



The Crimson-Eyed Dragon

D.M. Trink , Ronnell D. Porter (Cover Design)

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School is over for the summer! All Jared wants to do is sleep, swim, and delve into as many computer and video games as possible. Life has other plans for him, however, and everything transforms one fateful afternoon when Jared accompanies his mom to an antique shop. He is inexplicably attracted to a magnificent silver dragon statue with eyes that glow like precious rubies. When Jared brings the statue home, he initiates a chain of events that catapults him and his friends Griffin and Chase into a great adventure solving the mystery of the crimson-eyed dragon. Joined by Chase's sister Amber, the teens discover that the statue holds a vital clue to the previous owner's life. They embark on an innocent quest, but the secrets that unfold lead them into unimaginable danger that could ultimately destroy all of their lives.

The Crimson-Eyed Dragon Details

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Author : D.M. Trink , Ronnell D. Porter (Cover Design)

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From Reader Review The Crimson-Eyed Dragon for online ebook

Chris says

A fairly enjoyable teen adventure/mystery book. Didn't really like the references to iPods and texting and cell phones, but it is a modern story. Has a couple threads of romance woven through and one scene of action. Worth a quick read, but it's nothing too special overall. May be enjoyed more heartily by a younger reader.

Jeannette says

This was a great light read for any adult and a fantastic read for younger audiences as well. While the characterizations were a little flat I still enjoyed the story. The author gave a good deal of information on dragon folklore that I found very interesting. For an adult this story is predictable and may lack in some excitement. For the more youthful reader, I think this book is a great adventure to get lost in.
Reviewed for Black Rose Reviews

Lynn says

The premise of The Crimson Eyed Dragon is a good one. The main character, Jared, is attracted to a dragon sculpture with ruby eyes when he and his mother visit an antique shop. Because one of the dragon's eyes falls out while Jared is examining it, his mother buys the sculpture. When Jared stumbles upon a secret compartment in one of the wings that contains a key and a paper with mysterious numbers, he and his friends embark on an adventure to find out where these clues might lead them.

Unfortunately, the story is hampered with teen dialogue that is somewhat trite and unrealistic. Unimportant events bog the story down, while many parts of the story are left unexplained even though the climax of the story comes well before the end. In the end, this promising story is simply disappointing.

Beverly says

This book was a "young" young adult, I think mid-teens would probably really enjoy it, especially girls. It's a light, quick read and the characters, kids who are on summer break from high school, are great kids. They're polite, well-spoken, considerate and just all round well behaved. Adults could certainly read this and enjoy it but it's pretty predictable. A younger audience would probably enjoy the adventure much more. Jared finds a dragon statue in an antique shop while shopping with his mom. He is fascinated with it and it just seems to call his name. He ends up purchasing the dragon with the gleaming ruby eyes and thus starts an adventure for him and his friends that he would never have imagined. When he gets the dragon home, he finds a small button that causes one of the wings to drop down. Inside he finds a piece of paper with a number on it. As one thing leads to another, he and his friends eventually find themselves at the wrong end of a couple guns as some unsavory guys try to take what the young people have found.

D.M. Dutcher says

It's an okay young adult mystery, but is a little rough around the edges.

Jared is a normal teen, who likes little more than hanging out and playing World of Warcraft. One day he comes into possession of an intricately carved dragon statuette with red eyes. That statuette hides information that leads to a mystery concerning a past love that ensnares him and his friends in the search to find out what the crimson-eyed dragon is protecting.

It's good to see an author write a straight-up mystery rather than just a dystopia, paranormal romance, or proto-chick lit. The mystery part is all right, and the kids handle it realistically. They also act like kids—they need to recruit one of their sisters to drive them places, and they deal with some of the aspects you find missing from many YA books these days, like crushes.

However, the book is rough. There's a lot of telling, mostly around the history of the people behind the mystery. I think maybe chapters from their viewpoint would have worked better. There's one misstep which thankfully has little impact on the book but shouldn't be in there: (view spoiler) The book doesn't really dwell on this though. It could use a bit more editing.

It's still decent in spite of this. Give it a try and download the free sample, especially if you are tired of the usual young adult subjects.

Nicole Storey says

This book reminded me a lot of the movie, The Goonies. There are four kids who look for clues in order to find a treasure that a man has left behind after he dies; in this case, precious jewelry. However, they are not looking for the treasure for themselves, but for someone else. This book is a nice adventure for kids.

The only faults I could find are that there are a lot of !!!! exclamation points in this book. I felt like I was being yelled at through most of the book. I mean, no one gets excited about every little thing they say. Also, the kids in the book are between 15-18 years of age, and yet, when they spoke, they sounded like adults, or robots. I'm not sure how kids in Canada talk, but here in the states, kids use a lot of contractions. Instead of saying, "I do not know what to do now.", kids here would say, "I don't know what to do now." It made the dialogue hard to swallow as it seemed fake and unbelievable at times.

I would recommend this book for kids ages 11-13. It held my attention and the ending was very nice.

Celia says

Storyline: The Crimson Eyed Dragon by D.M. Trink (Wonder if the “D” stands for “Dragon”...?), is a great mystery story for those who believe in the power of love and indulge a little in World of Warcraft.

Jared is a typical teenager: he's ready to fight zombies, increase his warlock powers and work on getting his

driver's license. And all while on his summer break. Whew! As if World of Warcraft games aren't enough, he is drawn into the mystery of a statue he finds in an antique shop. Who is Abigail? And what of the mysterious rubies?

As Jared and his friends (and even the cute older sister of his best friend) try to unravel the mystery of a past love, they find themselves in the middle of a situation that could spell the end of their summer vacation – permanently!

Grammar/Spelling: I noticed a smattering of punctuation and grammar issues though out the story. For example: Rural Ontario, Canada was a sprawling, thriving network of communities outside the cities that specialized in agriculture and forestry and it was easy to get lost amid its' vastness. I don't believe that "its'" in this case should have the apostrophe. (I could be wrong – it COULD happen.) I think another read-through by a beta reader could correct these issues.

Character Development: I don't know if it's because they're Canadian, but the teenagers in the book seemed very polite! I'm kidding. But, seriously, they were very sweet characters that reminded me of the type of characters found in a Nancy Drew or Hardy Boys book. There doesn't really seem to be a need for too much character development given the nature of the story.

Writing Style: The writing style was simplistic, straightforward and perfectly suited for younger readers. Ms. Trink peppers the story with quite a bit of World of Warcraft references and even though I don't play, I was able to follow (for the most part) what Jared was talking about. The Crimson Dragon is also full of dragon lore (I didn't know that some Japanese dragons could turn their breath into clouds and that sprayed fire and water.)

I would like to note that the dialogue seemed a bit old fashioned. For example: "Oh my goodness!" shouted Griffin. "What are we waiting for—let's go!" It doesn't seem natural for a modern 15 or 16 year old boy to exclaim that.

I know that this is a story aimed at the younger readers, but even so, I believe that a 15 year old would probably exclaim something more along the lines of: "Alright!" shouted Griffin. "What are we waiting for-let's go!"

Continuity: I noticed no issues with the continuity of the story.

Overall Rating: 4-

The Crimson Eyed Dragon by Ms. D.M. Trink was a great story with several twists and an intriguing mystery. I would highly recommend this book to younger readers with an interest in mysteries and dragons. (It doesn't hurt to have some World of Warcraft knowledge in your back pocket as well!)
