

Shine Bright LLCE Cycle Terminal

File 1 Timeless fantasy

Loving fantasy p. 20

What's up guys? Welcome to "Bookin' it"! This week, I want to talk to you about fantasy.

Well what is fantasy? Or how does a book get that label as being fantasy? One, it has to have a couple of things. One: it has to happen outside the normal rules of our world. There are actually some sort of elements that operate, that's different to our normal society. Such as dragons. We do not have dragons. I wish we had dragons. We do not have dragons. Two: magic is usually part of it. Fantasy books often have magic, or magical elements, to them that helps separate them from other types of genres. It could be that you have a wizard, or it could be that there's just mythological creatures like unicorns or hobbits – unicorn hobbits: "Unichobbits"? No that's not a word. And often in fantasy, there's a quest, some great expedition to, you know, slay the dragon, rescue the princess, to solve the mystery or even sometimes just to escape. Fantasy is a wonderful genre and it's one that I always love to read. In fact, it also is kind of some of my favourite shows on TV as well. I tend to like fantasy with almost anything. So here's why I like fantasy. Fantasy allows us to escape. We've got a tough life that we live, you guys have homework, I've got school work. We all have things in our day that sometimes just beat us up and just make the days tough. But fantasy has the power to transport us somewhere else. It has the power to move us away. And I love fantasy because it's not like the real world. I like fantasy because it allows me to escape. I like those books because of escapism. That's the ability to escape or the idea of escaping from anything that you're currently dealing with. Because sometimes, we just need to get away. It's also the reason why I'm not a big historical fiction fan, because that's the real world and no thank you. I like my dragons. Give me dragons. I also like fantasy because fantasy has the ability to open my imagination. I think it's so amazing, and a lot of authors have talked about this, that it's reading fantasy novels that kind of gets inventors to think about new ideas. "Oh, here's this thing that doesn't exist in the real world but can we make something

happen? Could we make unicorns?" I don't think we can make unicorns. Things that aren't real can still inspire us to make something real, to try to make something that is similar and that's the power of fantasy. Yes, we get to escape, but sometimes when we escape, we come back and make our world better.

Chronicles of war p. 24

The Battle of the Somme was one of the bloodiest of WWI. On the first day, 19,240 British soldiers were killed. Soldiers were locked into trench warfare for five months.

J.R.R. Tolkien enlisted with two of his best friends – he was the only one who would survive the war. Tolkien recalled his WW1 experiences saying "Junior officers were being killed off, a dozen a minute..." He began to write in his free time. From the trenches of WWI, the fantastic world of The Lord of the Rings grew.

While recovering from illness, he began writing The Book of Lost Tales, the foundation for The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit.

Troll Bridge p. 26

[A fable 15 years in the making]

Horse speaking: What took you so long?

Cohen the Barbarian: I had to pay my respects to the mountain spirits.

Horse: This place is desolate. It's been three days since we've seen signs of civilized life.

Barbarian: There's something I've always been meaning to do – ever since I was a lad. My dad said to me: "Son, when you can face down a troll in single combat, then you can do anything."

Horse: You think you can kill a troll?

Barbarian: I never said that was part of the plan either...

(faced with a stone monster) Hit me!

Stone monster: Right!

Barbarian: When I first went into the barbarian hero business, every bridge had a troll under it. Now there's more trolls in the city than they are in the mountains – fat as butter, most of them.

Stone monster: Fortress's the name, sir. You don't know what an honour this is, Mr. Cohen, Sir.

Barbarian: Hey, wait a minute!" *(to his horse)* Wonder what happened to them all...

Stone monster: I remember my dad telling me about you when I was just a pebble. "He bestrides the world like a colossus," he says.

Female monster: "Oh he's just a little old man, he don't look very heroic to me..."

Barbarian: This is it. Smoke?

[From master of satire terry pratchett comes a fairy tale about an elderly barbarian]

Horse: Look, I'm not sure this is a good idea...

[With one last bridge left to cross]

Barbarian: Cross that bridge!

Terry Pratchett's world p. 26

In some ways, this world is increasingly difficult to describe. It started out as an antidote to fantasy. I started it in the early 80s, when there were far too many copies of Tolkien floating about and I thought things needed livening up a bit. And so I started off my parodying existing writers, good and bad, and after a few books I discovered the joy of plot. And without ever really thinking about it, I suddenly embarked on writing I think what must be one of the longest fantasy series ever—at least longest fantasy series ever written by one person – because, including the various little spin-off books, we must be talking about getting on for 35 books now.