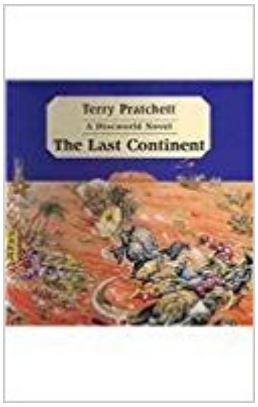
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The Last Continent (Discworld Novels (Audio))



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Synopsis

Discworld’s last continent, a completely separate creation, is a hot, dry place where everything is poisonous. All that stands betwen this place and wind-blown doom is Rincewind, an inept wizard who is the only hero left.

Book Information

Series: Discworld Novels (Audio)

Audio CD: 10 pages

Publisher: ISIS Audio Books; Unabridged edition (April 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0753107422

ISBN-13: 978-0753107423

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 1.6 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 193 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,901,165 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > (P) > Pratchett, Terry #5377 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction #6462 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

Customer Reviews

Terry Pratchett’s 22nd Discworld novel, The Last Continent, is a lighthearted tour of the fantasy land of Fourecks, a very Australian sort of place, with brief courses in theoretical physics and evolution thrown in for good measure. Pratchett returns to his first Discworld protagonist, the inept and cowardly wizard Rincewind, who habitually runs into trouble as fast as he flees. Rincewind’s arrival in Fourecks has distorted the space-time continuum, and he has to sort it out before the whole place dries up and blows away. The situation is complicated because the actual problem is located 30,000 years in the past--just where the Faculty of the Unseen University currently are. Pretty frightening, given "the true wizard’s instinct to amble aimlessly into dangerous places," and then "stop and argue ... about exactly what kind of danger it [is]." If you’re baffled by all this, no worries, mate. You needn’t have read Pratchett before--not even the five previous Discworld novels starring Rincewind (The Colour of Magic, The Light Fantastic, Sourcery, Eric, and Interesting Times)--to enjoy this latest romp. Nor to have visited Australia. When you finish, however, you’ll likely want to rush out and do both. --Nona Vero --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"'Pratchett's humour takes logic past the point of absurdity and round again, but it is his unexpected insights into the human morality that make the Discworld series stand out'" Times Literary Supplement "' Pratchett is a comic genius'" Daily Express "The perfect read" Evening Standard "Delightful...glassful and downright mischevious. The pleasures on the page are so quirkily seductive. Puts one in mind of one of the greatest comic writers of them all PG Wodehouse'" Sunday Telegraph "A minor masterpiece. I laughed so much I fell from my armchair'" Time Out --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This was an great story with some interesting and unexpected turns. I loved the talking kangaroo, and the two Creator characters. The wizards are once again the Keystone Kops of the story, bumbling their way into a different time and place through a window in the bedroom of a missing professor, then bumbling their way back to their own time and place, accidentally inventing surfing and duckbilled platypuses in the interim. Meanwhile, Rincewind is lost. He is so lost. But his luck is, as usual, coincidentally perfect, and he always seems to do the right thing, even when it doesn't seem so at the time. He seems to know in an instant how to take advantage of any situation, and the kangaroo gives him a lot of help. No worries. He accidentally invents vegemite (or something very similar), meets a real drop bear, and nearly gets hanged for stealing a sheep he didn't steal--but as with Mr. Cheeky in "Life of Brian", someone always comes along to rescue him. In this story, a wagonload of drag queens comes along just at the right time. There were several laugh-out-loud moments in this book for me, and I'm not one to laugh much at Pratchett's awful puns. There were lots of creative ideas, too. But I don't want to spoil it. It's a fun read, paced as the Discworld books usually are: painfully slow at the beginning, picking up the pace and tension about halfway through, then really action-paced in the next 25% of the book, with the last 5% reserved for tying up loose ends and character curtain calls.

Ahh! Now this is another Rincewind favorite! Sadly I had not read this one so this is a first time for me and I loved it! I've never been to Australia, which Terry Pratchett says this book is nothing about by the way, but after reading this I think it would be fun to venture over there.In this one Rincewind is at his best. He's once again told that HE and only he can save the Discworld but he's having none of it. Saving worlds puts you into a lot of danger! He's tired of being in danger and just wants to get home! It's funny because I do not think Rincewind would exactly call himself lucky, but there is a bit of luck on his side here. Just when he's about to die of dehydration he trips, falls, and lands

face first into a pond of water. Every time! Someone is looking out for him, even if it isn't Rincewind himself!The funny thing is, he has not learned that the harder you try to run away the faster you get to where you do not want to be. And I'm impressed with just how oblivious he is to the lives around him! Of course it does not really matter because he accepts everyone for who they are anyway, but it does add some hilarity into this one.It's not all about Rincewind though. The Librarian has a nasty case of a cold which keeps changing his shape into various things that blend in with his environment. Because of this the wizards from Unseen University want to help him but the only wizard that knows The Librarian enough to know his real name is Rincewind. He is also the wizard that Ponder Stibbons accidentally sent to XXXX. No way to cure The Librarian and no way to get to Rincewind? That is not going to stop a bunch of wizards! They find themselves on their own little adventure, way away from UU and have to deal with Gods that are creating evolution, sharks, and a very good looking housekeeper!It is a rare day when I do not laugh at a Terry Pratchett novel, but this one had my sides splitting! It was read wonderfully and I not only listened to it once but loved it so much that I wound up listening again! This is one that I'll listen to every year.If you are a Rincewind fan you will definitely not want to pass this one up. Terry Pratchett at his best!Sadly, I am ending the Rincewind series with this one. Later I'm going to go back and read The Last Hero which is a graphic novel. I'm looking forward to another Rincewind story!

How does Terry Pratchett manage to write books that are both hilarious and profound? "Logic is a wonderful thing but doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t always beat actual thought" is from The Last Continent. In the intro he says it's not about Australia, really, just about someplace Australia-like. He must have had a heck-uv-an interesting trip to the Round World (tm) Australia to write this book. In this installment of Rincewind the Wizzard's adventures, the cowardly Rincewind is tasked with saving, not the Discworld, but the dry, isolated continent of Ecks-Ecks-Ecks-Ecks, from the unwitting interference in its weather by the wizards of Unseen University, who are trying to cure the Librarian of an instability in his morphic function (every time he sneezes, he changes form, for example, into a red furry armchair). The wizards have gotten lost in the past searching for the Professor of Cruel and Unusual Geography, Rincewind invents the cork-bobble hat, the Luggage, having been unearthed by opal miners, falls in with a traveling group of transvestite..., well, no, I'll let you find out about that yourselves. Don't forget to read the footnotes.

If you like Terry Pratchett, this spoof on the populating and saving of Australia, with a lot of comedy and magic, is, in my opinion, one of his best. As to Pratchett, in a recent survey of Brits, he was

chosen as the best British author of all time heading a list of 100, over competition like Jane Austen, Charles Dickens and William Shakespeare. Riotously funny, with insights flowing from all over history and science. Madcap humor but with an intellectual overtone. What more could one ask?

It’s Terry Pratchett, it is awesome, but that’s kind of a given. Not sure why but this one has had me busting out laughing even more than most of his titles and they are all amazing. :)

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