



The Winter Letter

Dustan Stanley

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On his thirteenth birthday Will receives a strange letter from a king. The letter is full of nonsense, so he figures it's a prank, but then there are three knocks on his front door. By the next day his entire world has fallen apart and the strange letter makes perfect sense.

Near the closing the letter reads: Tomorrow, get on the 3:30 train. Go south. Get off at sunset and walk deep into the eastern woods. Knock on the door of the only house you come across...

Did this so-called king know what was going to happen beforehand or did he orchestrate the ordeal himself? Will must know, so he sets out on an epic journey that takes him to a world full of magic and war, with new friends and new enemies. In the end he comes face to face with the one responsible. His life will never be the same.

Lovers of simple fantasy with deep meaning, such as *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *A Wrinkle in Time*, will fall full into this simple story based on the deeper truths of love, hope, and faith!

The Winter Letter Details

Date : Published March 1st 2012 by Revolutionary Life Creations

ISBN :

Author : Dustan Stanley

Format : Kindle Edition 316 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Christian Fiction, Young Adult, Fiction, Christian, Holiday, Christmas

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From Reader Review The Winter Letter for online ebook

Dustan says

Thanks to all of you kind readers who have reviewed The Winter Letter. I truly hope you enjoyed the story! Blessings!

- Dustan Stanley (Author)

Stephen says

Fantastic book and easy read. I picked it up without knowing what to truly expect and was more than pleasantly surprised! Good story, and a solid ending. The book will have a continuation, but it does not leave you without the satisfaction of some closure when the book ends. Can't wait for the next one!

Amanda says

This book had a fabulous hook. A young boy receives a mysterious letter that makes no sense until it makes perfect sense. The letter serves as an invitation to a wonderful fantasy adventure. It pulled me in from the first chapter. Will, and the reader, never quite knows what will happen next as he begins to follow the instructions that bring him to a world of magic and new friends.

The version I read still had many typos. However, I decided to rate it as though it was more polished because I hope some of those mistakes are being corrected and because I enjoyed the writing so much otherwise. One of my favorite lines: "It was the scariest chair Will had ever seen, especially since Will had never been scared of a chair before."

The book was fairly classic good vs. evil. As for the Christian imagery and themes, they were there if you were looking for them, but I didn't feel that the author was trying to bash you over the head with his beliefs. I think this could be enjoyed as pure fantasy if that's what you want.

My only real complaint was that the ending dragged a bit, perhaps an overly long celebration. But this was minor. I mention it only to explain why I withheld that fifth star. And because this book is aimed at kids, I want to say that my 9-year-old son read it when I was finished and said that it was "very awesome."

Susan says

This book was a pleasant surprise. I found it through an ad on Amazon and thought it sounded like something fun to read. I bumped it up my "To read" list when the author contacted me saying that he hoped I would enjoy it. I understand why this story is compared to Narnia, but it is unfair to only describe it as that. Stanley has done an amazing job of creating a new world. I can close my eyes and see Baru. I want to have friends like Will and Gatnom. The talking creatures are fun and well developed. I can't wait for book two.

Patrick says

really good book it would make a very good movie

Nicolle says

This was a very good book.. It is the beginning of a series, but I found it really entertaining. The feeling throughout the book was great and I found myself happy with how it was left. The imagery was wonderful and the world the author created was quite believable. I definitely suggest this book to anyone who wants an adventure in another world.

Great job Mr. Stanley, I cannot wait to read the next in your series. :)

Lisa the Librarian says

The beginning of this book really pulled me in, but then seemed to fall a little flat as far as keeping me really engaged in the story.

I did like the young characters, Will especially was a sympathetic person. I enjoyed taking his journey with him.

Angela C Wagner says**Beautiful story**

This was a good read. I liked how it came together and it's unpredictability kept me engaged through the whole book.

Michele says

Not bad. It definitely seemed written with The Chronicles of Narnia in mind. It took me several chapters to really get into the storyline, but after that I had trouble putting it down.

The clear parallels with some concepts of Christianity were intriguing. There was definite decision theology at the end of the book, but there isn't much Christian fiction these days without it. I found the explanations of the various kings at the end a bit confusing and had to actually research the author as I wondered if he might be Mormon. It took some digging on his website but I don't think he is.

Darlene says

This has definitely become one of my all time favorite books! I'd say this is definitely a book for Narnia fans alike who will appreciate the moral symbolism written in a fun, adventurous, fantastic, mysterious, epic tale that's completely unique and will stand on its own through-out the ages to come. A family classic. A must read for fantasy, fiction, adventure lovers out there!

A new tale, a new world, a new adventure, with magic, talking trees, fantastic new world characters, good versus evil, mystery, betrayal, and above all hope for tomorrow even when it seems all hope is gone...all the things we love in any good versus evil story, which leads our main character on the adventure of a lifetime to seek and find the answers he is looking for. Little does he know what waits for him on the otherside...and this story will continue in a 2 book which will become a 4 part series when all said and done.

I love it! I made me feel like I did when I was a kid and would escape into another world when reading the Narnias, Lord of the Rings, and the Seven Sleeper Series. It's written to where it can be read on its own which I like also. Just leaves you hungry for more!

I also appreciate the authors realistic way of taking you in the journey with the main character who is just a boy on a journey to discover himself and to find out why and who has done these terrible things. He isn't the "super-hero" of the story, but rather you feel for him and experience everything he's going through with him. It's fantastic in story, but yet the characters are more believable and realistic in thought and action.

There is so much more to the world of Baru that the author promises to give us through out this book series as we continue to explore the world and the people in it!

Looking forward to the next book! Share with your friends! All ages will enjoy this book. :)

Seth Powell says

Great story! The symbolism is good. Needs a little work on character development and the story could be a little more fluid. Yes, it needs some editing for spelling, punctuation, etc; but given the publishing date, I'm sure future editions will have that ironed out. Being a first book by the author, I expect the writing to improve greatly with the coming books in the series.

Gina Hott says

AMAZING!!! I loved this book! I'm thinking the next "The Princess Bride".

This was the perfect read for the family. Each of us enjoyed it, were entranced, and were enriched by it in many ways. This is a must have for your shelf!!

To tell you how versatile this book was – I was reading it to my 10 yr old daughter when she was sick. My 16 yr old son overheard part of it & sat down to listen. When I couldn't read anymore he grabbed his kindle & immediately downloaded & finished it. Yep! Don't miss this one!!

More...

Author: Dustan Stanley

Source: Amazon FreeRead on Nov 22, 2012

Grade: A+

Ages: 4+

Series: The King of All, #1

Tarissa says

I should start by saying that Fantasy is not my favorite genre to read. But I did like "The Winter Letter" well enough. I picked it up because I heard it has underlying Christian themes. Yeah! It certainly does, if you know what details to look for. But it's not overpowering -- someone could read it without ever guessing that there were any religious themes at all.

It's a rousing adventure, set in a land with new things around every corner. Lots of magic and ancient spells. Most kids out there will probably be fascinated by the story. You are truly immersed in a brand new world -- Baru, to be exact. Flying lions, talking trees, moles flying airplanes, scheming enemies, and many surprises along the way.

David Bergsland says

It's hard to call this Christian fiction, but it is in the like of Narnia. Is it as good as Narnia? That remains to be seen, but D.E. Stanley has made a really good running start. At first glance it is further outside reality than Narnia, but as you begin to understand the new world he has created, it makes sense, and in many ways it is more uplifting than C.S. Lewis. For a children's series, it was really enjoyable.

Brandi Hansas says

This book takes you on a marvelous journey. It is truly magical. I am in love with the characters and can't wait to see more of them.
