



## Gears of Brass Anthology

*Jordan Elizabeth , Eliza Tilton , Heather Talty , Susan Kaye Quinn , Clare Weze , Christine Baker , Lorna MacDonald Czarnota , Natalia Darcy , more... Grant Eagar , S.A. Larsen , J. Million , W.K. Pomeroy ...less*

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A world like ours, but filled with gears of brass, where the beating heart is fueled by steam and the simplest creation is a complex clockwork device.

Within this tome, you'll find steampunk fairy tale re-tellings, as well as original stories that will send your gears turning.

Welcome to the steampunk realm, with eleven authors guiding your path.

GEARS OF BRASS is a steampunk anthology published through Curiosity Quills. Within the pages, you'll come across clockwork inventions and steampunk-ified fairy tale retellings. Eleven authors will guide you through worlds filled with airships, top hats, and corsets.

Introduction

A "Steamy" Note

A Clockwork Dollhouse, by Jordan Elizabeth

Zeus' Fire, by Lorna MacDonald Czarnota

Clockwork Wolf, by Jordan Elizabeth

Lana's End, by Christine Baker

The Clockwork Monkey, by W.K. Pomeroy

Treasure's Kiss, by Jordan Elizabeth

Autumn Rose, by Eliza Tilton

A Princess of Zephyris, by Heather Talty

The Key Girl, by Grant Eagar

A Clockwork Beast, by Jordan Elizabeth

My Golden Anabel, by Natalia Darcy

The Archive Room, by Clare Weze

Time Spun Souls, by S.A. Larsen

Clockwork Dwarves, by Jordan Elizabeth

Last of the Giants, by J. Million

## Gears of Brass Anthology Details

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Jordan Elizabeth , Eliza Tilton , Heather Talty , Susan Kaye Quinn , Clare Weze , Christine Baker  
Author : , Lorna MacDonald Czarnota , Natalia Darcy , more... Grant Eagar , S.A. Larsen , J. Million ,  
W.K. Pomeroy ...less

Format : Paperback 266 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Steampunk, Fantasy, Anthologies, Short Stories, Romance, Young Adult

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# From Reader Review Gears of Brass Anthology for online ebook

## Diane says

Received a complimentary copy to read and review. Great group of short stories. Each story has something that will appeal to all types of readers. I couldn't put it down. There are some great twists and turns in the stories that will keep the reader turning the page. This is one to add to your TBR list if you love to read steampunk.

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## Demitiger says

Fantastic read. Each story adds to a world that I think should be better explored. A few of the stories had me wishing there was more because they seemed to end abruptly with it closure.

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## Morgan E says

I received this from Netgalley for my honest review. Publisher: Curiosity Quills Press

Okay so this may be this longest review I have ever written! Sorry!

One thing I want to say about Steampunk is to NEVER trust a budding relationship. Also NEVER trust a young sweet gentleman because they NEVER end up being who they portray themselves to be!! So many times in this book I was like, "Aww it's turning into a romance," and then he kills her! Or at least tries to. Does the love interest always have to turn out to be a dick?

Even though I rated this 3 star, I think I might have fallen in love with the genre. It intrigues me and even though there were some writing issues in this book, I still want to read more!! I will be looking for more of Jordan Elizabeth's work. One thing I will say about this book is that even though it's written by different authors and some are better than others, it feels like it was all written by the same person or has a cohesive feel. Another occurring theme was that people were just assholes like I imagine most the world to be now. Needless to say that none of these stories were happy. They either ended on a cliffhanger or a horribly sad ending.

A clockwork dollhouse by Jordan Elizabeth 3.5

So the first story really gripped me. It confused me a bit at first but I just went with it and realized it was my fault not the writing. This story was about a clockwork dollhouse that mimicked the family that had made it. Deaths were happening in the family and the young girl vowed to find the murdered and extract her revenge. What had confused me was I didn't catch the time jump and thought her brother was her father. Good story and a really good concept for a whole book I think. I liked Ainsley, she was a bit creepy!

Zeus' fire by Lorena MacDonald Czarnota 2.5

This story was about a group of siblings that go on an adventure to destroy the monsters that Peter (one of the sibs) created. What the story was actually about was banter between sibs, going to their parents' house, building a flying ship and killing a few monsters but leaving the story on the cliffhanger of not finding and

killing them all. I didn't like this one as much as the first story. Mainly because I felt the author put the focus of the story on the wrong things. I wished it was more action and maybe romance than banter between siblings. This story could have been better mainly because I felt nothing actually happened and the story was a bit pointless.

#### Clockwork wolf by Jordan Elizabeth 3.5

This was a fairy tale retell of Little Red Riding Hood, Steam punk style and I really enjoyed it! Such a good remake of the classic story! I like Jordan Elizabeth's writing style and I like that she is like gothic and dark. Her main characters have a very dark creepy personality and I love it! Perfect for the setting in like a gothic style historical novel. More of her please!! Also this is another great idea that could be a full book.

#### Lana's end by Christine Baker 3

This one seems to be pretty cool. It's about upgrading your body parts to fight off disease but only the rich can afford it. Well the MC is a snobby BIA and I hate snobby bias. Okay so after finishing the story I kind of liked Lana even though she was a BIA. Another good one.

#### The clockwork monkey by W. K. Pomeroy 2

I think this is a play on the story about the woman who went to the jungle to live with the gorillas. This felt like the Steampunk version of that. Good but somewhere in the middle I lost interest and forced myself to come back and finish this one.

#### Treasure's Kiss by Jordan Elizabeth 2.5

This story was about a young socialite going on a date with a strange young man and finding herself in a sticky situation. Okay so not my favorite again. Dang it Jordan Elizabeth you were delivering with your creepy female MC's but this one was a little vapid and spacey. I predicted the story before I even read it so maybe that's why I didn't like this one as much.

#### Autumn rose by Eliza Tilton 3

The first love story of the bunch! Also another fairy tale retell of Rumpelstiltskin Steampunk style. It was sweet but very predictable.

#### A Princess of Zephyris by Heather Talty 3.5

This was a cute mother/ daughter story. It's written in the style of letters Samantha is writing to her mother telling her about her journey to the Floating city. I really enjoyed this one and I think it would have been a good full book as well.

#### The Key Girl by Grant Eagar 2.5

This was mythology Steampunk style and it was alright. It's about a General and thieves wanting to take over Apollo's clock and rule the world. Bella, the guardian of the clock is awoken to protect it and kill the intruders. She ends up finding her humanity and I think falling in love with the under priest. This story felt almost.... I don't know. Too planned out. It felt like a b rated movie, like the characters weren't real people and say stupid formal things. Although they are like priests and stuff so maybe it fits but I just feel like the dialogue is very formal and boring. Kind of cool but I didn't like how it ended on a HUGE cliffhanger.

#### A Clockwork beast by Jordan Elizabeth 3

Another fairy tale retell of Frankenstein. It's about a girl, Augusta, which wants to travel and see the world. Her father is afraid for her and fights her about it. She decides to make a clockwork beat as her protector and her father tells her to destroy it. She ends up running away and her father sets the town against her to kill the beast. Jordan Elizabeth delivers with her writing style and well-rounded characters! I love how her characters

make me feel something I'm not used to feeling while reading books. They make me want to love and kill them at the same time. And the fact she makes you feel these things from a short story. Some books can't make me feel this way with over 200 pages.

#### My Golden Anabel by Natalia Darcy 3

This story is about girl named Anabel that is engaged and lives at home with her father. Her father spends all his time in his lab forcing Anabel to take on odd jobs. They lost her mother to a sickness and her father is claiming to be "reunited" with his love. Worried for her father's health she steals his keys to his lab and investigates further. In a way this was also another take on Frankenstein.

#### The Archive Room by Clare Weze 3

This starts with a girl, Elizabeth preparing her father after he has died. She is full of grief and sadness. And mostly just continues with her day as a poor person in this futuristic yet old world setting. Her story is moving and I really felt for her. She meets a girl named Anthie at work and strikes up an unlikely friendship. \*I don't want to spoil anything too much, but I just want to remind you that I did say NONE of these stories really ended happy.\*

#### Time Spun Souls by S. A. Larsen 3

This story is really intriguing. I feel like its parts of Cinderella mixed with parts of Rumpelstiltskin. It's about a girl named Emma and her father had recently died. Her evil step mother is looking for a new husband to take care of her and Emma has been working as a yarn spinner. Turns out that the gentleman that her step mother is wooing is the owner to the yarn spinning factory and has plans for Emma. This was a very good story and another one that would be good expanded into a full book.

#### Clockwork Dwarves by Jordan Elizabeth 3.5

I loved this one! This was a retake on Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. This was sooo cute and even though the MC is kind of annoying, I kind of loved her. Or maybe I'm just deprived of some romance!!

#### Last of the Giants by J. Million 3

This is another retake only of Jack and the Beanstalk and instead of Jack its Jackie! Okay so I have a feeling that this story may be the only one not to feel unfinished. It turned out to be a cute yet somewhat weird story.

I would recommend this book to anyone who love dark creepy characters, fairy tale retells, and of course this book is for anyone who love Steampunk!

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### **Lexa Cain says**

I was delighted to find fifteen stories in this book. There's literally something for everyone, with lots of different characters, plots, and approaches to the Steam Punk genre.

Several of the tales are loosely based on different mythologies and fables, like one was a surprising twist on the Red Riding Hood story and another is a new approach to the character of Rumpelstiltskin.

My favorite stories were "Time Spun Souls" by S.A.Larsen and "My Golden Anabel" by Natalia Darcy. Both have winsome protagonists that make you care about them from the first moment, clever premises, and exciting fast-paced plots. I also really enjoyed "A Clockwork Dollhouse" by Jordan Elizabeth. It was a

murder mystery wrapped in copper-plating and toothy gears with a very creepy ending.

I was originally impressed by the sensational cover art, and I'm happy to report that the editing is as professional as the cover. If you're a fan of Steam Punk, or just enjoy unusual historical fantasy, you can't go wrong with this book.

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### **Shay VanZwoll says**

Gears of Brass is a collection of all things steampunk. With characters rich and poor, selfish and kind, clever and.. well, not... there is at least one person you will hate and one you will want to be. The steampunk elements are as varied as the characters, with stories highlighting clockwork animals, airships, vehicles, and even replacement body parts. Even if you aren't a huge fan of steampunk, you will probably find stories in here that you enjoy. While all stories in this collection at least mention some sort of steampunk design or machine, some stories are centered more on human behavior and interactions, while others heavily dabble in clockwork creations.

It's difficult to judge a collection based on the individual stories, but overall I thought the stories worked well and all fit the collection in one way or another. "A Clockwork Dollhouse" opens up the collection with murder, mystery, and perhaps magic. "Clockwork Wolf", the third story, is probably one of the creepiest, with an edge of madness at the end. "Autumn Rose", "Time Spun Souls" and "Clockwork Dwarves" mix fairy tale elements with magic and/or mechanicals, and "The Key Girl" brings us adventure, priests, and a goddess. "Lana's End", "A Princess of Zephyris" and "My Golden Anabel" all deal with mechanical manipulation of humans... living and dead. "Last of the Giants" closes out the collection with an adaptation of "Jack the Giant Killer" starring a girl named Jackie as she confronts the last of the giants.

While I enjoyed some stories more so than others, it was a good, solid collection.

Thank you to the publisher and Netgalley for providing me with a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Megan says**

One of the best Steampunk anthologies I've read in a while.

The authors each contributed very unique, cliché-less tales and fairy tale retellings.

I had not heard of a few of the others but will definitely look into their other works after this collection. Well edited and beautiful, eye-catching cover!

Personal favorite story was A Clockwork Dollhouse by Jordan Elizabeth...way to start the book with a bang!

(I chose this book at NetGalley and received a complimentary copy in exchange for an honest review!)

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## Kelly says

*I received this book for free through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.*

I received **Gears of Brass; a Steampunk Anthology** through Netgalley. My copy only contained the first story: **A Clockwork Dollhouse by Jordan Elizabeth**, so this review will only focus on that one.

This story is all about Robert and his niece Ainsley. Robert is a man of many secrets and Ainsley is one of them. He has kept her prisoner for a long time and now she's out to get revenge.

I love everything about steampunk. And this short story has everything you would expect: mechanical creations, steam-powered devices, magic, royalty, steampunk fashion, and an exciting story. Very solid, great way to start of the book. Kinda wish I could read the other stories as well.

Love steampunk? This is a must read!

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## Vesi Dryke says

\*\* In exchange for a digital copy, I was asked to post an honest review on GoodReads.com within a month.\*\*

Well.. Several of the stories were great and wrapped up, neatly. Others left me asking, "OK what just happened?" The rewritten fairy tails were a bit dark and pessimistic. I did like the more original tales that wrapped up and gave me a sense of completion. The unfinished tales were frustrating as they had potential but did not quite pan out.

I will note, adding gears to stories does NOT make steampunk. Some of these stories definitely did not fit the definition but over all, the book was alright. I did feel irritation with a few editing mistakes but that is pretty much in all books.

All in all, a good read with some definite page turners.

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## Mauojenn ~ \*Mouthy Jenn\* ~ says

\*NetGalley book review\*

Well slap me silly... this is a great book of steam punk stories. I have never really read any steam punk genre literature before but this were pretty damn good.

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## Kami says

I really like steampunk! And anthologies are great! This one just isn't the best. Some of the stories have not



point and bad plots. There are many spelling errors as well. In some, it is written with more formal older words and then you suddenly get a random modern word. The stories that are good are really good though! Sometimes the plots were easy to guess or there wasn't really a plot at all but overall, this is a pretty cool book! And I love the cover!

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### **Tamara says**

*I was given a free copy from the author in return for an honest review.*

Let me first emphasize this point: **THE COVER IS BEAUTIFUL** Actually, a lot of Jordan Mierek's covers are gorgeous.

This book incorporates fifteen short stories, each about steam punk. Some of them, I wish would be an entire book, others, it was too short for me to comprehend.

The author built a world of machines and ideas. She created characters of all kinds and built a story of love, revenge, inventions, and losses.

The book:

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### **Medeia Sharif says**

I wasn't too familiar with steampunk before reading this collection. I loved how each story took me away to a different place with mechanical creations, professors, royalty, and the like. The world building is solid. As with any anthology, some stories will appeal to the reader more than others. I certainly was enraptured by most of these tales. I read an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Jeremy Mortis says**

A great book. Easily one of the best collections of steampunk collections of 2014. Everyone who reads this will find at least one story that they will enjoy and find to be a classic.

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### **Crystal Collier says**

I was a little sad when I finished reading this anthology. Although not all of the stories were of the same caliber, I truly enjoyed the journey and wished for more when the book ended. Most of the protagonists were female, which surprised me, but I won't complain. On to the details, eh?

A CLOCKWORK DOLLHOUSE: This was a fabulous opening to the anthology, perhaps a bit macabre, but definitely engaging. I was rooting for revenge.

ZEUS' FIRE: Such a unique marriage of mythology and steampunk, with strong family values. I wanted the adventure to continue.

CLOCKWORK WOLF: Fairytale retelling and steampunk all in one. This was a dark tale, and despite following a demented protagonist, I found myself invested.

LANA'S END: High society, bio-clockwork, thieves, egos and a rightful end. I enjoyed this story world. (Even if it was a little dark.)

THE CLOCKWORK MONKEY: Tech meets the natural world and evolution. This was a sweet story with a strong conclusion.

TREASURE'S KISS: Definitely didn't see the end coming. Very fun twist here.

AUTUMN ROSE: If you want your happily ever after, you just might find it here.

A PRINCESS OF ZEPHYRIS: This was definitely the most unique story in the anthology. It got my imagination moving.

THE KEY GIRL: I loved the premise of this one. This is definitely an action piece with some mythology twisted at the core. A fun read.

A CLOCKWORK BEAST: The beast in this story takes on a double meaning for me, and I enjoyed how this one came full circle.

MY GOLDEN ANABEL: It's dangerous to be naive. I wanted to protagonist to fight a little more for herself, but I liked the end.

THE ARCHIVE ROOM: A dystopian world and a tale of friendship. I wanted to learn more about their society and spend more time with the characters.

TIME SPUN SOULS: Whew! This story had so much creativity wrapped into it, my head was spinning. Beyond unique!

CLOCKWORK DWARVES: Depraved. This was the most risque of the tales, but made for a fun spin on Snow White.

LAST OF THE GIANTS: I loved this fairy tale retelling and wanted the story to go on. Definitely a fun angle.

All in all, if you're looking for a unique read with bite-sized snippets, this is a great choice.

Content Warning: This anthology is rather mature and recommended to adults.

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❀Aimee❀ **Just one more page... says**

*2.5/5 Stars*

I really wanted to adore this book. It is a compilation of steampunk stories from several authors (heavily featuring Jordan Elizabeth Mierek). Short stories have to leave an impression in one way or another. Most of these floated out of my head as soon as I finished them.

**Memorable/Worthwhile Stories:** These rated a 3-4/5 Stars for me.

**Clockwork Dollhouse:**

Creepy story that leaves you with vivid impressions - in some ways very Twilight Zone-ish in feel.

**Clockwork Wolf:**

Evil Red Riding Hood retelling - of all of them, this one was the most visceral for me.

**Key Girl:**

Think Indiana Jones meets Greek Mythology. I wish this one was the first chapter in a book rather than a short story.

**Last of the Giants:**

Retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk. This was my favorite and I also wish this was part of a novel instead of a short story.

The rest were a chore for me to read. I love full length steampunk, but perhaps I have a niche of steampunk I prefer. Overall this took me FOREVER to read. I had more fun writing this review than reading the book. I kept picking it up and putting it down....maybe you'll like more than me.

*I received a free digital copy from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.*

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