



Finders Keepers

Dorothy A. Winsor

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The eight gods that govern the world are tricky and fickle, and even the most innocuous of their blessings comes with consequences. Those who find a blessing are cursed to dance on strings in exchange for good fortune. Which begs the question: is finding one good fortune at all?

Cade lives a simple life with his mother and brother, but when he finds a heart stone, he wonders if he can't change that. Heart stones are said to bring luck to those who hold them, and Cade's tiny family could surely do with good fortune.

But heart stones aren't just tokens of good luck; simply tracking one down is a sign of a special gift. Cade is a Finder, just like his mother before him, but this gift is hardly what it seems; if the larger community finds out about this, Cade's entire life will change.

And not for the better.

Now he lives outside the law, struggling to find a way to reclaim what was once his, all while fending off a new hardship that he never anticipated: an overwhelming desire to take back what is his.

No matter the cost.

Finders Keepers Details

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Author : Dorothy A. Winsor

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From Reader Review Finders Keepers for online ebook

Elizabeth says

I really enjoyed the story of Finders Keepers, and the worldbuilding was mostly pleasantly subtle. There were shades of Megan Whalen Turner's *The Thief* throughout, which is perhaps why I liked it so much, although the world of Finders Keepers is not nearly as rich or developed. The plot made the obvious twists and turns and nothing incredibly astonishing or original showed up, but I did like the story anyway.

That being said, the writing certainly could use improvement and while I liked the subtle bits of worldbuilding, I didn't like as much the penchant for the "conversation infodump," where everything important is revealed in a casual conversation between two characters. Cade also made some astounding leaps in logic and, despite being new to the whole Finding thing, suddenly knew things that I didn't think he could have realistically known without prior practice. A result of the author trying to reveal information about the world and the mechanics of her magic system, I think, although it's very jarring to read.

I did like Finders Keepers, but I found it very superficial—a pleasant read, with pleasant characters and a pleasant little story and world...but nothing more. It's a very basic story, and lacks a lot of beauty and richness and depth in the writing and world and characters. I enjoyed it, but it's not particularly memorable. With a little work, though, I think there might be something to it.

Disclaimer: Book provided by author in exchange for an honest review

Voirrey says

I enjoyed this a great deal.

The world of the tale felt real, and all the people behaved as you might expect people to behave under the circumstances.

The concept of Finders worked really well for me, and I became very fond of the family at the centre of the tale. The attitude of the miners, and others, to the Finders was all too believable too.

There were certainly enough twists and turns to the story to hold the interest, and I can certainly see it appealing to young adults, both male and female.

Gail H. says

In a dark and angry world, divided into the wealthy and the impoverished, miners exploit people with special powers called "Finders" to excavate heart stones which bring wealth, health and power to the recipients. The stones also can "provide sweetness to the life of a land." When young Cade's mother becomes enslaved by the miners, he and his brother Roth set out to free their mother. A reluctant Finder himself, Cade becomes involved in restoring an energy shift that will turn the world into chaos.

This is an exciting read with many twists and turns! The author paints a damp atmospheric portrait of an

inhumane and greedy world. As I read this novel, I saw a comparison between the new “mean” ethic that has set its claws in our own lands. However, I came away from the novel refreshed in knowing that young heroes like Cade have the power to bring the good back and show the rest of us how to make that happen. I highly recommend this to people of all ages who love a good fantasy read.

Bonnie Brunish says

In a world where the equivalent of the Mayan calendar end-date brings real crisis, Cade must choose between using his special gift to save his family and using it to help the world.

From the opening chapter when Cade first discovers his gift, the consequent problems and threats to his family never relent, and as the ominous date approaches, signs of impending catastrophe multiply. Cade makes his way from one tricky situation to another, struggling against the greedy, cruel, and selfish elements of humanity, but also finding unexpected allies. All the while he wrestles with the knowledge that saving those he loves will imperil the world. The sweet, intensely addictive pull of his gift only adds to his burden.

It's an engrossing story woven from themes that young and old alike can ponder.

Karoline says

If you like books about family and character journey, you will love this book. The author's greatest strength is characterization. The main character is real. He makes tough choices as he struggles to become his own man while saving his family and his world. The secondary characters are all just as real and fully developed as the main character.

I would say the author's next greatest strength is dialogue. The character's voices are all strong and unique. The dialogue is fast paced and tense. It is the core of the story with each exchange pushing the plot forward and showing us more about the characters and the world. I loved every dialogue and hung on every word of them.

The plot is fast paced, tense and every choice the main character makes is high stakes for his family and his world.

This is a fast read and a page turner. Great for middle grade, which it was written for, but this fifty year old woman loved it too!

Rebecca says

<http://www.nerdophiles.com/2015/12/28...>

Finders Keepers is a book for those of the middle school age looking for a good adventure tale. Cade is a

Finder, just like his mother. They are able to sense heart stones, magical red stones that are able to protect households, and make them wealthy as well.

One night, Cade's mother is kidnapped and sold to miners, leaving him and his older brother Roth on their own and on a quest to find and rescue her. When the world starts falling apart, a mysterious girl asks Cade to help her find the heart stones. Cade agrees to help her save the world, and in turn, save his mother.

This book is quick. The first few chapters fly by rather quickly, from both time passing and the amount of plot that happens. It's a great book for a person who likes a little bit of mystery tossed in an action-y, end of the word story. The story line is pretty solid, and the characters are really likable. From the start, you feel Cade's struggle of not giving into the stones, and the family's closeness. You really want to root for Cade and have him save the world.

The writing is what you would typically find in a book meant for middle school, and later elementary school ages. It keeps you entertained, without overwhelming you with too many little details, subplots, or outrageous twists. A great book to get a person who is a sometimes reader to read. Winsor sets the scene well and has created a world that is real enough to live in. Adults will like it too, thanks to the comparison between classes, the miner's trade, and the end of the world storyline.

Final Thoughts: Finders Keepers is a good book for younger readers and adults alike. With its quick read, and engaging story, you won't be left wanting for more. A solid fantasy read with believable characters that react and act in ways that normal people would. A great, original story that kids of all ages will be sure to like.

A COPY OF FINDERS KEEPERS WAS PROVIDED BY THE AUTHOR FOR FAIR AND HONEST REVIEW.

Diana says

I actually liked this book. It was a real page turner and I was eager to find out if they found all the stones to save everyone.

I received this book through Goodreads Giveaway

Kristen says

Quite good for an indie book.

K says

Fast-paced, likable protagonist. I will recommend for upper elementary grades.

Kell Andrews says

Well-written, tautly paced fantasy with a vivid world and a likable protagonist in Cade, who possesses the Gift of finding magical heart-stones that could save his people from a cataclysmic change in calendar, but curse him to life of slavery in the heart-stone mines.
