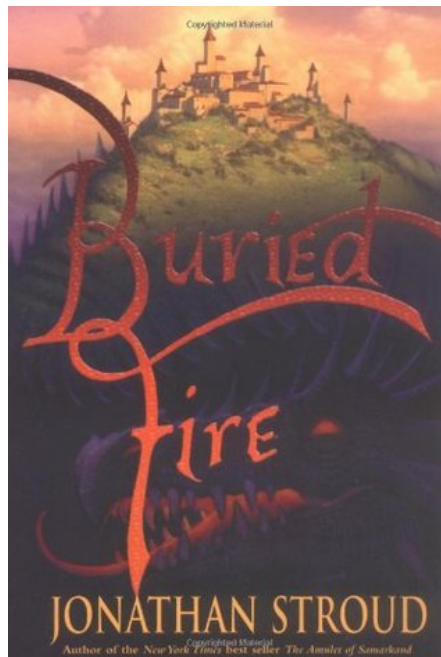




Buried Fire

Jonathan Stroud

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When Michael staggers home red-eyed from an afternoon alone on the hill, his brother and sister, can only guess that he has sunstroke. But as the terrifying truth is uncovered, they realize that powerful forces of evil are at large.

Buried Fire Details

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From Reader Review Buried Fire for online ebook

Indah Threer Lestari says

554 - 2016

Jane says

When I got this book as a birthday present I first was rather delighted. A book by the brilliant author of the Bartimaeus Trilogy? Great! A book that includes a huge dragon? Even better! So I started reading it full of enthusiasm and joy. But those positive feelings quickly vanished, when I realized two things:

1. This book was absolutely not like Bartimaeus. I don't remember any moment, where I was amused or had to laugh out loud, because a character said something funny. In fact I don't even remember anything in this book resembling a joke at all. So it was a serious book then. A book carried by its dark plot. I'm fine with that. I even like it. If all books would try to be funny, 'funny' wouldn't mean fun anymore. It would be annoying. Boring. Out of place. But if a book isn't lighthearted and enjoyable, it needs something else to keep me reading. A meaningful message for example. Was there something like that in this book? I'm not sure... Stay away from sleeping dragons? Don't mess with other people's souls? Trust no one, who is driven by greed? Let's say I wasn't able to find anything meaningful enough to make me like this book. But books also do not have to convey serious messages all the time. As long as they are exciting enough, they can be about almost everything. But no luck with this book again: I guess if anything exciting had happened, I would have noticed it, but I think I was more tempted to fall asleep while reading it, then to be surprised and entertained. That there wasn't any suspense at all is probably connected to the second problem I discovered...

2. I did not like the style of writing. It was too distanced to allow the development of any kind of connection between the reader and the characters. I did not care about what was happening to anyone and if they were possessed or not, because the style of writing kept me from doing so. There weren't any emotions expressed, there wasn't a moment, where I could identify with one of those people in town. There conversations seemed to be hollow and empty as well. Far too wordy and pointless. After a few pages I was somehow frustrated by my inability to feel empathy for the characters and had to set the book aside for a while. After doing that, it was very hard for me, to pick it up again, because I did not see any point in continuing reading. So I basically forced myself through this book and was relieved when I finished it.

Now (about 3 years after I read this book) I can't stop thinking that I probably would have liked the book more, if I hadn't had such high expectations. If the style of writing would have been a little better, the book could have reached at least a 3 star review, because the idea of the book itself was quite interesting. So I guess this book is one with a lot of wasted potential, which is why I wouldn't recommend reading it. But I do recommend the Bartimaeus trilogy, because those books are absolutely awesome!!!

Rhiannon says

This was a real "wasted potential" book. The basic idea was really kind of cool - a dragon has been lying dormant beneath an English village for centuries, and periodically people will stumble close to its lair and

receive the "gifts of the dragon" (the ability to see auras, pyrokinesis, flight, and telepathy, abilities which manifest themselves gradually). And now the dragon is going to be set free, which sounds very exciting.

The book suffers from so many technical problems that it's hard to enjoy it, though. He has major issues with shifting POV, the characters are 2-dimensional, and the pacing is off. Add to that the fact that there are only two female characters and they're both extremely passive, and I wasn't really a happy camper.

I would recommend picking up the Bartimaeus Trilogy, but steering clear of Buried Fire. This is very much an early novel, before he and his editors really worked things out.

Jahe says

Yak, akhirnya selese juga ini buku. Dengan perjuangan sepanjang keringat bercucuran... (?)

Jadi ceritanya tentang naga yang bangkit karena ke-cerobohan seorang vicar (entah apa itu--saya baca sesuai intuisi :)) mungkin semacam pendeta?) bernama Tom Aubrey yang ngotot mindahin *cross* a.k.a palang kuno yang konon adalah sebuah benda keramat dari jaman Anglo Saxon yang gunanya menyegel naga yang ada di dalam bumi, tepatnya di Wirrinlow. Nah karena segel ini terlepas maka 'roh' dari si Naga ini bangkit dan masuk ke tubuh Michael, adik dari pacarnya si Tom.

Dan kemudian....

....baca sendiri deh. Wakakaka.

Buku ini gw dapetin susah payah, setelah ikutan nebeng ama si Dewi a.k.a angelic zaizai (nama bekennya xD) beli di Amazon dan cuma sebagian buku bekas. Itung2 buat bukti bahwa saya emang fans dari om Stroud :3

Overall, buku ini keren. Kalo kita liat dari sejarah pembuatan buku ini ya. Ini buku pertama yang dibuat oleh om Stroud. Bukan pertama banget sih, om Stroud penulis lepas ceritanya. Sering bikin cerita anak2. Tapi ini kalo ga salah adalah buku fantasy pertamanya, jauh sebelum The Bartimaeus Trilogy. Jadi jangan harap buku ini bener2 bertipe seperti TBT. Endingnya gampang ketebak sih. Tapi tetep aja, ini karya om Stroud yang bisa bikin hal biasa menjadi luar biasa.

Yang gw suka itu, dia selalu buat karakternya menarik. Ga terlalu dominan; karakternya ga terlalu 'dewa' banget di cerita itu.

Masih 2 judul aja yang bisa gw baca dari buku karangan Jonathan Stroud ini, secara susah bener dapetin judul yang laen macam The Leap ato The Last Siege. (Kalo ada yang mau sharing, gw terima banget! xD)

Yah sekian deh; udah lama juga saya ga bikin ripiu buku xD

Kathryn says

The premise was cool, but the execution was decidedly not. And the ending? Gracious, it was like the author

got tired of writing and just stopped, tying the loose ends together into one horrid knot that left ends sticking out anyway.

Katie Lumsden says

A brilliant story, really engaging, with some great characters and dramatic sequences. I love Jonathan Stroud's writing style and how complex his characterisation is.

Vicky says

Having read the Bartimaeus series a few years ago, I looked for other books by Jonathan Stroud and found this. I haven't realised initially that this was his first published work, and although relatively short compared to the Bartimaeus story, it is a good start to his career.

I found it initially intriguing, as the story got underway at once and it felt as if I had been dropped in the middle of something already started. This made me want to continue reading to make sense of what was happening. The middle part of the story, where the underlying motives of several characters unfolded, I found quite gripping and also a little frightening.

As others have noted, the story draws quickly to a conclusion and ends somewhat abruptly, with no exploration of what effect the catastrophic events have had on the participants. But given the intended audience (younger readers) I think this is reasonable, as to draw out the story beyond the ending in the book would probably be seen as anti-climactic.

Overall a enjoyable read, quite quick but engaging, and a good introduction to Jonathan Stroud's more complex work.

Raina Lie says

Tidak seseru dan menyenangkan seperti trilogi bartimaeus, tapi masih cukup menarik. Ini buku benarnya menceritakan 4 hari kejadian. Hari pertama cukup membosankan, biasa aja. Hari kedua mulai bergerak. Hari ketiga udah mulai joring lah... Hari keempat sebenarnya klimaks, tapi kok ya berasanya agak hambar? Kurang greget? ^^;;

Chelsea says

Did not live up to my expectations. Could have used some actually resolution at the end; it basically stopped at the climax and nothing was really explained or resolved.

The world was well-built and the dragon lore was interesting, but I found some of the descriptions confusing and some of the stuff to do with the dragon could have used a little more explaining, as I didn't really get it

even at the end of the book.

Stroud does multiple perspectives well, but here, I think it might have benefited from being limited to one or two main ones. The end result was that I was slightly invested in each character, but deeply invested in none of them, and none of them were really developed to their full potential. ...Or at all.

Still, it was interesting, and while it's definitely not something I'm going to reread, I suppose it was fun while it lasted.

Melissa McShane says

I'd never heard of this book by Jonathan Stroud and now I know why. It predates the Bartimaeus trilogy, so very early in his career, and while his craft is reasonably sound, the characters are all either villains or hard-to-like heroes, and the boy I thought was supposed to be the protagonist is unpleasant--the kind who's corrupted by the bad guys and doesn't know it. I made it about halfway through before I realized I wasn't enjoying it, and didn't need it for the reading challenge enough to persist.

Buchdrache says

Jonathan Stroud kennen viele wahrscheinlich hauptsächlich von seiner Bartimäus-Reihe. Der britische Autor hat jedoch auch einiges mehr auf Lager, mitunter auch mit ernsterem Ton. Sein Roman »Drachenglut« ist so ein Fall.

Während auf dem Kirchhof eines verschlafenen Nests ein sonderbares Steinkreuz gefunden wird, schläft der Junge Michael irgendwo in den umliegenden Hügeln ein. In seinem Schlaf wird er von einer boshaften Macht heimgesucht, die von ihm Besitz ergreift. Er ahnt zunächst nichts von den teuflischen Absichten des tief unter den Hügeln begrabenen Drachen, der ihm etwas von seiner Macht lieh, und will auch seinen Bruder ins Vertrauen ziehen. Seine Schwester und der Pfarrer ahnen jedoch, dass hier nicht alles mit rechten Dingen zugeht, und wollen ihn retten. Doch Michael wehrt sich mit allen ihm nun zur Verfügung stehenden Mitteln.

Nun, wenn man gerade nichts Besseres zur Hand hat, kann man durchaus zu diesem Roman greifen. Es als verschwendete Lebenszeit zu bezeichnen, würde dem wirklich nicht gerecht werden. Der allertollste Roman ist es dennoch nicht.

Es sollte natürlich klar sein, dass man hier keinen zweiten Bartimäus erwarten kann; »Drachenglut« schlägt eine völlig andere Richtung ein. Der Grundton ist bedeutend ernster, mitunter auch unheimlicher. Sollte es jedenfalls. Wirklich viel von der düsteren Spannung kommt beim Leser nicht an.

Das liegt vor allem an den Charakteren. Michael ist eher nervig, seine Schwester eigentlich nur am Weinen, und auch sein Bruder ist sehr schnell mit den Fäusten bei der Hand, sodass auch dieser eher unsympathisch erscheint. Auch der Rest der Charaktere bleibt eher blass oder direkt unzugänglich für den Leser.

Auch die Dialoge schwächeln. Mitunter wirken sie sehr steif und wenig dynamisch oder natürlich, was natürlich auch etwas von der Lesefreude nimmt. Was auch etwas davon nimmt, ist das offensichtlich

schlampige Lektorat. Man findet im Buch immer wieder Rechtschreibfehler, manchmal fehlen sogar ganze Worte im Satz. Das darf nicht vorkommen!

Viel passiert im Roman nicht. Es ist zwar durchaus spannend, Pfarrer Tom dabei zu folgen, wie er die alten örtlichen Legenden erforscht und dabei der Bedeutung des Kreuzes auf die Schliche kommt. Aber im Großen und Ganzen sind es viele Worte und wenig Handlung, die irgendwie wirklich von Interesse gewesen wäre.

Alles in allem: Der Roman ist nicht direkt schlecht, seine Umsetzung ist lediglich nicht die Herausragendste. Sagen wir mal das Weiße vom Ei statt das Gelbe. Kann man machen, aber etwas fad und hätte intensiver im Geschmack sein können. Das Salz fehlt eben.

Mehr von mir auf meinem Blog: <http://buchdrache.blogspot.de/>

Books'N'Tracks says

Es schmerzt mir fast, das sagen zu müssen, aber das war das Schlechteste, was ich seit Langem gelesen habe.

Silvana says

Interesting premise but the story got stale and left me skimming the pages with increasing sleepiness.

Rob Turner says

I'm not sure why Harper Collins is marketing Stroud as a Children's author, but it does him a disservice. I had to deal with a small blow to my ego by having to pick this book up in the childrens section of Barnes and noble, but it was worth it. One of his first books, it is a fantastic read, and you can see the beginnings of the multiple viewpoint narrative that he perfected in the Bartimeus Trilogy. this was a quick read, but with his trademark prose and brilliant descriptions, it is a shame that it should languish in the kids section.

C.J. Milbrandt says

The new minister at the church on the hill revels in the discovery of an ancient cross buried on their grounds. Meanwhile, a boy on a sleepy hillside is trapped and changed by a malicious thought that rises up from the Pit. Puzzling out what's happening will prove a dangerous business for all involved.

History and legend. Gifts and harm. Secrets and buried things. Family bonds and the beauty of souls. One part mystery, one part thriller, this book has edge-of-the-seat qualities I've come to expect (and greatly appreciate) from Stroud.
