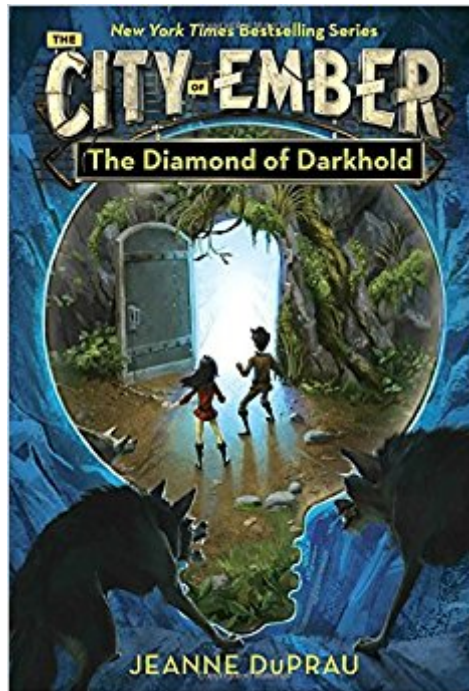




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The Diamond Of Darkhold (Ember, Book 4)



Synopsis

A modern-day classic. This highly acclaimed adventure series about two friends desperate to save their doomed city has captivated kids and teachers alike for almost fifteen years and has sold over 3.5 MILLION copies! Lina and Doon escaped the dying city of Ember and led their people to the town of Sparks. But they soon discover that winter is harsh aboveground. When Doon finds a book with torn pages that hints at a mysterious device from the Builders, it doesn't take much for him to convince Lina to join him for one last adventure in the city of Ember. But what will they find when they return? Praise for the City of Ember books: Nominated to 28 State Award Lists! An American Library Association Notable Children's Book A New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing Selection A Kirkus Reviews Editors' Choice A Child Magazine Best Children's Book A Mark Twain Award Winner A William Allen White Children's Book Award Winner A realistic post-apocalyptic world. DuPrau's book leaves Doon and Lina on the verge of undiscovered country and readers wanting more. "USA Today An electric debut." Publishers Weekly, Starred "While Ember is colorless and dark, the book itself is rich with description." VOYA, Starred "A harrowing journey into the unknown, and cryptic messages for readers to decipher." Kirkus Reviews, Starred

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 4 "A solid and satisfying conclusion to the "Ember Saga," set in a post-disaster future. Hostilities have died down between the citizens of Sparks and the refugees from the underground city of Ember, and all are working together to survive the brutal winter. A roamer brings forth the barest remains of a book that intrigues Doon and Lina because it alludes to a mysterious device that may still be in Ember. They decide to go back to see if they can find any answers or, if nothing else, food. What they find is the Trogg Family, travelers who have taken over the remains of the city, scavenging supplies and making grand plans. Doon is caught and shackled, leaving Lina to try and make her way back to Sparks to get help. Once again, the teens, both remarkably self-sufficient and imaginative, are able to save themselves and figure out at least a small part of the mystery left behind by the Builders. In doing so, they help their community and ultimately the entire planet. And the epilogue gives the answer to a question raised in the series' prequel, *The Prophet of Yonwood* (Random, 2006), namely, what Hoyt McCoy was up to with that telescope of his. All the loose ends are tied up neatly and everything ends on a positive, hopeful note. Satisfying, indeed." Mara Alpert, Los Angeles Public Library Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"An electric debut. Lina and Doon™ search parallels the universal adolescent quest for answers." Publishers Weekly, Starred From the Hardcover edition.

Great read for all ages! A very satisfying ending to a great series. Can't help wondering why this hasn't been made into movies because I can see it all so clearly in my mind. Everything feels real like this is something that could actually happen. Maybe it's because no one has some sort of magical powers that seems to be the requirement for a movie these days... The author says it herself when describing our heroes, Lina and Doon: They didn't have extraordinary powers. They used the ordinary powers of courage, kindness, curiosity, and knowledge. This is something we need to teach our children. Harry Potter is great, but making a difference in this world takes the powers of Lina and Doon.

After reading *The People of Sparks*, you know there's unfinished work back in the abandoned, but still somewhat-stocked, city of Ember. We had to read this one third, because we couldn't wait through the prequel (as intended) to find out what happened to the characters we know and love. Frustration and victory kept us reading extra chapters when it was long past bedtime!

I discovered these books while in high school and absolutely fell in love. I was impressed with the story line. It was a story that I just had to keep reading to find out what happened next-do they find a way out of the darkness, do they make friends above ground, how do they survive in the new environment? The whole series was an impressive collection that kept me wanting to read just one more page. Would recommend 100% to anyone.

I rather enjoyed the first two books in this series. The third book was a little frustrating to read, but I enjoyed it once I understood the connection. I was really looking forward to reading more about Sparks and how their lives had progressed, so I was excited when I started reading this book. I felt it could use a little more development. Maybe some editing, but I felt the real disappointment was the end. Sometimes a series benefits from a 5th book. I think this one could have used it. I had a wonderful Creative Writing teacher in college who insisted that stories were better when the writer showed the story, rather than tell the story. The ending of this was telling and I felt it was a cop out. Overall, I enjoyed the series. I just think the final book could have been more monumental.

This book was tedious to get through. You get back to the adventures of Lina and Don but it is slow going. The end was disappointing. It is awful. The ending was as if the author rushed to end the book. a bad ending to the series.

Bought for my neighbor boy who was my helper in my yard, garden and planting. Once he got it... He had to read it cover to cover. Lucky for him it was summer and his work for me was complete.

I really enjoyed this series (I did skip book three, since from everything I read about it, it really didn't tie into the actual Ember story). I enjoyed them for what they are, Children's Books, and because of that, I am giving it four stars instead of 3. If this had been an adult series, I would have had a hard time seeing past a few things. (spoilers ahead) 1. Why would the builders only let the Mayor pass on and know about the box? You would think they'd have a back up plan for the very thing that happened, a mayor dying with the secret? 2. While I know canned goods last a long time, do they really last well over 200 years?? 3. I don't think it will take 2-3 centuries to get the world back with electricity and other technology. I really doubt we'd be living back in the 1700 for that long. Perhaps I'm wrong but even in the 1700s, we weren't STUCK there. 4. 200 years doesn't make a civilization ANCIENT. That bugged me to no end. Ancient, maybe 500-1000 years-- but a couple hundred? Not

really.5. The diamonds and manuals. They hid a room at the side of a mountain with the assumption that the people would find it. Why not place the manual, or at least a notice telling them to LOOK for the cave, at the exit of Ember? Secondly, just ONE manual?? They should have planted those manuals all over the place-- just like the box, it makes no sense to just leave one behind. Having said that, these are children's stories, and for that, and knowing the adventures of Doon and Leena would never have taken place without these points, I could see past it and enjoy the book(s) thoroughly.

My 9 year old does not like to read. However he Loved the first book in this series so I bought the whole series to encourage him to read instead of play video games. I am very happy I purchased this book series.

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