

Secrets of the Dragon Sanctuary

Brandon Mull

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Brace yourself for a shocking secret.

Two hidden artifacts have been found. Three more remain unrecovered. More preserves face destruction as the Society of the Evening Star relentlessly pursues new talismans. Reading in Patton's Journal of Secrets, Kendra learns the location of the key to a vault housing one of the artifacts. In order to retrieve it, the Knights of the Dawn must enter a death trap — a dragon sanctuary called Wyrmoost. The mission cannot proceed without stealing a sacred object zealously guarded by the centaurs. Anybody seen Seth?

The race is on to acquire all five of the artifact keys to the great demon prison. Will the Knights of the Dawn conquer Wyrmoost? Who can stop the Sphinx? Can Vanessa be trusted to help? What artifact will be found next?

Secrets of the Dragon Sanctuary Details


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Author : Brandon Mull

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From Reader Review Secrets of the Dragon Sanctuary for online ebook

Kimberley doruyter says

things are a little dicey in this one

Kimberley doruyter says

OMG

Garrett says

I had a hard time putting this book down. I read all 527 pages in about 8 hours. I forced myself to go to bed even though I was not done with the book, but I was getting really tired and couldn't keep my eyes open.

OK, so let's break it down:

Characters: There were a couple new characters and surprises on existing ones. I am totally liking Seth now that he is not quite so annoying and "stupid" (in that little brother way). And I loved it when Seth was taunting the poison dragon. Too funny! Brandon is great at making likable (as well as ones we love to hate) and well-rounded characters. He is also doing even better at giving each character a unique voice.

Setting: The dragon sanctuary was cool and Brandon did a good job in narrating their passage through mazes and traps.

Conflict: The action was even more intense and scattered throughout the book on this one, which I feel was a great improvement over the previous books.

Plot: I like how Brandon makes each book feel complete, and yet we know there is more to come. In fact, one more book in the series, to be precise. Interesting twist near the end too.

Text: Brandon is becoming a great writer. I anxiously await the final book in the series.

rachel • typed truths says

I cannot stress enough how much this series means to me. Not only was the series my childhood but it is honestly one of the most beautifully and brilliantly written middle grade series out there. I know I keep saying that but it's so goddamn true that it needs reiterating until everyone had read it and knows for themselves that I speak the truth. Mull is so underappreciated and this sequel definitely highlights that.

Honestly, I could go on for hours on end how well written all of the characters are but I'll try to keep it

condensed. Kendra and Seth may be ridiculously young to be participating in such dangerous missions but *they know it*. All of the adults are aware of it and go out of their way to make sure their exposure is minimal. It's so realistic! I also loved how they balanced this age barrier and their personalities out, especially how Seth was still childish at times with his pranks and antics. I also adore their relationship with their grandparents and the other maternal/paternal figures. Warren, in particular, will forever hold a special place in my heart. He's everything I wanted Sirius Black to be! Veri also had me in peels of laughter and man, those stays had me laughing out loud at times. Raxtus, however, definitely gives Warren some competition as my favourite character. I really hope he turns up in the next book. I cannot remember if he does or not!

The plot was so clever. I forget how brilliant Mull is at weaving complicated plotlines that blow your mind. This book has one of the most shocking plot twists I have ever read in it and even though I knew that it was coming, it still left me slack-jawed. I also love that even though it's a middle grade story, it doesn't hold back its punch. It's gritty and raw and definitely gets heavy at times. People die. It's violent at times but never needlessly so. It will definitely keep you on your toes. We also got to learn some new mythology in this story - dragons, sky giants, astrids, hydras, you name it!

Overall?

This series is near and dear to my heart and always will be. In the stress surrounding year twelve exams, this was the perfect reread. I love these characters sooo much, and that we got to meet some new ones in this sequel. The plotline was completely addictive and kept me on the edge of my seat. Th

Emelie says

[image error]

Heather says

I just finished reading my PERSONALLY SIGNED COPY of the book last night. Being that it was personally signed by the author means my book was more exciting than just a regular book. Okay, maybe not. But it was plenty exciting on its own. Holy keep me up until 4 in the morning, Batman.

There are some hilarious parts, some tense parts, some sweet parts, some action parts and then some 'he totally snookered me' parts. I knew, I just knew someone was going to betray them but I picked the wrong person and was so blindsided. I loved that. Most books are fairly easy to predict and I appreciated that I couldn't see it coming. And man, was it a slam to my gut.

This book is a little darker than the previous ones. Maybe because the betrayal was so big. There is plenty of light to offset the dark though.

I continue to love the witty dialogue and the great characters. The plot always moves quickly and fluidly. I also absolutely love the morals of this story. Maybe I read too much into it, maybe I don't, but it seems that there are plenty of subtle lessons on choosing the right or what happens when you choose the wrong, about trust, courage, faith, etc. I appreciate the struggles that Seth in particular goes through and how he is trying to figure out what is right. There are so many excellent discussion points here and in the previous books.

I can't wait for the next book, but am sad in a way that it will end. The author said he'll have a new series out soon which I will be watching for.

And on a personal note, two of my sisters met Brandon Mull and said he is a very nice man.

Trent says

Oh, my. Oh, my. I think I am too into the story. I pride myself in being able to outguess authors. Somehow, I forgot to even try as I read this book. How in the world can an author stay so original for so many pages in a row? This series certainly has the capacity to overtake Harry Potter on the "Freak, that was awesome!" scale. We'll see if Mull pulls it off in the last book.

Danica says

This book was wonderful! I highly recommend it to any fantasy lovers! Personally I am amazed at the detail Brandon Mull wrote about the dragons! Anyways, to the book, It started off when Kendra got kidnapped when she was working at the day-care, and a stingbulb took place. (Stingbulb stings somebody and then takes their form.) Seth and Warren, (Warren watches over them.) got suspicious because "Kendra" wasn't acting right, so one night they snuck into her room one night and lay'd it all out to her so "Kendra" killed herself. Little do they know the sphinx, (Ruler of the Society of the evening star and their greatest enemy) has her. The sphinx then makes her try to use the oculus. (All seeing crystal) She gets overwhelmed and almost dies. The fairy queen helped her out of the trance. Kendra then is stuck there until she gets some outside help. Once she is freed they go and travel to the Dragon Sanctuary in fear that the society will find one of the last keys to unlock the demon prison. When they go they face multiple dragons and even a hydra! They pass them all and then they get what they came for. As they leave two dragons are setting a trap and the gang gets surrounded. They all make it out of there alive except for Dougan who is aiding them on this mission. As they are getting attacked Gavin (Dragon Tamer) turns into a humongous black dragon and scares them away. Kendra then realizes that she is not dealing with Gavin, but Navarog, the demon prince. Disguised as Gavin, he secretly attacks Kendra, when a dragon that helped Kendra along the way that was raised by faries, comes along and eats him. Cautiously, they head back and meet up with the rest of the survivors and head back home, with happy and relieved faces waiting.

Mina B says

I am so glad I finished this book. It was definitely long, 535 pages to be exact. But it was totally worth it when I finished it. I am not going to give it away though because I know there are people like Liam Michael and Nishi who want to read the series.

colleen the convivial curmudgeon says

2.5

I really liked the first book of this series, and had high hopes for it. I even recommended it to people - people who have gone on to enjoy the series, as a whole, more than I seem to be doing.

But, for me, every book has gotten progressively less interesting, and I'm glad that it's only a 5 book series because I don't think I'd stick around if there were more than just the one book left.

Not that it's all bad. Seth is maturing and his developing powers are interesting, especially the way that his dark powers interact with Kendra's light powers. And it is very action packed, so for those who like a high amount of action and don't mind sort of shallow characters and rationales for that action, then I'm sure it's a very exciting book.

But therein lies my problem - the characterization remains weak, and this is doubly disappointing 'cause it's one of the things I liked about the first book - the development of Seth and Kendra. But whereas Seth is developing, Kendra seems kind of stuck in a rut - not to mention she refuses (view spoiler)

But the other characters are pretty thin, too. I went back and reread my review from the last book and I said something about how all the adult characters, with minimal exceptions, are pretty interchangeable and just there to protect the kids. This remains true for this book, and is perhaps even worse.

And, really, it's just one adventure after another after another. And they're thrown into these situations, told they have slim chance of surviving, and yet don't seem to have much trouble real with it. They always seem to have the right maguffin for the job, and I just never felt any suspense or intensity.

I actually had to actively stop myself from skimming towards the end. Even after the big twist I still didn't really feel connected. I had a twinge of "Huh, really? Well, that sucked," but that's it. And (view spoiler) I should've felt sad, or angry, or heartbroken, or something. Anything.

I think part of it is the thin characterization, but part of it is the writing, too. There are big info-dumps that arrive at conveniently placed plot-points, the writing - especially the dialogue - is kind of clunky and unrealistic sounding, and everything is spelled out, leaving no room for any kind of subtext.

I know someone is reading this and thinking "you're expecting too much of a kids book", or something to that effect, and all I'll say is that I read a lot of middle grade books that manage it, so that's no excuse.

Anyway, I just really hope that the last book in the series wows me in some way, 'cause I really don't want to walk away from this series feeling disappointed.

Kimberley doruyter says

bad mister mull ending on a cliffhanger like that.
i did love the completely different take on dragons.

two special words: fairy dragon.

Mairéad (is roaming the Undying Lands) says

{December 17th, 2014} MINI-REVIEW

3.5 stars, would have been 4 to 4.5 originally--reason why in spoilers.

“What you call idiot points, I call awesome dollars.”

DRAGONS. This has certainly been one of my fave books but something happened with dinged some starpower for me. Idk. It just made me go NOPE. Honestly it wasn't Seth--Seth, oh he's definitely grown and I've gotten used to his unique brand of stupidity. And everyone else is just perfect as well. The story itself just continues to build and expand in ways I'm pleased to be a part of. There's just something magical about this series...

So where did this go wrong for me, inevitably making me dock points?

Mull, this series was doing SO well until...*THAT*.

WARNING.

DO NOT READ UNLESS YOU HAVE READ SAID BOOK.

BIGGGGGGG SPOILERS AHEAD PLUS RANT RAGE.

(view spoiler)

I'm torn and disappointed with that specific part. While it was brilliantly done, I just feel like it fell short and made me rage thus taking away my enjoyment. Hell, it even ripped me out of the story to rage about it for a few minutes.

Anyways, the race is on to finish the final book!

Let's see if I can succeed in finishing before I have to hand it in by the end of the day!

“....there is a difference between hearing and listening. You can't always help what you hear. But you can control what holds your interest, what you choose to dwell on.”

Lindsey Rey says

GUYS. This is a five star, first class series right here. DAMN THAT WAS SO GOOD!!!! I am so incredibly

upset that I left book five at my apartment and will have to wait an entire 5 or 6 hours to continue with this series.

Seth says

There are really a ton of spoilers in this. If you haven't read it, don't read the review.

Okay, okay. WOW. This book was amazing, I think the best in the series. Books 2 + 3 are like a huge lie! I mean with Gavin not being real, and Naravog pretending to be him, how can Kendra trust anyone anymore? I do agree with her though: The only person she can really trust is Seth. But what if he were a stingbulb or something? Patton was definitely right. Trust no one but yourself. Kendra learns that the hard way. And I say destroy the key, so that the Sphinx can never find it! I hate that Dougan was eaten by Gavin (Naravog) and I hate what happens to Warren (I'm sure Bubda won't care). So anyway, I love this book, and I love Kendra and Seth. :)

Eris says

I read the first and adored it, the story was tight and unique and fast. I read the second and loved it even more, though the cliffhanger annoyed me. The series pace quickened even more in the third, and the fourth did not let me down for action, strong characters, unique creatures and situations - but now I have to wait for the LAST book to come!! Ack!

Brandon Mull can write an action sequence like no one else, excellent visuals with rapid fire motion that I can follow. Oftentimes I find written action to be difficult to follow, either too choppy and jerky or far too polished to feel real. Mull has it down for sure. What most endears me to these books is his use of less common mythology for the creatures - we don't have the typical regurgitation of "Lord of the Rings" based archetypes, nor did he completely pull the mythical beings out of his ass. They are based on existing types, and well blended with what might be considered "accepted" lore, and lesser known but pre-existing lore. This means the world to me, and makes the unfolding story a constant delightful discovery.

A bit darker than the last three books, this one contains a couple of good, startling revelations about characters you have known and liked in the prior - and leaves just enough room at the end to keep your feet dangling. I hope the conclusion keeps up with the quality of the series thus far, it is one of my favorites to pass on to my customers so far.

Lydia says

Oh, the dilemma of posting a fully-detailed review and fan girling over a book to make sure people know how awesome it is, or ignoring all that and starting the next book - pronto!

I pray for even a speck of Brandon Mull's limitless imagination! Such a wonderful world, full of equally wonderful characters...

Kendra and Seth have returned home for school after the rather eventful summer they've experienced in Fablehaven, what with Seth being eaten by Olloch, Warren saved from the revenant's curse, the Sorensons retrieving the preserve's artifact, and the Shadow Plague nearly making the whole place be destroyed. But the resourceful siblings survived all that, and now they're back to the normal part of their teenage lives - or so they think. The Society of the Evening Star has taken things one step further, and before they know it, Kendra is abducted, her parents believe she's dead, and Seth finds out he's a Shadow Charmer, Kendra's dark Fairykind equivalent. With Sphinx in possession of two artifacts, and time pressuring for quick decisions, the Sorensons must first bring Kendra back, and then rush to gain the key to the next artifact - a key that is hidden in the Dragon Temple of Wyrmoost, one of the most dangerous Dragon Sanctuaries.

As you can see, Mr. Mull has kicked it up a notch, and the pace is even quicker now. The Shadow Plague was enough of a threat to make them hurry up, but now Kendra and Seth have more than just too little time to worry about. With the Oculus in Sphinx's possession, the Society can see everything, so it's only natural they have an advantage of finding the key - and thus the Translocator - first. The Sorensons have the Chronometer, but have no clue on how to use it, there are stingbulbs impersonating their loved ones and passing their secrets to their enemies almost everywhere, and there are some points where Kendra's pessimistic and overly-suspicious thoughts in the final chapter completely make sense and seem justified. You can't get a hold on who's a friend and who's an enemy anymore! Vanessa helped them, Maddox was actually a stingbulb, Thronis who sounded like an enemy was the one to save them, the Dragon King's son was the one who rescued Kendra the most even if her mission's goal went against his honor as a dragon, and Gavin was Navarog!!!

Oh. My. Head!

As always, Mull's way of describing places helped me picture Wyrmoost perfectly. I have to say I found it quite a beautiful place to be in, if you except the dangers you would encounter as a trespasser. It gave off a thrill instead of the sweet, cute feeling Fablehaven's preserve gives.

I was beyond ecstatic to see more of Seth in this book, as he is one of my favorite characters. For a while there I got worried with Graulas announcing his status as a Shadow Charmer, but this book's theme seemed to be more focused on family unity, so it was sweet to see how well he was interacting with Kendra's powers. Actually, I think that, having witnessed his sister's death - even if it was a stingbulb and not really her - made the little trouble maker a bit more mature and helped him appreciate her more. It's safe to assume he saved the day countless times in this book, and I was pissed off to the point of exploding every time they rejected his offer for help as a mere effort to get included in an adventure. Though, considering all the trouble he's caused in the previous books, it was somewhat justified... It was also nice to see that the Sorenson siblings didn't distance themselves from each other just because their powers were opposite in kind. And I admit I shot up from my seat and did a happy dance when they slew the final dragon guardian of the temple.

Raxtus was another pleasant surprise. If you don't find Celebrant's son funny and adorable, then something's wrong with you! He's like the dragon equivalent of Warren and Seth! And I name him my hero of this series

just because he ate Navarog! Any argument against my reasoning is invalid!

Finally, Gavin. Oh, my God! Fine, I admit I had thought of it, but when Thronis slapped that collar on him, the one preventing him from lying, how could he keep up with his pretense?! It was when he got the collar that I was convinced he was innocent and I was overthinking things. This is actually something I wish I could personally ask Mr. Mull. I don't know if someone's already beaten me to it, but I don't get how he managed to escape being choked to death for lying. Sure, his answers and actions were evasive and he always let out half the truth, but when Seth asked him if he fancied Kendra, how did he do it? It's now clear he was using her, but how was he able to lie about his feelings concerning her and still live? If anyone has the answer to this and it has escaped me, they're welcome to explain it to me. Anyway, after I finally calmed down from finding out the truth about his identity, the writer went on and made me truly upset. I doubt Kendra yelled "NO!" as loud as I did when the bastard lit the knapsack on fire - with Warren and Bubda in it! I don't give a damn about Bubda, but the two-faced jerk messed with **my** Warren, that was low! If Raxtus hadn't eaten him, I would be extremely mad!!!

The ending was a typical one for this series. Leave it to Mr. Mull to end it with a cliffhanger! And what a twist indeed! The Society really overdid it this time around. Thankfully, Grandpa Sorenson is now the Captain of the Knights so at least the leader of the good guys is no traitor himself, and with Seth as a Knight, things are bound to be interesting. Too bad Dougan will not be around to have fun with them anymore...

Only one book left! I'm starting it first thing tomorrow! Please, God, **please**, bring us Warren back!!! And give us more of Raxtus!

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Secrets of the Dragon Sanctuary (Fablehaven, #4), Brandon Mull

Fablehaven: Secrets of the Dragon Sanctuary is the fourth novel of Fablehaven series. This book starts off at the end of the third book, where the society of the Evening Star make some dangerous moves. Seth and Kendra are thrust into another dangerous adventure, where they leave the preserve and explore others. In this one they visit a preserve for dragons, wrymroost, strange changes are wrought in Seth, and the society go farther than they ever have.

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Jane Potter says

This novel starts with quick paced action and does not let up even through the final apge. And I love it. We have Kendra and Seth on separate adventures, their preparation for and travel through the dragon sanctuary (where they get separated at least twice), and their return home to Fablehaven. The novel is action packed but it is not overwhelming. I was able to keep all the stories and characters straight easily.

What I love about this series is how it builds a large plot through all 5 books. You need to read this series in order, because we learn more and more details that become more complex as the novels progress. For example, this book talks about things learned in books 2 and 3 about the artifacts and what they each do. We also learn more about the complexities of running different types of magical preserves (an idea first introduced in book 1). Of course, the final book is the climax of the action but I love the excitement and intensity of book 4 best.

It has been really neat to see Seth and Kendra progress and change through the novels, especially as I have been trying to pay extra attention to their character journeys this time around:) Seth starts as an incorrigible, immature, and rather stupid 10 year old. He opens that window on Midsummer's Eve that causes the (almost) downfall of Fablehaven in book 1. But in this book, he takes more calculated risks. He thinks before he acts. And he has come to care deeply about Fablehaven and saving the world. I also love his friendly manner and silly jokes that seem apt during several tense and seemingly lost times in the novel. Kendra has also changed. She always follows the rules and tries to keep Seth in line. But she has also become more brave and more bold during the series. She is not as terrified to go to Wyrmoost as she was when she begged the Fairy Queen for help in book 1. She even tries to carry out their mission alone before she learns that her team is still alive. I am impressed by how well she combats so many intense and potentially fatal moments in this novel.

As I continue through the series, I love the little morals that come up. I find myself writing down a lot of great ones. This series teaches such great morals and creates situations where we can learn about right and wrong, light and darkness, good and evil. I love when books forward good morals. And this series is one of the best at it!

This book has one of the most incredible plot twists I have ever read. Its right up there with Harry is the master of the Elder Wand and Ender's last simulation against the Buggers was not a simulation. I won't share the specifics because I actually want you all to go read this series. But seriously. Mind. Blowing. It's one of those twists that catches you completely off guard. You don't expect it. And yet it perfectly ties into the story and blows your mind. It gets me every time I read the series.

Seth says

if i weren't such a sucker for juvenile fantasy this book would get maybe 1 star. it's so much fun though. the writing is more similar to a college research paper (awkward, technical, and far from poetic). The story is really interesting if you like magic and fantasy. Don't expect ANY insights into human nature. Don't expect any of the characters to be remotely human or familiar. Don't expect any substance whatsoever and you might have a great time. Fablehaven is like playing video games...its fun and captures your imagination but is utterly unfulfilling and something that you would probably rather not admit to your new friends.

Now if I haven't scared you off from it yet, then, read it and enjoy some comical dialogue (exactly "some") and an original fantasy. Sure the griffins, and fairies, and demons, are all borrowed material, however, his mythical concoction is unique. I especially enjoyed all the scenes with the satyrs. If Mull could write all the story as well as he brings the satyrs to life, then, he could quickly dominate the juvenile fantasy market. Satyrs and settings are great...writing style and insight not so much.

Kells Next Read says

OMG.....Mind=Blown

Freaking Amazing, Awesome, and packed with Action.

Loved every page of it.....especially that ending Omo!!
