

EQUAL RITES

Terry Pratchett

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Terry Pratchett : EQUAL RITES before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised EQUAL RITES:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Another fun readBy Mrs. EntityWell, it's a Discworld book, innit? It's not great literature, but it's a fun read. Pratchett hadn't hit his stride yet, but his style is definitely evolving and this book was a bit tighter and more imaginative than the earlier books.Tradition has it that wizarding ability is passed on to the 8th son of an 8th son when that child is born. So a dying wizard shows up at a remote town in the Ramtops to bestow his power on a newborn child of a blacksmith. But before they can explain that the baby is a girl, the wizard has passed along his power and his staff, and has died. But girls can't be wizards! Granny Weatherwax is called in to try to train little Eskarina to be a witch, but the magical power is too strong. So Granny takes her to Ankh-Morpork and attempts to get her into the Unseen University. When Eskarina is unable to demonstrate her ability, they just laugh her out of the building. She gets a job as a sweeper and uses her employment status to access classrooms and learn surreptitiously. Events in another plot arc come to a head, and it comes down to Esk and a stuttering boy prodigy to save the world. But it seems the more power they use, the more powerful their enemies become. How can they defeat the forces of evil and save the university? Read the book to find out.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Great Book for Fans both New and OldBy Matthew RiesThe young witch of the Chalk downlands goes begins her apprenticeship not knowing that shes being stalked by a long-lived lifeform that likes taking over hosts. A Hat Full of Sky is the 32nd book of Terry Pratchetts Discworld series and the second following Tiffany Aching and her friends the Wee Free Men.A year and a half after Tiffany Aching took on the Fairie Queen with only an iron skillet; shes finally

going to learn proper witchcraft as an apprentice to Mistress Level, who apparently has two bodies. However that is the only thing extraordinary about Tiffany's experience with Miss Level because instead of magic, she's just doing chores and learning practical knowledge. Yet unknowingly Tiffany is doing magic as she has immense power in borrowing just like Granny Weatherwax, but unlike the areas most renowned witch Tiffany doesn't know how to defend herself from those wanting to borrow her. While Tiffany doesn't realize the danger she's in, the Chalk Clan of the Nac Mac Feegles keep an eye on their wee big hag and know what's stalking her and go racing to the rescue with hilarious results. But in the end it'll have to be Tiffany who gets her body back from this immortal foe. The second book of featuring Tiffany and Feegles goes right into the story quickly while also giving information about both early on without taking away from the narrative or unnecessary exposition. One doesn't need to have read *The Wee Free Men* to learn information about the Feegles culture as Pratchett also included a nice little article about them before the story begins, mainly to allay fears from parents that the Feegles are cussing in a children's book. Frankly the only negative from the point of view of an adult is that one could see the major plot points coming, it was just how Pratchett would make them entertaining which he certainly did. While *A Hat Full of Sky* is a young adult book, Terry Pratchett's satirical and narrative writing makes it a great addition to the overall Discworld series. Both new readers and longtime fans will have a good time reading Tiffany learning about being a witch.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Second Time Around
By CustomerOkay, so I'm waiting for a book I won on Library Thing to be delivered and thought I'd read *EQUAL RITES* again and I'm so glad I did. I gave it five stars last time and I wish I could give it five more. It is so fun and funny and such a magnificent story! It is also incredibly well written. Sir Pratchett has a way of painting a scene that is unlike anyone else--a visual shorthand that describes the action perfectly with a sparsity of words. My only complaint about his writing (and I have read a lot of his books!) is that he occasionally draws you out of his story by breaking the fourth wall. He does it beautifully, and deftly draws you back in, but personally I would have preferred he not do it in the first place. It draws attention to his writing and makes me realize he's telling me a tale, rather than keeping me immersed in that tale. But apart from this, what I admire most about Terry is his unique way of looking at life and his uncanny ability to explain complex concepts with both insight and humor. The world lost a true genius when he passed away far too young.

This is a story about magic and where it goes and perhaps more importantly where it comes from and why, although it doesn't pretend to answer all or any of these questions...