



The Two Princesses of Bamarre

By Gail Carson Levine

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The Two Princesses of Bamarre By Gail Carson Levine

*A kingdom beset by monsters . . .
A disease that weakens and destroys . . .
An epic poem and a hero of long ago . . .
A story of danger and desperation.*

The two princesses of Bamarre couldn't be more different. Princess Addie is fearful and shy. Her deepest wish is for safety. Princess Meryl is bold and brave. Her deepest wish is to save the kingdom of Bamarre. They are sisters, and they mean the world to each other.

Then disaster strikes, and Addie—terrified and unprepared—sets out on a perilous quest. In her path are monsters of Bamarre: ogres, specters, gryphons, and dragons. Addie must battle them, but time is running out, and the sisters' lives—and Bamarre's fate—hang in the balance.

Gail Carson Levine left her mark on fantasy with her well-loved 1998 Newbery Honor Book *Ella Enchanted*. Now she has created another shimmering and tapestried landscape of fantasy and fairies. Bamarre and the journeys of its two princesses will burn themselves into the minds of readers, and all will relish this moving saga about two sisters groping their way toward heroism.

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The Two Princesses of Bamarre By Gail Carson Levine Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #47029 in Books
- Brand: Harper Collins
- Published on: 2012-04-24
- Released on: 2012-04-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.63" h x .54" w x 5.13" l, .39 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

After stealing the hearts of middle-grade girls with her delightful Newbery Honor-winning Cinderella retelling, *Ella Enchanted*, Gail Carson Levine here creates a fairy tale of her own and gives it a characteristic grrrl-power twist. Twelve-year-old Addie admires her older sister Meryl, who aspires to rid the kingdom of Bamarre of gryphons, specters, and ogres. Addie, on the other hand, is fearful even of spiders and depends on Meryl for courage and protection. Waving her sword Bloodbiter, the older girl declaims in the garden from the heroic epic of Drualt to a thrilled audience of Addie, their governess, and the young sorcerer Rhys. But when Meryl falls ill with the dreaded Gray Death, Addie must gather her courage and set off alone on a quest to find the cure and save her beloved sister. Addie takes the seven-league boots and magic spyglass left to her by her mother and the enchanted tablecloth and cloak given to her by Rhys--along with a shy declaration of his love. She prevails in encounters with tricky specters (spiders too) and outwits a wickedly personable dragon in adventures touched with romance and a bittersweet ending. Young fans of princess stories will gobble this one up. (Ages 10 to 14) --Patty Campbell

From Publishers Weekly

The robust voice of esteemed British actress Lynn Redgrave escorts listeners on an adventurous journey in Levine's (*Ella Enchanted*) latest fantasy novel. Princess Addie and her older (by one year) sister Princess Meryl are the best of friends, even though their personalities appear to be totally different: Addie is fearful and shy while Meryl favors swordplay and entertains thoughts of slaying monsters and dragons. But when Meryl is stricken by an ancient, fatal illness known as the Gray Death, Addie must overcome her fears and embark on a dangerous quest to find a cure. Addie's search leads her through forests filled with ogres and specters and even to a dragon's lair, where she learns the secret of what will heal Meryl. Along the way, Addie is bolstered by magical gifts and occasional visits from Rhys, the young sorcerer she has come to love. However, finding an antidote for the Gray Death does not save Meryl in a way that anyone would expect. Redgrave energetically characterizes a colorful line-up of characters and beasts, from the stern busybody of a governess, Bella, to Rhys, whose accent falls somewhere between Scottish and Indian. But Redgrave most convincingly portrays Addie's shift from trepidation to courage. Ages 10-up.

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From School Library Journal

Gr 4-7-When Princess Addie realizes that her sister Meryl is ill with the invariably fatal Gray Death, the same illness that killed their mother, she is desperate to find a cure in this fantasy by Gail Carson Levine (HarperCollins, 2001). Although she is a fearful girl and has previously depended on Meryl's boldness, Addie sets out alone to confront the monsters from whom she may learn the cure. Addie is nearly tricked by a specter, attacked by ogres and gryphons, and held prisoner by a dragon. With the help of some magic items and her own wits, she is able to extricate herself from each danger and learn the cure. Addie is in a race against time to get Meryl to the healing waterfall. This is an exciting high fantasy tale with strong and memorable characterization. It is also a love story, dealing with the love between the sisters and Addie's eventual love for the sorcerer, Rhys. While the lines between good and evil are clear, the characters are complex. Actress Vanessa Redgrave's reading is excellent, allowing listeners to appreciate the author's writing style. She interprets the characters beautifully, and reads with conviction and elegance. The story will enthrall fantasy lovers, and makes an outstanding audiobook suitable for group or individual listening.

Louise L. Sherman, formerly Anna C. Scott School, Leonia, NJ

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Marshall:

The knowledge that you get from The Two Princesses of Bamarre may be the more deep you rooting the information that hide inside the words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to know but The Two Princesses of Bamarre giving you thrill feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in selected way that can be understood through anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having this specific The Two Princesses of Bamarre instantly.

Mark Jones:

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Alexandra Robbins:

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Nolan Russell:

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