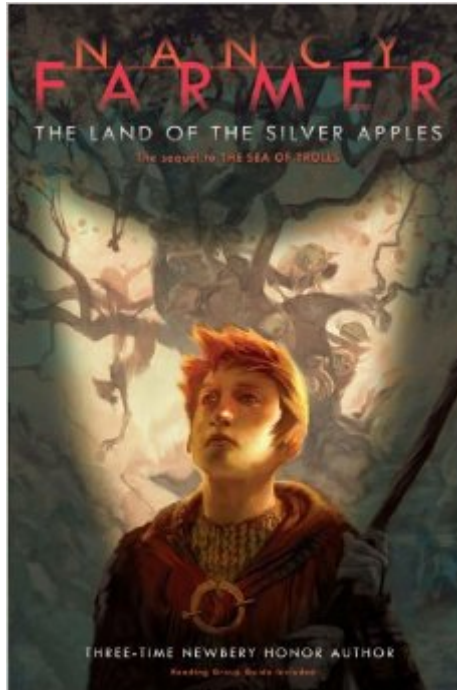


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The Land Of The Silver Apples (Richard Jackson Books (Atheneum Paperback))



Synopsis

Sometimes magic doesn't always do what one intends...especially when one is a bard-in-training. A New York Times bestseller.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710L (What's this?)

Series: Richard Jackson Books (Atheneum Paperback)

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (August 25, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 141690736X

ISBN-13: 978-1416907367

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.3 x 8.2 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #118,949 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Norse #38 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Norse #46 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Medieval

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Jack is an apprentice bard who is recently returned to his village after his adventures as a Viking captive. His village, having endured a difficult year, has decided to participate in a need-fire ceremony. All the fires in the village are extinguished and then restarted with new flame kindled from two logs rubbed against each other. This is done so that the misfortunes of the past do not linger into the new year. The ceremony goes awry when Jack's sister Lucy introduces a metal necklace into the ritual. Metal, the village's Bard warns, cannot be used in these kinds of ceremonies because one can never tell where it's been. If metal has been used as a weapon or for some other evil purpose, it perverts the life force. Believing Lucy has been possessed by an evil spirit, a group of villagers takes her to the nearby Saint Fillian's well, which is believed to cure people of possession. What they find there shocks and horrifies Jack, who inadvertently offends the spirit of the place. He accidentally causes an earthquake and all the water in the surrounding area to

disappear. It is finally decided that Jack and the other young companions --- Lucy; Pega, a freed slave so ugly people believe she is cursed; and Brutus, a charismatic descendent of Lancelot -- should travel the Hollow Road to the realm of the elves and request the water's return. Children, the Bard explains, are young enough to resist the lure of elves. "It's a curious thing, but this is one area where children are stronger than adults," he says. "They aren't as easily taken in by illusions, and elves above all else, are masters of illusion." THE LAND OF THE SILVER APPLES is not the first book to set children on a perilous journey underground.

The lady held out her arms, and Lucy ran. Jack tried to catch her and so did Father, but he was too injured to stand. The elf lady swept Lucy up and, with a triumphant cry, leaped into the waters. The last of the stream slithered over the edge like the tail of a snake and disappeared. Jack is a 13 year old boy, who is getting trained by the Bard. He has done miraculous things in his young life, and has been on great adventures. When Jack performs an earthquake out of rage, Lucy who is Jack's sister gets taken by the Lady of the Lake. Lucy is stolen from Jack for the second time in his life. Jack once again has a mission to save his little sister and to get water back to King Yffi's kingdom. The blame was on Jack when all the water has been taken by the Lady of the Lake, and King Yffi sent Jack down the trail to Elfland, to somehow get the water back from her. He never knew that he would encounter many more adventures involving elves, hobgoblins, kelpies and more. Will Jack save his sister, even with the surprising information he received about her? And will he be able to restore the water to King Yffi's Kingdom? The title is another name for Elfland, which is where Jack is for a while in this book. He also is in the Hobgoblin's home and King Yffi's kingdom. Jack is always on the move or trying to escape in this book, so he's in a lot of places traveling to fulfill his missions. The time was a while ago, in about 790 AD. It is written in a debate about Christianity. Jack's family is all Christian, but the Bard doesn't believe in it. Jack is still trying to figure out where he lays as far as religion. The pacing is at a steady pace throughout the book. Nancy Farmer is a great author. I loved all of her books, and think that she has great writing technique.

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