



## Jack and the Giants

*J.R. Rain , Piers Anthony*

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## **Jack and the Giants** J.R. Rain , Piers Anthony

In a unique retelling to the classic fairy tale “Jack and the Beanstalk,” Piers Anthony and J.R. Rain take you back to the magical land beyond the clouds. Back to the land of the Giants. Back to adventure and sorcery and awe-inspiring wonder.

In the real world, Jack works for a jerk. Luckily, the pretty receptionist makes his days bearable. But when Jack discovers he’s been fired, his simple life crumbles around him; that is, until he comes across the magic beans.

Now with a giant beanstalk growing outside his downtown New York apartment, Jack has a choice to make: follow the beanstalk up or pretend it’s not there. After all, he does seem to be the only one who can see it. Moreover, the beanstalk almost beckons him...

Putting aside his fears, Jack climbs out from his apartment window and onto the beanstalk, where climbs up and up and up...finally emerging through the clouds and into a land of dreams. Literally.

Almost immediately, he’s confronted by a hungry giant...and someone else. Someone he never expected. Someone he had long admired from afar. Now a team, Jack and Harriet seek answers to their dilemma, and find themselves in the middle of an age-old war for the land beyond the clouds. Battling evil kings, gods and giants, Jack is about to discover that he’s much more than he ever dreamed...and that he may never return home again. And that’s just fine by him.

After all, the land beyond the clouds isn't that bad. Of course, he just has to survive first...

## **Jack and the Giants Details**

Date : Published June 11th 2014 by Rain Press

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Author : J.R. Rain , Piers Anthony

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## From Reader Review Jack and the Giants for online ebook

### John Mann says

#### Funny Spoof

Pretty hilarious spoof of Jack and the Beanstalk. Things were quite a bit different, but everything was recognizable. A fun read, despite being a bit ludicrous.

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### Tessie says

It was like pulling teeth trying to finish it. It was given so many good reviews on here Amazon, so just how terrible it was truly surprised me. It honestly reminded me of the stories we had to write in 12th grade English class that used all of the vocab words for that week.

If you want to chance it, I would not suggest it for anyone under 18. It has some sexual content. Things like a naked harp player, a leering giant, stories that hint about guards and trolls that rape their prisoners, stories of people being chained up naked outside the castle so anyone can have their way with them as a punishment, love slaves, and basic sex.

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### Jessamy says

#### I love fairytales and this retelling is delightful

Piers Anthony and JR Rain have taken the Jack and the beanstalk tale and given it their own amusing while thought-provoking style. Mingling fairytale and mythology with great effect while letting human characters muddle on to learn and grow in an atmosphere of humor makes this a fun read. I look forward to future adventures.

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### Jiagemented says

[The beginning of the book runs through the Beanstalk story pretty faithfully, mixing in modern day references and the "trade a cow for some magic beans" plot points staunchly if somewhat haphazardly. Unfortunately, I thought that the story dragged on a bit here, and that attempts to spice

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### Toni says

This is my first Piers Anthony book, but I have read many of JR Rain's books and it is quite a departure from Rain's usual.

I enjoyed reading it, but it is most definitely a fantasy and one must keep that in mind as you read it. A little

outlandish at times, it was well written and entertaining.

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### **Jeff Miller says**

I would have liked this more if Piers Anthony was not such a dirty old man. He restrains himself in the Xanth novels mostly. Outside of those book it gets rather tiring.

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### **Vicki says**

(1/26/2015) I'm not all the way through yet, just about at the half way point. To be honest, if it wasn't for the fact that it's a pretty fast read with short chapters, I'd probably have just set it aside for something else. It's not really grabbing me, there seems to be a weird flat love(?) story between two of the characters that has no basis in reality and doesn't really add anything. It will count toward my reading goal for the year but unless something changes, I won't be recommending it.

(1/31/2015) sadly the book seemed to go downhill after my last comments and ended in a poor way. I can't give away the ending without spoiling it but I was very disappointed.

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### **Ida Earl says**

#### **Jack and the Giant**

I have always loved Piers Anthony. I am also a fan is J.R.Rain. they have woven a story that is entertaining, as well as, thought-provoking. I expect nothing less from these .incredible writers. I want more.

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### **CrunchyMetroMom says**

I've been a fan of Piers Anthony since I was a kid, reading his Xanth and Phaze books, so I was excited to read a short piece that retold Jack and the Beanstalk with all new twists and turns.

Unfortunately, it's just too all over the place, with Jack's voice confused--at times juvenile and foolish, and other times mature and polished. The story spends most of its time in the dreamworld of the Cloud, where magic reigns supreme. Jack connects with the object of affection and a hen with a flair for alchemy. Add in a witch, a few random and ill-used characters, some hastily-added gods who serve only to wrap things up and what do you get? Well, it's a bit of a hot mess.

This was a mildly enjoyable read, but I'm glad it was short form; this was hard enough for them to stretch for 135 pages; I'm not sure how they could extend this to a full-length novel.

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## **Goth Gone Grey says**

### **Somewhat jumbled, heavy on sex**

This definitely has hallmarks of Piers Anthony's style - mental abilities, fantasy, and sexual content throughout. The story line is loosely based on the classic tale, with quite a bit of artistic license. While I didn't become emotionally invested in the characters enough to adore them, I was curious enough to wonder what would happen next.

The overall style is a bit jumbled and rambling, way heavier on sexual references than most fairy tales, with sex playing a pivotal part in the resolution. If you've read later work by Piers, this will not be a surprise. I haven't yet read anything solo by J. R. Rain to recognize his style, though I'll be adding to my to-read list.

An example of the writing:

"I hadn't meant to cut her off; it was just that I feared my creativity would dissipate if I shared my idea prematurely. Artistic types can be like that, though I wasn't much of an artist."

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## **Janelle says**

[that everyone has sex. (hide spoiler)]

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## **Manda says**

I really didn't like this book. I'm glad it was a cheap kindle purchase. The writing never grabbed me and I had to force myself to want to keep turning the page.

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## **Bryce says**

This book is a disaster. Since Piers Anthony was one of my favorite authors as an awkward middle schooler, I'm hoping his contribution to this book was reading Rain's first draft, saying "Oh, yeah, sure, whatever" and cashing his sweet, sweet check from the publisher.

I enjoy reimagined fairy tales. I think classic, archtypal stories can be revisited again and again and imbued with new insights every time. But here, it seems the main purpose of this retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk was to add gratuitous tits and ass. The story itself is boring, the world mythology is inconsistent and makes no sense and the characters are all complete assholes.

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### **Myra Wray says**

Once again I have found a good book in this story. I found it hard to put it down until the end.

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### **Claire Gilligan says**

A quick ride partly because it was so easy to read "just one more chapter, they're so short!" ...and ten or so chapters later, I'd finally force the book down! A pleasant, novel take on the familiar fairy tale, with some fun twists and turns, pleasant characters, and plenty of imagination!

PG13 Warning: The narrator really never let you forget that he was very much a man, often making observations, shall we say, from the wrong head. It never gets vulgar, but the reminders are quite present.

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