

Chapter 1 : Clan Sinclair - Wikipedia

Picky keeps a daybook of the stories she hears as a child, and eventually of her growing up. At age 16, when she plans to go to a box supper, her father tries to tell her the facts of life. She meets and marries Jack.

I still love this book to pieces. Ash, you sexy motherfucker. I know that a lot of people might be surprised that I like this book, considering I tend to rip other fantasy YA to pieces. Grimalkin is absolutely a devilish little delight. Puck wa 3rd reread: Puck was a bit grating, but he was appropriate, given his character. The Nevernever is enchantment itself. The only thing that really bothered me was the fact that Ash and Meghan seemed to fall for each other so easily, with so little evidence. Overall, this is still a rock-solid book that I evidently love through an unprecedented three readings. There is so much to love, and very little I found objectionable. This is my second time reading it, with a more critical view, and I found that I enjoy it even more this time around. The plot in a nutshell: She and her long-time best friend Robbie more popularly known as Robin Goodfellow, or Puck goes into the Nevernever to rescue him. Along the way, she discovers the truth about herself, encounters numerous dangers and a cat , and falls in love. Sounds like your typical YA fantasy, right? Oh, but this is so much more. As someone with a short temper for TSTL characters and unbelievable characters, I can tell you that there is nothing I can complain about here. And whatever there is that is ugly in this book is so eloquently described that it becomes beautiful, if only the writing. The setting The Nevernever, in all of its lands and aspects, are beautifully and vividly described. A warm breeze blew into the closet, carrying with it a shocking assortment of smellsâ€”smells that should not be together in one place. Crushed leaves and cinnamon, smoke and apples, fresh earth, lavender, and the faint, cloying scent of rot and decay. For a moment, I caught a tang of something metallic and coppery, wrapped around the smell of rot, but it was gone in the next breath. In the scattered moonlight, faeries danced and sang and laughed, calling out to me from a distance. Satyrs whistled tunes on their pipes, piskies buzzed through the air on gossamer wings, and willowy dryads danced through the trees, their slender bodies waving like grass in the wind. The writing and environment so often makes or breaks a book, and in this case, it enhances the feel of a beautiful and dangerous world. The characters Meghan is such a fantastic heroine. She is strong, tough, but so vulnerable. She acts impulsively sometimes, but never endangers herself or her loved ones needlessly. I slipped into the baggy jeans and the wrinkled, smelly T-shirt, feeling a nasty glow of satisfaction as they slid comfortably over my skin. Burn my things, will he? I thought, dragging my sneakers out and shoving my feet into them. Little acts of rebellion He is capricious, a trickster, but he has more depth than that of a court jester. He is truly devoted to Meghan, and the mistakes that he made in the past has made him even more protective of her. He adds an element of lightness to the serious feel of the novel, and his seemingly lighthearted stance is invaluable in helping Meghan keep her spirits up when things are fearful. Oh man, what a dreamboat. He is dark, scarred; he has a difficult past and a hard life as the son of Mab. His courtship with Meghan You just happened to be there. I love his selfishness, his wicked sense of humor, his questionable morals, and his wisdom It grows smaller and smaller every decade. Too much progress, too much technology. Mortals are losing their faith in anything but science. Even the children of man are consumed by progress. They sneer at the old stories and are drawn to the newest gadgets, computers, or video games. They no longer believe in monsters or magic. As cities grow and technology takes over the world, belief and imagination fade away, and so do we. There is a lot that goes on in this novel; typically, I hate it. I like things to stay in one place. Rapid changes in settings are so often poorly done and lose my interest and credibility, and just confuse the hell out of me. This is not the case with The Iron King. Everything is paced as it should, and though the book moves rapidly, I never feel lost.

Chapter 2 : Love, Ruby Valentine by Laurie B. Friedman

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Mane colour varies and darkens with age; research shows its colour and size are influenced by environmental factors such as average ambient temperature. Mane length apparently signals fighting success in male-male relationships; darker-maned individuals may have longer reproductive lives and higher offspring survival, although they suffer in the hottest months of the year. The presence, absence, colour and size of the mane are associated with genetic precondition, sexual maturity, climate and testosterone production; the rule of thumb is that a darker, fuller mane indicates a healthier animal. In Serengeti National Park, female lions favour males with dense, dark manes as mates. The hormone testosterone has been linked to mane growth; castrated lions often have little to no mane because the removal of the gonads inhibits testosterone production. In the Chauvet Cave is a sketchy drawing of two maneless lions that appearing to be walking side-by-side. One lion is mostly obscured by the other; the obscuring lion is larger than the obscured one and is depicted with a scrotum. White lion White lions owe their colouring to a recessive allele The white lion is a rare morph with a genetic condition called leucism that is caused by a double recessive allele. It is not albino; it has normal pigmentation in the eyes and skin. They were removed from the wild in the s, thus decreasing the white lion gene pool. Nevertheless, 17 births have been recorded in five prides between and Intermittent bursts of activity continue until dawn, when hunting most often takes place. Such a group is called a "pride". Groups of male lions are called "coalitions". Large prides, consisting of up to 30 individuals, have been observed. A lion may switch lifestyles; nomads can become residents and vice versa. Females lions stay closer to their natal pride. Therefore, female lions in an area are more closely related to each other than male lions in the same area. The reasons for the development of sociality in lionesses - the most pronounced in any cat species - are the subject of much debate. Increased hunting success appears to be an obvious reason, but this is uncertain upon examination; coordinated hunting allows for more successful predation but also ensures non-hunting members reduce per capita calorific intake. Some females, however, take a role raising cubs that may be left alone for extended periods. Members of the pride tend to regularly play the same role in hunts and hone their skills. The health of the hunters is the primary need for the survival of the pride; hunters are the first to consume the prey at the site it is taken. Asiatic lion prides differ from African prides in group composition. Male Asiatic lions are solitary or associate with up to three males, forming a loose pride. Pairs of males rest and feed together, and display marking behaviour at the same sites. Females associate with up to 12 other females, forming a stronger pride together with their cubs. They share large carcasses with each other but seldom share food with males. Female and male lions associate only when mating. Males in coalitions of three or four individuals exhibit a pronounced hierarchy, in which one male dominates the others. Dominant males mate more frequently than their coalition partners; during a study carried out between December and December, three females were observed switching mating partners in favour of the dominant male. Its prey consists mainly of mammals - particularly ungulates - with a preference for blue wildebeest, plains zebra, African buffalo, gemsbok and giraffe. Lions kill other predators such as leopard, cheetah and spotted hyena but seldom consume them. In October, a pride of up to 30 lions killed and consumed eight African bush elephants that were between four and eleven years old. The prey-to-predator weight ratio of 10 Cooperatively hunting lions are usually successful. Males attached to prides do not usually participate in group hunting. They take advantage of factors that reduce visibility; many kills take place near some form of cover or at night. To protect their cattle from such attacks with that knowledge in mind, farmers have found it effective to paint eyes on the hindquarters of each cow, which is usually enough to make hunting lions think they have been seen and select easier prey. They also kill prey by enclosing its mouth and nostrils in their jaws, which also results in asphyxia. Cubs suffer most when food is scarce but otherwise all pride members eat their fill, including old and crippled lions, which can live on leftovers. On hot days, the pride retreats to shade with one or two males standing guard. Scavenging lions keep a constant lookout for circling vultures, which indicate

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the death or distress of an animal. Lions seize the kills of spotted hyenas; in the Ngorongoro crater it is common for lions to subsist largely on kills stolen from hyenas, causing the hyenas to increase their kill rate. The two species attack one another even when there is no food involved for no apparent reason. Spotted hyenas have adapted by frequently mobbing lions that enter their territories.

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Chapter 6 : From the Daybook of Picky Sinclair af Pat Perkins Twedt; - find bogens billigste pris her

, Pat Perkins Twedt, From the Daybook of Picky Sinclair, p. I said, "But what about all the sixteen years since Olene and Gus have been married? Olene's worked like a field hand, besides havin' one baby after another?"

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