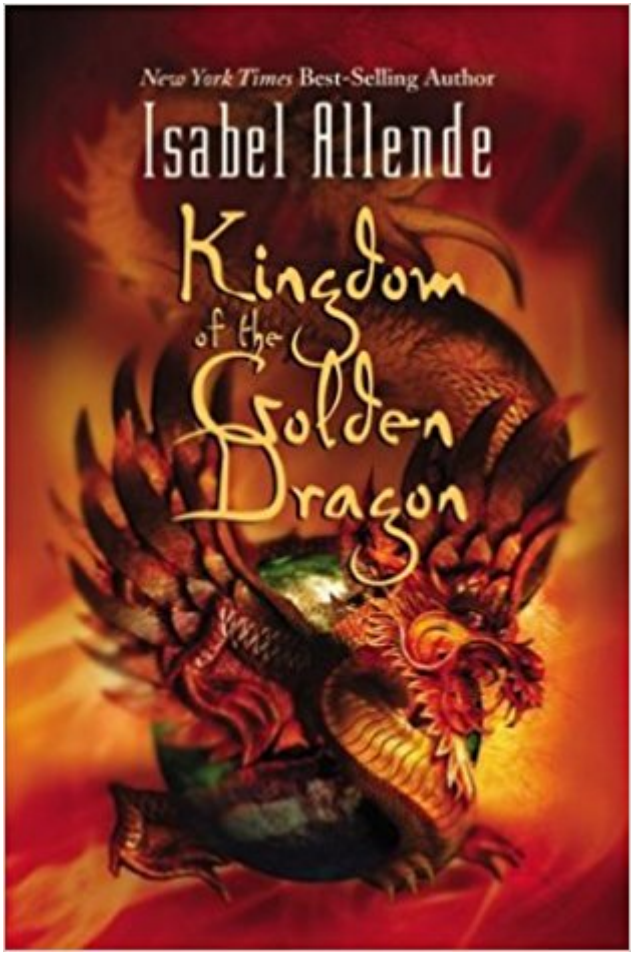
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Kingdom Of The Golden Dragon



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Synopsis

Not many months have passed since teenager Alexander Cold followed his bold grand-mother into the heart of the to uncover its legendary Beast. This time, reporter Kate Cold escorts her grandson and his closest friend, Nadia, along with the photographers from International Geographic, on a journey to another remote niche of the world. Entering a forbidden sovereignty tucked in the frosty peaks of the Himalayas, the team's task is to locate its fabled Golden Dragon, a sacred statue and priceless oracle that can foretell the future of the kingdom. In their scramble to reach the statue before it is destroyed by the greed of an outsider, Alexander and Nadia must use the transcendent power of their totemic animal spirits -- Jaguar and Eagle. With the aid of a sage Buddhist monk, his young royal disciple, and a fierce tribe of Yeti warriors, Alexander and Nadia fight to protect the holy rule of the Golden Dragon. Isabel Allende once again leads readers on a fantastical voyage of suspense, magic, and awe-inspiring adventure in this riveting follow-up to City of the Beasts.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 55 customer reviews

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 5-8-Buddhist monk Tensing and his disciple, Prince Dil Bahadur, are journeying through the Himalayan peaks in search of healing plants when they come face to face with a tribe of once-fierce Yetis. These legendary half-human, half-ape monsters inhabit a lush valley heated by thermal pools and hot springs and are unaware that it's the toxic minerals in the water that has weakened them

and slowed their rate of reproduction. Meanwhile, 16-year-old Alexander Cold; his intrepid writer/explorer grandmother, Kate; and his soul mate, Nadia Santos, daughter of the guide who led Kate and Alex on their previous expedition into the South American rain forest, described in City of the Beasts (HarperCollins, 2002),are off on a new International Geographic expedition. They are headed for the Kingdom of the Golden Dragon, a small, isolated sovereignty in the Himalayas. Criminals are on the same flight; they intend to steal the Golden Dragon, the fabulous jewel-encrusted statue that is both a symbol and a guide for the country, and to abduct its king to interpret the statue's oracular predictions. All of these characters are about to come together in another breathtaking Indiana Jones-style adventure. When Nadia is one of a group of young girls kidnapped by mercenaries, Tensing, Dil Bahadur, and even the Yetis become involved in the rescue. Allende combines empathetic young characters; exciting adventures; and an intelligent, sympathetic look at cultures, customs, and creatures of a remote and fairly unknown area. This is a must-read for fans of the first book, but it stands completely on its own. The biggest question readers are left with at the end is simply, where will these three go next?-Susan L. Rogers, Chestnut Hill Academy, PA Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Gr. 7-12. This sequel to City of the Beasts (2002) is not as good as the first book. Here, contrived coincidence goes far beyond the magical realism. Sixteen-year-old Alexander accompanies his tough grandmother on another International Geographic expedition. This time they are in the Himalayas, and, somehow, Alexander's friend Nadia Santos from the is with them. High in the mountains are the Yetis, who behave like "crazed orangutans." They help Alexander and the good guys in their fight against American corporate villains, who employ bloodthirsty bandits to kidnap the king and steal a golden dragon from the Forbidden Kingdom. Alexander and Nadia join the young heir to the kingdom and his wise Buddhist mentor, and the evil is finally conquered using a mix of telepathy, technology, guns, and Tao-shu. There's an overload of travelogue detail, but the Himalayan setting is thrilling, and the second half of the novel speeds up with breathless action and some truly surprising revelations. The realistic scenes between Alexander and his acerbic, loving grandma are the best part of the book; it's a pity there isn't more of that. Hazel RochmanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

Although written for young adults, this book - and the entire trilogy - took me away from my 52 year old body and into an exquisite adventure. Of course, I also believe that Isabel Allende is a sublime

writer with a brilliant imagination. If it’s fiction and she’s the writer, it will be an exquisite read - regardless of the intended audience.

I originally read this in Spanish class in high school. I was so immersed in the book I wound up finishing before others. The details with characters and the story line are amazing! And no I’m not spoiling anything, get this is read for yourself :)

I did not expect to read a young adult fiction when I ordered this book, but it seems clear to me that Allende left behind the complex sociology, interpersonal relationships of her previous epics. The extensive vocabulary is gone, making it easily accessible to young readers. A book of fantasy.

Magical, surprising and beautifully written.Isabel Allende weaves an exciting and challenging narrative. It is mystical in its setting and themes yet juxtaposed with the 21 century which adds an interesting contrast to ancient traditions.

When I picked up the first part of this trilogy, City of the Beasts, I didn’t know what to expect, but was soon enchanted by the spiritual ideas that presented in an easy-to-read novel. The second part, Kingdom of the Golden Dragon, continues to take the reader on a spiritual journey into different cultures, and different ways of thinking. In an age where most people are obsessed by material wealth and technological advances, it is nice to see a novel for young readers that puts this western thinking into contrast with tribal (in City of the Beasts) and spiritual (Buddhism in Kingdom of the Golden Dragon).Like in the first book, the main characters are Alexander, a youth from California, and Nadia, a young girl Alexander met on his first adventure in the . Together, with Alex’s grandmother Kate, who writes for the International Geographic, they venture to the Forbidden Kingdom. Nestled in the himalayas, this kingdom is cut of from civilization as we know it, and is run by a wise buddhist ruler. Legend says that it is home of the Golden Dragon, a statue said to be able to tell the future.Meanwhile, the second richest man of the US, a computer genius, hires "The Specialist" to steal exactly this dragon, hoping to become the richest man in the States. During a ceremony for the king, 6 girls, among them Nadia, are kidnapped. Alexander, who has a hunch that it may be connected with the Golden Dragon, ventures out to find the girls.What unfolds is an adventurous battle between the two young heros with the king’s son and master as well as an army of yetis, against the sect of the scorpion and "the Specialist."The book is a beautiful introduction into buddhism as well a shamanism (the two heros are able to separate their spirit from their body and

turn into their totemic animals). The only complaint I have is that the main villain was too easily to identify, especially after reading City of the Beasts. Instead of spinning a new plot of the mastermind, Allende basically re-used the villain of the first part.

I’m a fan of Allende so I bought this book for my grand kids but ended up reading it myself. So far we all love it, it’s hard to put down. I recond it you won’t be disappointed.

Can’t go wrong with Isabel Allende!

More of a teen level novel that gets tiresome at times with the many repetitions of things to ensure you "get it". It is tipicall Isabel Allende style as of late.

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