



Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams

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AFTER HE'D GOT HIS HEAD ROUND ALL THAT

Tarquin's life became a little complicated.

Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams Details

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Author : Peter Ford

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From Reader Review Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams for online ebook

Carl Daoust says

If you were to mix together Alice in Wonderland, Harry Potter, Doctor Who and the Time Tunnel, and add solid doses of imagination and creativity over 12 years, you would get TARQUIN JENKINS AND THE BOOK OF DREAMS, an outstanding fantasy/sci-fi novel that stands tall on its own. The main time-travel theme is handled deftly, allowing for the re-visitation and re-interpretation of key historical figures and events as the protagonist searches for the Book of Dreams. The character set is eclectic and many have names reminiscent of prominent figures in pop culture (I burst into laughter when I came upon Baron Arnold von Schwarzenegger, Alice Cooper and Captain Kirk). The writing is impeccable—made me think of Lewis Carroll's style. There are about 135K words, so take your time reading this gem of a book. Congratulations, Peter!

Flor says

I received this copy in exchange for an honest review via booktasters on twitter, thank you.

Here we follow the story of Tarquin Jenkins a boy that one surprising day discovers that his family is part of the time traveling people and he has the chance to follow their path by training with them.

It's a very enjoyable story with solid characters and a really well setting. I couldn't help but love every time the author introduced us to an old new famous figures. There's plenty to choose, we got Leonardo Da Vinci, some Founding fathers and even The Beatles, just to mention some.

And that pic of the future was really nice, i would love to have a futuristic rocola and why not? My own personal robot with the voice of my choice.

It's a time traveling story so we get to go to past, present and future with the characters in a very funny and joyful way. And that Doctor Who references, pure gold. Definitely a good one.

Akahayla says

A really fun and interesting read. Full review coming on my blog soon

Caroline says

Tarquin Seebom Jenkins is no ordinary boy: his parents have disappeared and he is in the care of his unsympathetic aunt and uncle. One day he receives a bizarre and unbelievable offer: train as a time traveller. He is catapulted into a world of aliens, leprechauns, other futuristic time travellers and a mystery seemingly

left him by his parents. From the Tower of London to the Houses of Parliament, his adventures range far and wide. Meanwhile, we learn more about the evil Griddleback race and their quest to change human history. I enjoyed the concept and the writing was good: the narrative carried you along effortlessly. I did think the sections with Tarquin worked better than the others with more peripheral characters and sometimes the plot moved so quickly I wasn't sure what was going on. I also think there were too many characters: a few could have been omitted or amalgamated without damaging the story. I wondered if this was really material for more than one book - Georgia the space pirate probably deserves her own book to be honest! An amusing read that I think older kids would enjoy.

I received this from the author, via Booktasters in exchange for an honest review.

Natalie says

We follow 15 year old Tarquin Jenkins as he learns to travel through time and uses his vast history knowledge to get himself into trouble. Tarquin's parents were also time travelers, and Tarquin's uncle Jules is in on a plot to learn what Tarquin's parents knew and find the clues they've hidden. And a journal Tarquin found in 1671 might just be the key to what everyone is looking for.

A fun and wonderfully quirky read, Tarquin Jenkins' adventures are filled with references to thrill every pop-culture geek, and follows in the footsteps of Tarquin's fellow space and time travelers. In Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams, it's hilarious to see imagined personas of such figures as King Charles II, Sir Isaac Newton, and Alice Cooper; not to mention the creatures impersonating other people like leprechauns and Hillary Clinton, the android who "became" Madonna, and the Griddleback droid General Washington.

The plot relies heavily on backstory and things that happened years ago, but it's all explained relatively well. There were just some instances where the story would have been more impactful coming from a character who was directly affected by it. Georgia Blade's tragic past is the one that jumps to mind; it's great that we learned about her past, but we should have heard it from her. When Seamus tells her story, there's no emotion to it, and I guarantee that would not have been the case if we heard from Georgia instead.

Elizabeth Ramsay says

Reminiscent of Terry Pratchett's whimsy with a touch of Piers Anthony's punish follies, Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams is a rollicking ride. Peter Ford, with a nod to Doctor Who, creates time machines that travel through wormholes and are bigger on the inside. Tarquin begins the novel as a thirteen-year-old mourning the loss of his parents and living with his Aunt Mira and Uncle Harold in the retirement village of Steeple Snoring. With a light touch for the absurd Ford begins his novel by inviting Tarquin to a Teddy Bear picnic at the Enchanted Teapot Tea Rooms. Once there his Uncle Jules recruits Tarquin as a time travelling tour guide and Tarquin's adventures begin.

Tarquin spends the next two years under the tutelage of Jeremiah Cavendish as he learns the secrets of time travel with the help of Mrs. Beeton's Books of Household Management and Needlepoint. After an insane trip to 1671 that nearly kills him and nets him a mysterious journal, he is sent to 2340 to join Jules. Once there he learns that the tour guide school is a cover for training secret agents who protect Earth's history from the infamous Griddlebacks and Leche. Tarquin meets Rhia at the school and, though she is unaware of the school's secret purpose, he soon finds himself confiding in the pretty girl. At the school Tarquin and Rhia translate the journal, the original of which is now in the hands of Tarquin's Aunt Polidori, and find a strange

key in a bobble head doll of Jules. Tarquin decides to stay in the 24th century and is sent home to the 21st century to tie up loose ends. In Steeple Snoring, Rhia meets a sticky end and Jules risks his career to save Tarquin's life. Tarquin is the only one who can find the Book of Dreams and control the amulet of time. He will now stop at nothing to do so since Rhia's life depends on it.

Ford provides a time travelling space odyssey full of evil aliens, pirates, secrets agents, Russians, and leprechauns. For most of the action Tarquin is fifteen and, like most fifteen-year-olds, thinks he knows everything. He spends much of his adventures nearly dying and the real heroics are left to the pirates and leprechauns. In fact, the central part of the story occurs while Tarquin is in the hospital recovering from the Griddleback attack on the Enchanted Teapot. Archie and Alice, trainee secret agents, enlist the help of Georgia Blade and her wrecking crew of clurichauns. They travel to the Boston Tea party and capture a Griddleback prince. This proves the Griddlebacks are tampering with human history and frees Jules. It is unusual to have a hero who is absent for so much of the stories action. Tarquin can be read better as the story's instigator than as its hero. This is a true team novel with not one main character, but many. The cast is chaotic and at times crowded. Ford manages to keep it from becoming too crowded by providing defining characteristics for all his main characters and by giving a reference guide at the beginning of the book. The one sticking point in an otherwise fantastic novel is the names. Names are often puns, such as the Yelts Inn or Shagganat. Which is fine, everyone teenage boy loves puns and this novel's main audience is undeniably teenage boys, but to use puns as names normally suggests that the person or object will be characterized by that name. That doesn't seem to be the case here and it is a low-level irritant throughout the novel. If it is supposed to be the case it should be made clearer. If not the puns should be either dropped or used differently. Other than that minor issue this novel is a great find. Like any truly great piece of writing the novel manages to transcend its genre to speak to all readers. If you like adventure novels, Terry Pratchett, or the absurd pick up a copy of Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams.

Keep Calm Novel On says

The author via Booktasters provided a copy of the eBook in exchange for an honest review.

At fifteen Tarquin Jenkins is determined to time travel. This original character immediately draws the reader into his world. He is a positive force and is unstoppable. This fast paced read is filled with imaginary and legendary historical characters—Leonardo Da Vinci, American presidents, Alice Cooper, The Beatles, Captain Kirk to name a few.

Tarquin and his friends must locate the Book of Dreams in order to destroy the dangerous amulet. His problem solving skills are creative. The descriptive action scenes brilliantly come to life. This well written novel is layered with fantastical adventure, humor and well developed characters. The Dramatis Personae is a useful character reference.

Tarquin Jenkins and the Book of Dreams by Peter Ford will be enjoyed by readers of all ages. The journey is not over. Looking forward to Book Two.

Anelise says

In this book, you follow a 15 year old boy named Tarquin Jenkins as he searches for the Book of Dreams to destroy an amulet of immense power. Along the way, he meets many different people, some friends and some enemies. Of course, searching for a book and an amulet is pretty hard when you add in time travel.

There will be many different people in this story that you will meet including, but not limited to, Isaac Newton, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, crazy robots, The Beatles, and Leonardo Da Vinci.

You will get to go on an amazing journey filled with humor, action, adventure, and of course, craziness. It will probably be impossible to put this book down after you start reading. It was for me, at least. This was a great work and cannot wait for the sequel, Peter!

Bee Baum says

...A hell of a ride! This story is just packed, packed, packed. I can't even start to refer. There are so many threads, interesting characters, fascinating plots and a helter-skelter journey through time and history and pop-culture and philosophy and so much more. It's funny, it's speedy, intelligent and captivating and most of all: the author seems to know his Douglas Adams, Terry Pratchett, Michael Ende and Jasper Fforde. Unfortunately three of them are walking a different dimension now and Peter Ford and Jasper Fforde are holding the candle.

It was Michael Ende who said that he didn't write for a specific audience. People would find and read his books regardless of their age or other classifications. So Peter Ford follows the tradition of telling a tale for its own sake. Everybody gets something: I found the explanation for the trouble this world seems unable to get itself out of. It's simple and so revealing. It's the Griddlebacks! They amplify our traits that lead to self-destruction for their own diabolic interests. Hm.....where have I heard about this before?

The book gave me an experience close to a brain orgasm (that's a condition...seriously!). Everytime I started to read a multitude of universes opened up and there was a lot of sparkling and swirling involved.

Now I want more.

Alpha Omega says

I've read quite a few books in my time and very few of them caught my attention like this one. It feels like a combination of Harry Potter and Lord of The Rings with a time travel twist. You get to experience several key historical moments such as the stealing of the Crown Jewels to exploring the futuristic year of 2340. The character naming in the story is also very unique and humorous. With names like Smoldius D. Munchfumble, who wouldn't laugh? The story moves at a relatively fast pace, but not too fast for you to not follow. The vocabulary is above average, but not hard to understand. I only found a handful of words that I had to look up the meanings. If you love Time travel, science fiction and/or fantasy, then this story is definitely for you. 9/10.

Peter Ford says

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UNFORTUNATELY

nobody told him about the bloodsucking Leche, the leprechauns, the other leprechauns, the killer androids, the extremely rude waitress, Nostradamus, Leonardo da Vinci, the malfunctioning toaster, the Zargothian legal system, the Bloated Shagganat nightclub, the psychopathic Griddleback hordes, and a flame-haired, one-eyed space pirate called Georgia Blade

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Ric Gray says

What I particularly liked was the pace of the book I felt I was moving at speed but not being rushed. The characters are wonderful and described beautifully. I was impressed that violent scenes were described graphically unlike other works of this genre and made the whole thing more real and adult. I roared with laughter, was choked with emotion and thoroughly enjoyed a very well crafted story.

Ashton Montes says

What do you get when a 15 year old boy learns how to time travel? An amazing adventure full of the wildest moments and plenty of action. Follow Tarquin Jenkins, a time traveling 15 year old with a habit of stealing things from history, as he travels in time with his friends to find the Book of Dreams in order to destroy the dangerous amulet. Of course nothing involving time travel is ever that simple. Tarquin makes many new friends and enemies along the way. Doing crazy things such as meeting talking bears, swimming in sewage, almost dying (twice!), making a 'Homer Simpson' with Issac Newton, running into some of the most famous U.S. President's, fighting a waitress, saving George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, knocking out Leonardo Da Vinci, and getting kidnapped with The Beatles, Tarquin and his friends will take you on a journey you won't ever forget. A must read for anyone who enjoys a book full of fantasy, supernatural creatures, comedy, action, adventure, and a lot of craziness. This story is hilarious and instantly draws you in while leaving you begging for more. Warning: Once you start this book it will be practically impossible to put down. I loved this story and can't wait until the next one comes out. Great work Peter!

Julie Rogers says

This was a book full of rollicking good fun. When Tarquin Jenkins learns about time travel at the age of 15, he's off to great adventures exploring the past and appropriating a few historical artifacts along the way. But things turn serious when he visits the future and learns his uncle's time tourism business is more than it seems. When he finds out about the Book of Dreams and an amulet that makes time travel much easier, he's suddenly entered into a battle between the races to find and control this item. However, he does have a leg up in that his missing father has left him clues that he has been raised to decipher...however with so many forces on his heels, will the advantage be enough?

I was unsure of this book as I started, but I quickly got pulled into the action. I loved the absurdity and fun of this book. Sometimes, it felt a bit chaotic, but it all came together in the end. Ford has created a world in which even the historic characters don't meet your expectations and he keeps you guessing until the very end. I greatly look forward to the continuing adventures of Tarquin and the many varied characters he has

encountered in this hot pursuit!

Raven and Beez says

I received this book by the author, but my review is super honest regardless.

The plot as I read it: At 13 Tarquin Jenkins discovered that his uncle is a time traveler and now he can finally learn to be one too. Fast forward to age 15 and he has started time traveling alone. The book is filled with adventures and mishaps so I won't go into further detail in fear of spoiling it.

The Bloggo

I feel like this book would be enjoyed by young teens and even preteens, who are into science-fiction and fantasy. There is a good amount of humor and lots of crazy stuff that would appeal to kids.

I loved the occasional Doctor Who references and personally I think this book is a good starting point for kids who would like to start off with sci-fi. There is a LOT of adventure, space stuff, aliens, time travel into the past and the future, and a lot of revisits to historical events in time too.

I did feel that there seemed to be more telling rather than showing, a.k.a the part where we missed seeing Tarquin attempt his first time travel. And the plot felt a bit slow at times but overall it was a fun read.

And while Tarquin is 15 for a majority of this book, it read more like a middle-grade book but maybe that's simply because YA these days includes a good chunk of adult material in it.

Recommended for kids who would love to get into reading sci-fi.

*Lots of love,
Raven*
