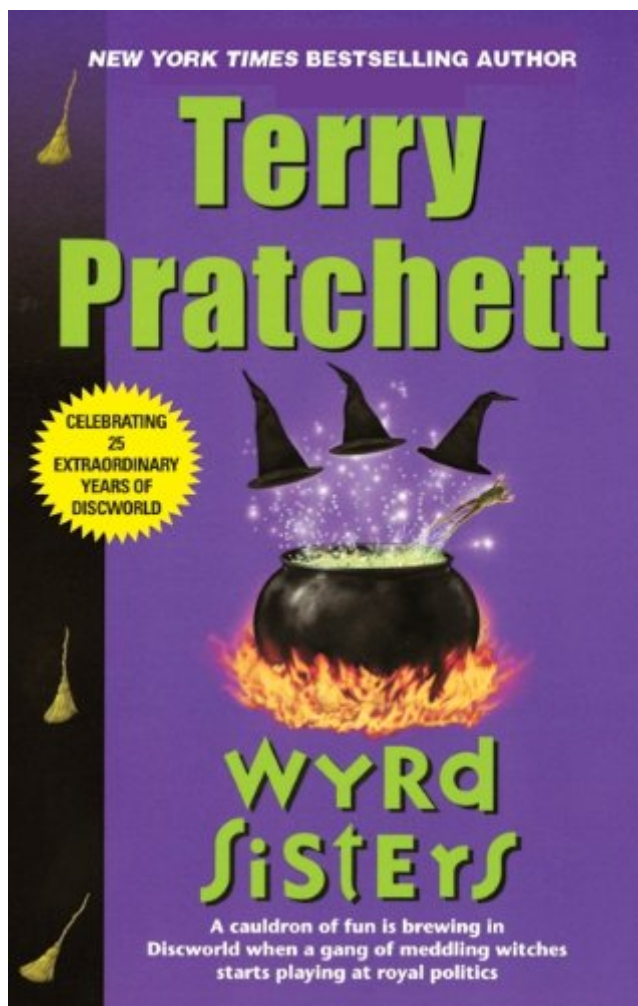


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Wyrd Sisters: A Novel Of Discworld



Synopsis

Terry Pratchett's fantasy classic *Wyrd Sisters*, a novel in the Discworld series, is the story of Granny Weatherwax, the most highly regarded non-leader a coven of non-social witches could ever have. Generally, these loners don't get involved in anything, much less royal intrigue. But then there are those times they can't help it. As Granny Weatherwax is about to discover, though, it's a lot harder to stir up trouble in the castle than some theatrical types would have you think. Even when you've got a few unexpected spells up your sleeve. Granny Weatherwax teams with two other witches - Nanny Ogg and Margat Garlick - as an unlikely alliance to save a prince and restore him to the throne of Lancre, in a tale that borrows - or is it parodies - some of William Shakespeare's best-loved works.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Can't get enough of Discworld. Can't get enough of Pratchett. Can't get enough of witches, Granny Weatherwax in particular. If I ever get turned into a witch, this is who I want to be. I mean, how in the blazing blazes can a guy write three female characters, witches, no less, so convincingly? And not

just any witches, but three very distinct women with their own oomphs and aamphs and the ball of wax? WYRD SISTERS is satire at its best, with a clever concoction of everything fantasy and non-fantasy you can imagine, from witches (of course), to demons, to ghosts, to fools, to dukes, to kingly murders, to Death (again), to theater, to plays, to dwarf the writer, to... oh, I almost forgot, a storm that has been practicing its craft in the fields and finally decided to test it at the end of the book. And the kingdom. And the duchess. And everything. Anyway. King Verence is stabbed by his cousin, and his baby boy, the prince, is being rescued by the aforementioned witches, together with the crown, and given over to the troupe of actors. Lovely place to store the crown, of course. The witches think they are done, but alas, the kingdom itself gets very angry at the whole affair, at how the new king treats it, and they must interfere, employing spells and time turning and flying theatrically on their brooms and in general trying to understand what is this thing, theater, and how come actors play plays, and just why would people do such a thing, and how silly it is, and how those silly words seem to have power over people. That's the interesting bit. This whole book seems to be about the power of words, only masquerading as satire, in the way Terry cleverly weaves it in and out of dialogue. The mere idea of the play being remembered more than the actual truth is constantly manifested, together with obscure nods to Shakespeare. I enjoyed every bit of it, and now I have gotten to reading PYRAMIDS, and then GUARDS! GUARDS!, which many swear is their favorite Discworld book of them all. We shall see. I'm off to reading.

Three witches of Discworld: Granny Weatherwax, Nanny Ogg, and Magrat gather together to fight the evil power of a new king in Lancre. Many references to MacBeth, with Pratchett's trademark sarcastic wit. No deeper points to be made, as in Thud! or Jingo or Pyramids. Just a rollicking good tale. It lagged in a few places, and frankly sounded like he was getting a lot of help with the writing. Which he was, as this was published in 2013. Still a good read, though.

This is the first real book about the witches. Granny Weatherwax appears in Equal Rites but now she has company in the form of Nanny Ogg and Magrat. This might just be the most dysfunctional coven ever. Like many of Pratchett's early books this takes a few well earned shots at an institution. In this case royalty, ghosts, and most especially MacBeth. Shakespeare had it coming and this wry interpretation of the Scottish play is perfect. Pratchett's stylistic ploys of having many footnotes and no chapters should be familiar to all Discworld readers and hopefully aren't a surprise. The style has all the manic energy of the early books. The plot asks the question, "What happens when a country gets a king who doesn't love it?". Well with the help of Granny and Co you'll get to find out.

In many ways this is an exploration of the Nanny and Granny axis that featured in later books and shows some of Granny's power and her limitations. If you love the witches this is where it really begins. MacBeth didn't deserve the reputation that Shakespeare gave him and this won't help much either but you'll laugh all the way to the end.

For the seller: Book arrived on time and in promised condition. Thanks! For the book itself: Pratchett is a phenomenal author and anyone who enjoys the likes of Douglas Adams or wishes Tolkien was a bit more sarcastic will LOVE his writing. The books are nearly never explicit, but they do have a few tips of the hat to adult humor; but the characters are so varying and lovable and the stories are so fantastic and endearing that you needn't worry about an advanced child reader. Much like many kids' movies have several nods towards the chaperones in the audience, Pratchett's books allude to more adult humor, but are hardly ever graphic in description. The Discworld series is the perfect wedding of satire and fantasy.

Terry Pratchett's Discworld series is always amazing, and this volume is no different. When their small kingdom is overtaken by a power-hungry duke, three witches must decide whether to break their "no-meddling" rules and re-instate the rightful prince to the throne. However, they must also fight against the power of rumor as the duke employs a theater troupe to tarnish the witches' reputation. The story plays out kind of like an alternate re-telling of Shakespearean stories, and is full of Pratchett's signature sense of humor. As with most Discworld novels, this is a fairly stand-alone story that can be picked up without having followed the entire series.

Terry Pratchett! (sorry to be so damn redundant; can't imagine really how to review or sum up Discworld books or Mr Pratchett.) You just have to read them. Engaging, funny and just classics.

I haven't read much of Pratchett on his own; Discworld as a series seemed so large that I didn't know where to dive in. This was recommended to me as a starting place and I absolutely loved it. There's enough here about the surrounding world that I'm starting to have a feel for the surrounding universe, but there's also an absolutely wonderful stand-alone story with some unforgettable characters. If you're hesitating over your first step into Discworld, start here!

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