



Peter Pan in Scarlet

By Geraldine McCaughrean

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The first-ever authorized sequel to J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*!

In August 2004 the Special Trustees of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, who hold the copyright in *Peter Pan*, launched a worldwide search for a writer to create a sequel to J. M. Barrie's timeless masterpiece. Renowned and multi award-winning English author Geraldine McCaughrean won the honor to write this official sequel, *Peter Pan in Scarlet*. Illustrated by Scott M. Fischer and set in the 1930s, *Peter Pan in Scarlet* takes readers flying back to Neverland in an adventure filled with tension, danger, and swashbuckling derring-do!

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Peter Pan in Scarlet By Geraldine McCaughrean Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #61917 in Books
- Brand: Margaret K. McElderry Books
- Model: FBA-1303409
- Published on: 2008-05-06
- Released on: 2008-05-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .90" w x 5.50" l, .80 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

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Tony DiTerlizzi on Illustrating the Cover for *Peter Pan in Scarlet*

I grew up with J. M. Barrie's *Peter and Wendy* and later read *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens* which was illustrated by the great turn-of-the-century artist, Arthur Rackham. Peter's carefree spirit and nature is what I adored as a child and long for now as an adult. And these are the feelings I tried to convey into my rendition of the boy-who-would-not-grow-up.

In working on an image for the American jacket of this authorized sequel, I went through many designs trying to capture the spirit of the 100-year-old character while making him intriguing to the readers of today. This, of course, is much easier said than done.

Many of us have an idea of what Peter Pan should look like based on stage plays, movies, and the myriad of illustrated books, but in actuality both J. M. Barrie and Geraldine McCaughrean describe very few of his physical features. This opens up a lot of room for visual interpretation for an illustrator, however anything too severe in redesign would lead to confusion of identifying who this iconic and (dare I say) mythic character is. So I tried to breathe some new life into his appearance, but still remain faithful to the Peter Pan we all know and love.

--Tony DiTerlizzi

From Publishers Weekly

The product of a contest commissioned by trustees at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital, owner of the copyright to J.M. Barrie's original *Peter Pan*, this authorized sequel largely succeeds in entertaining fans of the classic. Curry offers an easy, comfortable pace and somewhat subdued tone for this outing, seemingly taking great care to introduce listeners to new characters (Fireflyer, a male fairy) and reacquaint them with old ones (Wendy and John Darling, Peter). As the central plot unfolds—a return by the League of Pan to Neverland, and their treasure-hunting adventures there with Peter—Curry particularly delights in giving voice to Ravello, a tattered lion tamer and dramatically obsequious fellow who offers to assist the crew and who has a hilarious, hard-to-place foreign accent. Slightly darker and a bit harder to follow than its predecessor (also new on audio; see notes), McCaughean's follow-up, sparked here by Curry's solid performance—is sure to prove irresistible for many. All ages. (Oct.)

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From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 5 Up—In this sequel to J. M. Barrie's *Peter and Wendy* (first published in 1911), the grown-up Lost Boys suffer from bad dreams leaking out of Neverland that result in cutlasses, pistols, pirate eye-patches, and other things appearing under their pillows. After a living crocodile shows up in the Gentleman's Club of the former Lost Boys, Wendy realizes that something is very wrong and that they must return to Neverland. In order to become young again, they wear their own children's clothes and obtain fairy dust for flying, and set off to heal it. However, when they reunite with Peter Pan, they forget their original mission and become caught up in the wild joys of his imaginative adventures. After they find Captain Hook's abandoned boat with a map to hidden treasure, Peter Pan dons Hook's second-best suit of scarlet and takes command of the ship. The League is accompanied by Fireflyer, an impudent, ravenous fairy with an astounding capacity for telling lies, and Ravello, a charming but ominous circus man who seems to be made entirely of snarled bits of yarn. As they travel closer to Neverpeak, where the treasure allegedly is buried, the menaces surrounding their quest escalate to the point where the League members become unsure of one another's true nature and loyalty. McCaughean captures the excitement of the original story without the overly precious Victorian glorification of childhood. Wendy and the former Lost Boys are developed characters (with a welcome surprise of a gender-change that's believable within the scope of the story). Even Peter Pan, who struggles to remain as brash and carefree as he ever was, is not immune to change and consequences. Pen-and-ink illustrations add to the enjoyment of the story.—Farida S. Dowler, Mercer Island Library, WA

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joseph Asher:

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Kirk Banks:

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Sharonda Adair:

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Paul Jackson:

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