



The Bridge in the Clouds

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William, Mary, and Alice return to the ancient and mysterious Golden House in Wales for the holidays, but notice that Uncle Jack is on edge. He and Phoebe rarely speak, and baby Stephanie is always crying.

Morden's evil rats are everywhere. Where is the Magician? Now, the three children face their most crucial and desperate adventure of all.

The Bridge in the Clouds Details

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Author : William Corlett

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From Reader Review The Bridge in the Clouds for online ebook

Nikki says

This book made for a lovely conclusion to the story. It isn't happy-happy, bad things happen, and yet everything is still "okay" in the end -- or, well, not quite: but you know it will be. I was surprised at how much impact the end had on me -- I'd slowly, subtly grown to love the characters, more than I thought I had.

Jools says

I did enjoy this series very much. I was talking to an author earlier this week (William Hussey) about children's fiction and we got onto the subject of 'purpose'. During most of the last century many people thought that children's fiction should have a strong moral purpose. It should educate and guide them. And, although much of it did, the best was cloaked in the most amazing works of art. Think C S Lewis and Narnia, JRR Tolkien and The Lord of the Rings, or even the simpler stories with very strong themes of friendship, loyalty, good versus evil as in The Famous Five; Blyton. Now, although as I have said, I did find this quartet very enjoyable and quite gripping enough for me to read it to its completion, I did find it somewhat preachy. But that may be because I am a 60+ librarian and have read a great deal of children's fiction. I do think it is a story my young grandchildren would really like and would lend itself to being read aloud very well.

The themes in this book are conservation of nature, good versus evil, innocence, knowledge, love, constance, anti-hunting, vegetarianism, equality of the sexes, ultimately the path of righteousness. Religion is not mentioned at all, but righteousness as in being true to yourself, those around you and the land and its creatures.

William did not think that children's fiction should be written with such a purpose, but that a writers' own moral standpoint may be reflected in the writing because it is a part of them. Of course, that doesn't mean that children do not learn a great deal from fiction, because they do. As do we all. Through stories we learn to see problems from differing views, we see how the characters overcome adversities of all kinds, we find loyalty, love, understanding, acceptance and so much more. We find empathy and that is a big lesson.

Sally says

Read it all in one go - my favourite of the four by far. A lovely adventure to round things off, reminded me a bit of Colin Dann's Battle for the Park as well with the whole battle aspect... oh my, poor Cinnabar though, that made me cry! :(

Six-Fingered Nigel says

Again, brilliant book. Really sad the series is over, very much enjoyed reading them. Completely unexpected twist at the end which is always good.

Benjamin Thomas says

I've finally completed the fourth and final book in William Corlett's "The Magician's House Quartet." It took me quite a while to get around to this last book because, quite frankly, I just wasn't all that excited to get to it. Yes, I wanted to wrap up the plot, and *The Bridge in the Clouds* did do that. But I just grew weary of the whininess of the three children in the series. Also, the author likes to try to draw out the suspense with the old trick of delaying the "what's going on here" part of the plot. Many many times during these novels, the kids have an opportunity to gain more information to help solidify the overall plot, only to be interrupted and not gain the insight they (and the reader) were striving for. I can handle that in moderation but here it became predictable; so much so that as soon as some enlightenment was imminent, I knew somehow it wouldn't be revealed.

So by the end of the four books, I just wanted it over with, not really caring about the characters. The final scenes tried to explain it all at once with an unsatisfying result. Granted, I am not the intended audience for these books as they are Young Adult. And perhaps I am spoiled by so recently reading a Narnia book. But still, well...I'm happy to be finished with the series.

Rebecca Rossi says

A re-read for me! Really nice to delve into this series again as an adult this time. It wasn't exactly as I remembered but I still enjoyed it.
