



## Goldenhood

*Jessica L. Randall*

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**Goldenhood** Jessica L. Randall

Curiosity is a dangerous thing.

Whispers have followed Elise Dubois all her life. Dark intrigue runs through her ancient family line. The temptation has finally proven too much, and Elise searches for truth in the tales.

Now the old legends have returned. The village lays torn by suspicion, and a young girl must face evil to protect what is left of her family. But with two opposing forces vying for her allegiance, she must first decide which side she is on.

## Goldenhood Details

Date : Published December 4th 2012

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Author : Jessica L. Randall

Format : Kindle Edition 98 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Paranormal

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## From Reader Review Goldenhood for online ebook

### Deborah Melendy says

#### Good

Enjoyed this book nice read. Was a good beginner book of magically made creatures and with bit of moral dilemma added and a good ending was a good quick read

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### Jeanne Abbott says

#### A fun twist to little red riding hood

This story is about the older sister and her golden cloak. There are wolves and a forest and a hint of magic. Will the mystery of the disappearance of her mother be solved. And what is the mysterious pull the woods haveconvher

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### Heather Langston says

What a treat this was! I had been having a hard time finding a book that would draw me in and this one did! It's light read that makes one wish it were longer. Didn't want it to end as soon as it did! Will definitely be keeping it in my collection and be keeping an eye out for more from this author!

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### Bunnyk says

#### Lovely...

I really enjoyed this - I didn't really expect to as I've been having a bad run of books recently, but this made up for all the dross. My only complaint is that I wanted the book to go on a bit longer!

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### Patricia Burleson says

#### Good

This is a very good book. It is kind of like red riding hood but not exactly. It has action, mystery, magic, friendships, witches and werewolves. The story line is great and the characters are strong. I love it when good wins and evil well good the book and see you will love it.

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## **Annie says**

I'm a fan of fairytale retellings and this one did not disappoint. The story was well written and engaging, the bit of love story was sweet and innocent, and Elise came of age in a manner befitting any modern fairytale heroine. I'll be reading it again with my daughter.

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## **Gabs {My Full Bookshelf Reviews} says**

Until halfway through Goldenhood, I was kind of bored. The story lacked a plot that I could really be immersed in, and the mystery had yet to reach its height. But then, right before the 50% mark on my kindle, I got really into the story.

It was interesting to learn about this particular fairy tale. I'd heard of Little Red Riding Hood, but never Goldenhood; at first I thought they were the same, but they aren't. Now, I have to read this fairy tale!

The book had a great mystery I thought I had guessed it, but I was still a bit surprised at the end. It was more than I'd expected! There was a teeny bit of a love triangle, but it wasn't a big part of the plot, and Elise, the heroine, never dwells on it. In the end, it added to the book's ending and would not be annoying to anyone who doesn't like love triangles. (I enjoy them!)

I would recommend this to people who enjoy the author Robin McKinley, or retold fairy tales in general.

This review can be found on <http://myfullbookshelfreviews.blogspot...>

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## **Chelsea says**

More reviews available at my blog, Beauty and the Bookworm.

When I saw that Jessica L. Randall had a fairytale adaptation to her name, I was super excited. I liked the charm of her Obituary Society book (I have the second one and just need to get around to using it) and was thrilled to see her turn her pen to a fairytale. Granted, it was Red Riding Hood, which isn't the most exciting to me, but still. So, how did it hold up?

It was okay. The story is about Elise, who comes from a family where the women are said to be witches. Her grandmother supposedly set wolves on her grandfather, killing him; her mother walked off into the woods and was never seen again; and her aunt serves as the village wisewoman, trying to put aside any witchy tendencies, but the townspeople won't really let her. Elise herself is inexplicably drawn to the woods, and only the golden cloak she wears--a cloak that was once her mother's--keeps her tethered enough to resist the forest's call. But as she begins having dreams that hint that something is hiding in the woods, waiting for her, farm animals begin showing up dead and a massive wolf is spotted around the town, Elise might not be able to resist the woods after all--not if she wants to survive with her family intact.

This wasn't a terribly twisty book; everything is laid out all nice and neat and there aren't any big surprises. There were a few times when I went, "Really? Oh, okay," but nothing that had my jaw dropping in shock or awe. Elise is a nice girl but not, I think, a particularly intriguing one; her little sister, Rosie, might have actually been more interesting had she been a bit older. (Rosie is Red Riding Hood, paired with Elise's

Goldenhood.) Most Riding Hood adaptations tend to have one thing in common, which is werewolves, because that's the obvious place to go with it, and this isn't really any different in that respect. There's a light romance story line, but nothing too serious; one sweet kiss is really as far as it goes. I thought the end would tie up a bit more neatly with Elise wanting to embrace magic and the title of witch or showing the villagers how things could be, with care, but it didn't go that way; instead, everyone tells a bunch of conflicting stories that everyone believes anyway, and no one questions any of the weird stuff that happened, which was kind of strange. Okay, really strange. That was a bit of a plot hole, really.

This is a short book, at 129 pages, which was another reason I picked it up; it helped fill in my "A book under 150 pages" category for a reading challenge. But I think Randall could have taken the time to add some more pages and flesh things out a little more, and the story would have benefited from it. It also would have benefited from another round of line edits; there are multiple instances of quotation marks in random places and typos such as "ee'll" instead of "we'll". It's nothing major, but enough to show that the book isn't really as polished as it could have been. Overall, it's not my favorite short fairy tale adaptation. That title still goes to Jill Myles' *The Scarecrow King*. But this was good, and I'd be interested in seeing other adaptations from Randall now that she has a bit more experience under her belt to work with.

3 stars out of 5.

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### **Victoire says**

I rated it so high because believe it or not my cousin is the girl on the cover! Anyway the actual story was good a bit boring the first half mid way through its pretty good. Its a really short read.

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### **Michelle Pennington says**

Goldenhood is rich with atmosphere: haunting, hopeful, sad, tender, and rustic. There are little nuggets of the familiar Little Red Riding Hood Story strewn around like familiar stepping stones on an all-new path.

The girl in the golden cloak is Elise. Dark forces threaten her and her family, both those that beckon her from the forest and those that hide in the hearts of the people in her village. She needs answers, but more and more, she has to find them alone. As the stakes grow, she also finds the most important things of all: confidence, courage, and love.

This is easily another 5 star effort from an author who has earned her place on my favorites list

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### **Suzie Quint says**

I really wanted to like this story, because I love fairy tale retellings. And it came so close. But in the end, it missed the mark with me. It wasn't that it could have used another edit (though there are missing words, typos, and an occasional odd turn of phrase). I could have lived with that. It was that I was never really sucked into the story. It felt as though I was being held at arm's length instead of invited into the character's head. Worse, the story was predictable. Everything was foreshadowed so heavily it telegraphed all the events to come, which left no surprises. The climax of the story was especially poorly written with two werewolves fighting but the heroine had time to evaluate everything else in the room. It's really too bad.

**alice reuss says**

**Goldenhood**

I liked this story very much,no sex involved. Just a sweet young sixteen year old girl that knew something was wrong with a friend of hers and she handled it.Very interesting

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**Katia Randall says**

I really liked this book. I think I got to know the character very well. It was a rather short read. The plot line is incredible. The ending was rather surprising. I recommend this book to anyone who wants just a short, fun, read.

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**Katia Randall says**

I really liked this book. I think I got to know the character very well. It was a rather short read. The plot line is incredible. The ending was rather surprising. I recommend this book to anyone who wants just a short, fun, read.

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**Melissa says**

My sister's first book. I loved it, it's a new tale that feels like and old familiar fairy tale.

Alchemy Dark and Bright

I really enjoyed this read. It was light, yet rich. The imagery was vividly intriguing. I was drawn into the story and to the main character right away. I can't wait to read it again.

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