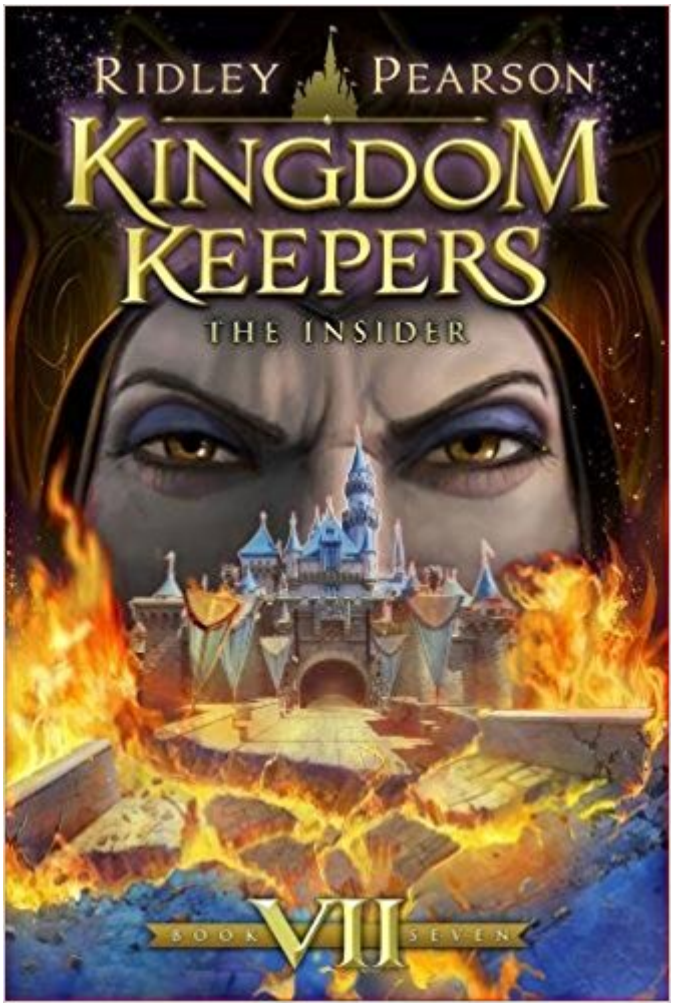
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Kingdom Keepers VII: The Insider



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Synopsis

The Kingdom Keepers' senior year in high school is almost over. For more than three years, things have been quiet. Their battles are long behind them, they agree, the threat to the Disney realm silenced albeit at great cost. But inside the catacombs of the Aztec temple where Finn Whitman faced down his nemesis, the monstrous Chernabog, a new threat brews.Deception and betrayal rock the Kingdom Keepers as the merciless group of Disney villains known as the Overtakers stage an unexpected comeback. But a discovery by the Keepers provides them with one hope of victory-a lost icon. It was believed to be gone forever. The Keepers have one last chance to preserve the heart of the Kingdom-Disneyland-from a terrifying destruction decades in the making.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Kingdom Keepers saga concludes with the final battle between the forces of good and evil. Three years have passed since the Keepers last had to squash the efforts of the Overtakers (Dark Passage, 2013), but not much has changed when it comes to this series. The characters remain flat, and the adventure continues to seem less like a cohesive story and more like a string of incidents on which Pearson can hang as many nods to beloved Disney characters as possible. Fans will surely thrill at the endless parade of references and action set pieces, but no one will be excited by the stock teenage melodrama. It's hard to care about who's in love with whom and who's jealous of whom when there's an epic battle between the Card Soldiers and Small World dolls going

on in the background. The author certainly serves his Disney paymasters well. From the Evil Queen in Snow White to Elsa in Frozen, all eras of Disney are represented. Whether this feels like coldblooded corporate synergy or clever mining of history is up to individual readers, but it’s hard not to like a book that features a fight between the evil Jafar and Pumbaa at least a little. Surreal, bizarre and enchanting. (Fantasy. 10-14) KirkusReviews.com"The final installment of the Kingdom Keepers series opens with Tia Dalma, the formidable voodoopracticing witch, winding her way through the Devil’s Labyrinth, a rat-infested underground chamber in which she has been imprisoned. She escapes, liberates the beast Chernabog, and transports him to Anaheim in hopes of destroying Disneyland and the "good magic" within it. The five teenagers who have been charged with protecting the park are ready for the pair and battle against them, as well as many other villains of familiar Disney films. The action in scenes occasionally falls flat, and readers accustomed to strong female protagonists may feel dismayed by the sometimes stereotypical depictions of girls. Nevertheless, descriptions of the antagonists are notably rich and evocative, and this will appeal to established fans of the series, who will welcome the conclusion enthusiastically and no doubt appreciate the unbridled adventure they have come to expect from this author. - Julie Hanson Booklist Online" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ridley Pearson is the award-winning author of multiple adventure series for (young-ish) readers, including The Kingdom Keepers, Steel Trapp, and with Dave Barry, Peter and the Starcatchers. Ridley is also a best-selling crime novelist of more than 25 titles. Pearson was the first U.S. citizen to be awarded the Raymond Chandler/Fulbright Fellowship in Detective Fiction at Oxford University. In 2013, Ridley was awarded Missouri’s Quill Award and inducted into that state’s Writers Hall of Fame. As a "full time dad and husband," Ridley, along with his wife, Marcelle, live with their two teenage daughters in St. Louis, MO.

Ok, I have to say it really hurts to rank this book so low. I have read all the others in the series and loved them, but this one has taken a serious spin for the worse. The first thing I can’t get past is the switch to present tense for all the writing. Past tense worked great for all the others, why the change up? It felt like someone else was writing it, like bad fan fiction off an unofficial site. Then, upon reading up on it, I found out that it actually WAS partly written by others doing just that. Unfortunately, it really shows. I liked the authors writing style in the other books, and this one feels as if the author ran out of ideas and just opened it up for others to write in the absence of knowing how to end the series. So sad that a great series was ruined by the "last" book.

I have read all the Kingdom Keepers books and have thoroughly enjoyed every one of them. But find this last book the best of the run because the end fight is in Disneyland, the first Disneyland Park. This is the big one. Not only do the Overtakers (the Disney Villains are attempting to take over the Magic of Walt Disney and destroy the original Theme Park) but again are thwarted in their evil plans by The Kingdom Keepers. These books are so well done because the author has an amazing background of what goes on in all the Disney Theme Parks plus the Disney Cruise Line, that you feel like you are right there with them.These books do require a bit of open imagination because things happen here that just don't happen in the real world. Or do they? You have to suspend reality and believe that real magic exists within the Disney Parks. Audioanimatronic Characters can come to life. The Villains are out to destroy the good magic of Disney to there won evil ambitions. With villains like Maleficent, The Evil Queen, Cruella De Ville and Chernabog involved our teenaged heroes are in for the battle of their lives. See this is where you have to suspend your thinking and just go with it. The Kingdom Keepers that were hired by Disney Imagineers for a new project that would provide holographic projection of these 5 kids into the Parks as guides for the guests. The only problem for the kids involved is that once the program goes into operation, they can never enter the Parks again. But of course once everything goes wrong, they have to enter to solve the crisis. There is a lot to these books that is pure fun and lots of action with fear for them. It's and entertaining look at behind the scenes and adventure and a little romance along the way. These kids have been to all the WDW Parks, the Cruise line with the big finale taking place within the original Disneyland in Anaheim, California. This the last book of the Kingdom Keepers but not for the kids. They are now be graduated to Imagineering. I have no idea what will happen in the new series, but I am looking forward to reading these characters new adventures. The 7 books should be read in order as each succeeding book makes references to what has gone on in previous books. Being a Disney Theme Park fan myself, I have read and loved each book and highly recommend them. Great fun.

I read this series to review it before reading it to a grandchild (age 9). I thought it was very good and am now on Book III with him and have started The Return for myself. We love that we can relate to places we have been, rides and attractions we are familiar with, and characters we love. It keeps his attention and he begs me to read it to him (yes, he could read it for himself but it is something we are sharing.) The main characters of the books start out just a little older than he is now so he can relate to them. They are great kids and are wonderful role models. The books take on a darker

aspect as they progress and I would advise parents to know and understand that about the books.

It’s been three years since we last saw the Kingdom Keepers - three years since the events in a Mexican jungle. In fact, Finn and the others are about to graduate from high school.Then the attack comes. The five friends are quickly crossed over to battle a group of Overtakers trying to break into the achieves - a group lead my Wayne. Wait, what? But the real threat is coming toward Disneyland. Will the group be able to stop the Overtakers once and for all?I have felt this series has been uneven (in fact the last book was the weakest), but I am glad to say I found this one to be much better. Yes, it did feel a bit too long at times, but for the most part, the plot moved forward at a steady pace. It was nice to see the characters acting as friends more than they have in the past books. I even found myself tearing up a few times as the book progressed.I’ve always wondered why we didn’t see more of the good characters in this series, and I was pleased that more of them appeared in this book. That was a nice touch that I hope continues in the follow up series.For now, fans who have followed these characters through six previous books will be glad to know how the initial struggle against the Overtakers ends.

I love the kingdom Keepers series and could hardly wait for this to come out and be able to read it. It did not disappoint. It was especially fun to read since we have been to Disney World and on that exact Disney Cruise Ship to image it in my mind as I read the book. this was very fun and would recommend it to anyone who likes mysteries and is a Disney fan. This is about teen-agers who can transport into the parks at night....when the characters come to life, and the villains try to take over. I think it may been been targeted for teen-agers...but as an adult...I loved it too.

A good conclusion, oops, it ends up not being the conclusion, even though it states its the conclusion. The next book is just a gold-digging way to try to acquire more money. The new book, as well as this on, is SO full of miss-statekees (done on purpose) that it is hard to read. The editing is obviously gone in the toilet or is non-existing. Chapters flap-back-and-forth without rhyme nor reason. This author is no longer interested in writing a good story, just get it out the door so that he can get money!!!! Sorry, that my opinion!!!

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