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The Ark, The Reed, And The Fire Cloud (The Amazing Tales Of Max And Liz, Book One)



Synopsis

Winner of the 2009 Gold Award in the Readers Favorite Book Review and Awards! Wit, Whimsy, Heartache, Tragedy, Triumph and Biblical Truth A magical adventure of animals traveling worldwide to Noah's ark Max, a Scottish terrier, takes his usual morning trot down to the loch where he hears a mysterious Voice humming in the reeds saying, "COME TO ME . . . FOLLOW THE FIRE CLOUD." He embarks on an unknown journey from Scotland, meeting other animals along the way including Liz, a brilliant, petite black cat from France. Max and Liz become the brave leaders for their group, and eventually, for the entire ark. The mysterious journey, filled with danger, humor, trials, and triumphs, leads them across Europe to the Middle East. The moment of arrival for these animals is spectacular as the ark is miraculously transformed into the animals' natural habitats. Throughout the prior one hundred years, Noah and family have to endure ridicule from villagers while building the ark. Now this family must painfully witness the loss of lives and total destruction of the earth through the mighty flood. After the journey to the ark, the voyage in the ark begins. Liz finds ways to keep the animals occupied, including daily exercise led by the flamingos and talent night where the animals entertain each other with their natural abilities. BUT a sinister plot develops. Someone is out to kill Noah and his family. Liz follows clues that lead her to discover a stowaway who has deceived them all. Max and Liz foil the plot, but at a high price. The end climaxes with unexpected twists and turns, taking the reader from despair to hope.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 17 years

Grade Level: 5 - 11

Customer Reviews

Award winning author Jenny L. Cote developed an early passion for God, history, and young people and beautifully blends these passions together in her two fantasy fiction series The Amazing Tales of Max and Liz and Epic Order of the Seven (September 2010). When not writing herself, she teaches the art of creative writing to students in schools and universities across the country with fun, highly interactive workshops. She lives in Roswell, Georgia, with her husband Casey, and son Alex.

The Ark, the Reed, & the Fire Cloud is a book written by Jenny L. Cote. She takes stories from the Bible and brings imaginations alive with the adventure of the main characters and their mates: two dogs, Max and Kate, and two cats, Liz and Al. They all embark separately on a journey of Faith, following the fire cloud after they all hear the Maker calling to them. They soon meet each other and together forge a friendship that is inseparable. They go through many countries and past many waters following the cloud, but also discover that they are not the only ones. Liz, the expertise on many things, notices that two animals from all over the world have been called, and struggles with her faith of the impossible. Meanwhile Max has a fear of water, and when they reach their final destination he discovers it is an Ark. After all of the animals are finally loaded, flood waters rise and the rains come down for forty days and forty nights. During the time of waiting to reach dry ground, Max has been declared a hero, and when things get out of hand Liz suspects one of Max's friends, and in discovering this she could end her friendship with Max. Will Max be able to understand the importance of what is happening, or will he ignore the evidence? In the end the main characters learn to not be prideful and to trust God, not trying to logically solve everything. Max learned to conquer his fears and not be prideful, like the waters from the flood, and to give the glory to God instead of himself, while God showed Liz how all things are possible with Him. One of my favorite Bible stories is Noah's Ark, so I was excited to read this book. Jenny L Cote writes in a very unique setting, many of which are not used a lot. she brings her characters alive and the details make you feel as if you are a part of the story. For example, in one scene she shows how when the animals step into their stalls, the animals' natural habitat appears with everything they need, from waterfalls and rain forests, to deserts and ice. To say that I enjoyed this book is an understatement. I loved this book! I would definitely suggest this book for all ages, and

readers who love the Bible, animals, and imagination.

I fell in love with this book several years ago and have given it away and recommended it to friends many times since. Jenny Cote's ability to explore deep theological concepts, using vibrant language, humor and great emotion is unparalleled in literature for this audience. (It is intended for readers age 8-12, but of interest to younger and much older readers!) The story is full of adventure and imagination but packed with education and discovery. Animals from all over the world introduce the reader to their homeland's languages and cultures, while facing all-too-human problems and situations. Be inspired, educated and entertained by this great family book!

I am not quite finished with the book but it is a delightful retelling of Noah's story. I can envision the characters during their long journey. I am so glad that God blessed you to allow this enchanting story of the animal journey to the ark. I have my own little Noah and he LOVES all books about Noah. My son has dyslexia and struggles to read. Is there any chance that the series might come out in an audio format soon? I will be reading this to Noah but he loves to listen to books over and over again.

What a joy to read this book to my grandson! He was enthralled by the story and the characters that Jenny Cote brings to life. Seeing Joseph's life from the perspective of these animals has been a delight to both young and more mature readers. God bless Jenny for all of her research and efforts to stimulate our imagination and live for our great God.

Awesome in many ways. I liked the different ways God was represented and the way the animals talked to one another .

Our whole family enjoyed this fun story of Noah's ark. I loved how the author was so creative in the ways she imagined life would be to and on the ark. We look forward to the next adventure of Max and Liz!

An entertaining and imaginative retelling of the story of Noah's Ark. Amazing explanation of how the animals managed to survive on the ark with their various requirements for food and environmental differences. I highly recommend this for both adults and children who want to be inspired.

An amazingly well written story of the animals finding their way to Noah's Ark; the tale of these same creatures aboard the ark and the miraculous happening there and upon departure. Fascinating in every way. A good read for the whole family; one that can be read individually by teenagers and adults; one that will be thoroughly enjoyed when read aloud to younger children. Harry Potter - move over - Max and Liz have arrived! Not only do I highly recommend it to everyone, I just purchased one for each of my ten grandchildren - ages 6 to 25! They loved CS Lewis and Tolkien - they will adore Cote! And they will be amazed at what they learn as they read!

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