



The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1)

By Sarah Prineas

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[Read by Greg Steinbruner]

In a city that runs on a dwindling supply of magic, a young boy is drawn into a life of wizardry and adventure.

Conn should have dropped dead the day he picked Nevery's pocket and touched the wizard's locus magicalicus, a stone used to focus magic and work spells. But for some reason he did not. Nevery finds that interesting, and he takes Conn as his apprentice on the provision that the boy find a locus stone of his own. But Conn has little time to search for his stone between wizard lessons and helping Nevery discover who -- or what -- is stealing the city of Wellmet's magic.

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The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) By Sarah Prineas Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 3–6—Conn, a pickpocket on the streets of Twilight, one day picks the pocket of a powerful wizard and steals his locus magicalicus, the center of his power. It should kill Conn, but it doesn't. Nevery, the wizard, has just returned after a 22-year exile, to try to save the town from the leaching of its magic, upon which so much, including its economy, depends. Curious about the boy, Nevery takes him on as an assistant and then an apprentice. Although it is the wizard's job to stem the tide of the disappearing magic, he seems unable to do so. Conn believes he knows the answer, but his enemies are closing in. Prineas has created an appealing cast of characters, which she carefully reveals through their actions. The story is told primarily by Conn, and is interspersed with cryptic journal entries by Nevery, which offer a tantalizing counterpoint to the protagonist's viewpoint. Their voices are consistent and well handled. Exciting without being frantic, the narrative wastes no time getting to the heart of the story. This novel would work well as a read-aloud, as it has a conversational rhythm that moves the plot along. The book is long, but the large print and appealing drawings will encourage younger readers. Fantasy and adventure lovers alike will groan when they get to the tantalizingly mischievous ending, and are likely to hound you until the sequel arrives.—*Sue Giffard, Ethical Culture Fieldston School, New York City*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Young Conn opens the first volume of this new trilogy, noting “A thief is a lot like a wizard.” Conn is a thief but, through desire and inevitability, becomes a wizard by book’s end. This evolution begins when Conn picks the pocket of the wizard Nevery, who is startled that the nicked magical stone didn’t kill the boy. Nevery takes on Conn as a servant, but the boy’s inquisitiveness and talents move him to apprentice status. Nevery has recently returned to Willmet to save the city-state, which is faltering as its magic seeps away. As Conn becomes more enmeshed in his new life, he navigates through the intricate dealings of both the wizarding world and the political machinations of the Underlord. The events are not as lively as in some middle-grade fantasies—though Conn’s turn as a cat is delightful, and his search for his own stone is very well played. What works wonderfully well here is the boy’s irresistible voice, which is supplemented by the writings of Nevery in his journal, its creased and stained pages appearing as apart of the design. Readers will particularly enjoy the way Conn often knows just a little more than his master, and they’ll look forward to seeing how much more he learns as the series progresses. Grades 4-6. --Ilene Cooper

Review

"Prineas has created an appealing cast of characters, which she carefully reveals through their actions. The story is told primarily by Conn, and is interspersed with cryptic journal entries by Nevery, which offer a tantalizing counterpoint to the protagonist's viewpoint . . . This novel would work well as a read-aloud, as it has a conversational rhythm that moves the plot along." --*School Library Journal*

"Danger, humor, magic, and mystery combine to make an entertaining fantasy tale." --*Kliatt*

"An uncommonly engaging young narrator kicks this debut fantasy ahead of the general run...Conn works his way into the hearts of both his master and the mystery...along the way to a literally explosive climax." --*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"It is a mystery accompanied by danger, intrigue, and betrayal. This first book in a projected series will

appeal to readers who appreciate Jonathan Stroud and J. K. Rowling . . . An eccentric cast of characters, sure to figure more prominently in other series books yet to come, are introduced and explained sufficiently here . . . [as it] illustrates the blend of the comic and darker elements of this novel." --*Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)*

"Readers clamoring for magical tales will enjoy Prineas' fast-paced first novel . . . Prineas depicts Conn, the narrator, as refreshingly candid and a quick study while revealing Nevery as insightful and unexpectedly caring . . . The magical fireworks do not explode until the end, leaving readers confident that Prineas will turn up the heat in the next installment." --*Publishers Weekly*

"This is typical boy-wizard-rags-to-riches fare. What lifts it above the ordinary is a puckish interpretation of its main character, Conn, by narrator Greg Steinbruner. Also in its favor, and something quite often missing in young adult fantasy, is a likable and trustworthy, if somewhat curmudgeonly, adult . . . Nevery Finglas...Steinbruner's skillful performance helps differentiate a wide array of characters and enhances the story's entertainment." --**AudioFile**

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Howard Depriest:

Now a day folks who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources in it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each data they get. How people have to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Looking at a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information mainly this The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) book because this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

James Vera:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book specifically book entitled The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) giving you a different experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful details for your better life on this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Michelle Labat:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray anyone, why because this The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) reserve written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written within good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1)

as good book not only by the cover but also by content. This is one e-book that can break don't evaluate book by its handle, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick this particular!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Heather Killen:

The book untitled The Magic Thief (Magic Thief Series, Book 1) contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy way. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read this. The book was written by famous author. The author will bring you in the new period of time of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site and order it. Have a nice read.

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