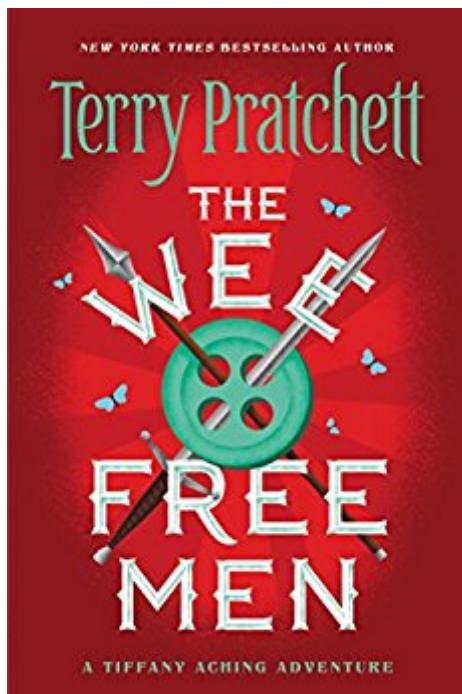


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The Wee Free Men (Discworld Book 30)



Synopsis

The first in a series of Discworld novels starring the young witch Tiffany Aching. A nightmarish danger threatens from the other side of reality. . . . Armed with only a frying pan and her common sense, young witch-to-be Tiffany Aching must defend her home against the monsters of Fairyland. Luckily she has some very unusual help: the local Nac Mac Feegle—aka the Wee Free Men—a clan of fierce, sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-high blue men. Together they must face headless horsemen, ferocious grimhounds, terrifying dreams come true, and ultimately the sinister Queen of the Elves herself. . . .

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Chalk is a place of sheep and shepherds but never a witch was known to be there, however that might have been incorrect. Terry Pratchett's 30th Discworld novel, "The Wee Free Men", is the second time he's written for young adults but his writing and humor are top notch as well follow a nine-year witch Tiffany Aching going up against the Queen of Elves with only a horde of six-inch blue little men. Tiffany Aching finds her family farm being invaded by monsters from dreams as well as a horde of little blue men, the titular Wee Free Men. Tiffany is

very smart for her age and sees things as they are just like her grandmother, so when strange things pop up she uses an iron pan to beat them back. Although she later figures out that her grandmother was a witch, Tiffany has her first encounter with one in the form of Ms. Lick who tells her to be careful but not to tackle the problem on her own but when her brother is kidnapped by the Fairie Queen, Tiffany knows she's going to need help while not sounding desperate. Tiffany's help comes to her when the local clan of the Wee Free Men shows up looking for the new "hag of the hills" because of the invasion of the Queen. Tiffany and the Wee Free Men invade "Fairyland" and manage to return with her brother, a feat that Granny Weatherwax finds impressive for someone so young and untrained. "The Wee Free Men" features Tiffany as the only point-of-view character, save from a narrator, which keeps the book fairly orderly when reading as well as being in line for a book for younger readers. The story itself is somewhat familiar for long time Discworld fans with the antagonist being the Queen of the Elves invading, but Pratchett changes things up with the use of dreams and the conflict as seen from a nine-year old. The cameo appearance of Granny Weatherwax and Nanny Ogg at the end, sets up further adventures of Tiffany and connects her subseries with the Witches subseries with the hopes of seeing favorite characters in future books. The second young adult and first Tiffany subseries book of the Discworld canon is a fantastic book; "The Wee Free Men" gives someone new for long time fans while introducing older characters for younger new readers. While it's intended for a younger audience, older fans will appreciate Pratchett's humorous fantasy writing with his twists and turns.

This is the seventh book that I have read by Sir Terry Pratchett and so far this is my favourite book by him. I can't wait to get my hands on the next book in this series! Now let's move onto the actual review. First of all lets talk about the writing style. I really enjoyed how this book was written. Reading from Tiffany's point of view was very interesting and I enjoyed looking at the world as she sees it. I also loved the humor that Terry Pratchett intertwined into the story, as I usually do with his books. The characters in this book are amazing! I greatly enjoyed learning about all of them. I especially loved the Nac Mac Feegle they were awesome. Who wouldn't love fighting, drinking, stealing little blue men? It was great seeing how they live and learning more about them and their history. I also liked Tiffany a lot. What I especially appreciated about her was how flawed she was. She felt like a real person and I loved her as the main character. The story felt as if I was reading a

novel that has been intertwined with a fairy tale. The adventure that Tiffany went on was fascinating and I loved the way the way the other world was described. (I can't explain it any better because it would spoil things.) All in all I highly recommend this book to everyone. Literary everyone.

This is Terry Pratchett at the height of his powers. In the second novel for YA readers set in his justly famous Discworld universe of novels, "The Wee Free Men" is the story of a sensible, level-headed young girl who accidentally gives her sticky younger brother away to the fairies no one believes in. Since no one else believes in them, she feels it's up to her to get her brother back unharmed. But it's not like she's going after her brother empty-handed. She does have a cast-iron frying pan and a bad attitude. And she somehow has earned the respect of the Nac Mac Feegle. The Nac Mac Feegle are fairies . . . of a sort. They were kicked out of fairy land for fighting, drinking, swearing, drinking, stealing, fighting, general tomfoolery and swearing while drinking and fighting. Massively strong, incredibly quick and almost impossibly sticky-fingered, the average Nac Mac Feegle stands about two inches tall and talks in a Scottish accent that comes across marvelously in Pratchett's dialogue. This is the start of a marvelous trilogy following young Tiffany Aching as she moves from granddaughter of a (possible) witch, to a full-fledged witch on her own. It's not only a treat for YA readers, but also for parents to read aloud to their younger children. I already have purchased numerous copies of this book to give away as each of my boys and my many nieces and nephews have come of the age where they'll enjoy the book. Every one of the young kids I've gifted with the book has come back asking for more. Definitely worth your time and money.

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