the 'medieval' type world they were in, but it did make it easier to follow rather than stiff speech that one might otherwise expect.

Me says

I love this book. It's a fun book, and even though they're off delaying a giant war it's interesting. The characters all have their own quirks, and it's told in a wonderful fashion. The characters have wonderful relationships between each other and this book can't help but make you smile. I've reread this for the fifth time and it's just as joyful as the first time.

Sherwood Smith says

I wish they would show the original covers, which are so very much nicer.

This series was conceived when I was in high school. What happened was, a friend from Dutch Indonesia asked me somewhat wistfully to write a story with a heroine who wasn't tall, with pure white skin and golden hair and blue (or emerald) eyes. So I proposed writing a story about a brown girl with brown eyes and dark curly hair . . . but another friend scolded me, saying that a WASP like me should not presume to write about a minority heroine, as I did not know the least about how minority people felt while living in WASP-majority America.

So I compromised, letting Wren's stripey hair be a secret signal for the fact that she wasn't all white--in later books I slipped in her brown skin, and made her short and round, rather than tall and elfin.

I kept all that when I rewrote it for publication in 1990.

Erin Good says

Okay, I'm aware this is a children's book but it's better written than many YA and adult novels I have read. Step up your game, people. There are lots of interesting plot details woven together into a story that is fun for both younger and older readers. Good stuff!

annapi says

This series appears to be more for young adults than the Crown Duel/Court Duel duology. Wren and Tess, best friends who live in an orphanage, are around 12-13 years old when Tess tells Wren her secret - she is a princess who has been in hiding from a magician who threatens her. Now it's time to go back to her family, and she asks Wren to come along. But when Tess is kidnapped, Wren is fiercely determined to do anything she can to get her back. With the help of a prentice from the magic school and a relative of Tess', the three youngsters set off to the rescue.

A little choppy in the pacing and telling in parts, this story nevertheless was a fun and enjoyable romp. I loved the characters, who all develop nicely, and in particular Wren, who begins to show an aptitude for magic. I have enjoyed Smith's books very much so far, and look forward to Wren's next adventure.

Miriam says

I just reread this to see if it would be good for my niece. It help up pretty well to adult reading -- in fact I think I may have enjoyed it more. I can't have loved it as a kid since I didn't reread it or continue the series beyond the second book, which I don't recall the plot of. Maybe it felt too juvenile to me then (I think that was how I felt about Smith's YA books as teen, as well). Now I may actually look for more with Wren. After

all, the evil king is sure to try for revenge, and I'm curious about the mysterious party who helped him gain his unusual powers.
