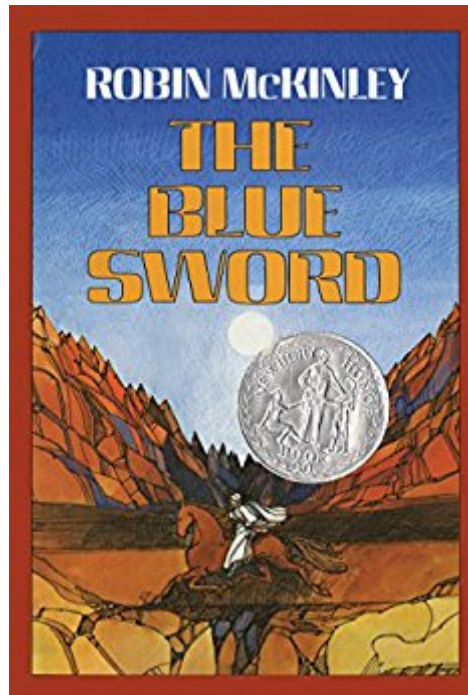


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The Blue Sword



Synopsis

A Newbery Honor Book and a modern classic of young adult fantasy, *The Blue Sword* introduces the desert kingdom of Damar, where magic weaves through the blood and weaves together destinies. New York Times "bestselling and award-winning author Robin McKinley sets the standard for epic fantasy and compelling, complex heroines. Fans of Sarah J. Maas, Leigh Bardugo, and Rae Carson will delight in discovering the rich world of Damar. Harry Crewe is a Homelander orphan girl, come to live in Damar from over the seas. She is drawn to the bleak landscape, so unlike the green hills of her Homeland. She wishes she might cross the sands and climb the dark mountains where no Homelander has ever set foot, where the last of the old Damarians, the Free Hillfolk, live. Corlath is the golden-eyed king of the Free Hillfolk, son of the sons of the legendary Lady Aerin. When he arrives in Harry's town to ally with the Homelanders against a common enemy, he never expects to set Harry's destiny in motion: She will ride into battle as a King's Rider, bearing the Blue Sword, the great mythical treasure, which no one has wielded since Lady Aerin herself. Legends and myths, no matter how epic, no matter how magical, all begin somewhere.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Always a classic. The Blue Sword and The Hero and the Crown are the first books I read by Robin McKinley a LONG time ago. It's a classic that I re-read every few years. A well-written adventure about a city-girl kidnapped and drawn into her unknown heritage in the desert by a man who'd rather not have followed the demands of his kellar. I especially enjoyed that while Hari quickly learned new fighting, survival, and language skills, she had to work at it. So even when life hands you a "super power," it's not an instant fix. As always, Robin McKinley's writing is simply amazing. She forces you to see, smell, and savor the world. You may find yourself turning on your fan to help overcome the desert heat as Hari conquers her sword, her horse, and the heart of her new people and king.

I read this book years ago for the first time. And now I purchased the kindle version. This book's story is timeless and very well written. A classic I feel. I read it again every so often and never get tired of it. I love the premise of the main character who follows her heart and soul's demands and takes on her destiny. A strong woman who listens to her soul's whispers despite her fears, being forged into a sword to fight for her new world and people. One of my favorite books.

It is really hard to rate a classic. I have this in print and have read it several times, I was delighted when it came out in the digital version. The first part of the book drags a little but it makes up for it later. Obviously, I enjoy this book. It was followed by "The Hero's crown" which is also a great book. I then read "Deerskin" which I did not like at all.

I am not good at remembering details after a few decades, so it was fun to read this again. I heard Robin talk about her philosophy of having young protagonists in her novels. She said that she does not want the adults to fail the children, but that circumstances lead to the adventure. It was interesting to read this with her talk in mind. Great story.

This is one of the classic young adult fantasy novels. The characters and setting both come beautifully to life, and the magic weaves effortlessly through the story. I hadn't read this book for many years, and then I wanted a desert themed story, so I pulled it off the shelf. I loved it just as much this time around. Bravo Robin McKinley!

The writing style is impressive. The world is fascinating. Story starts off a little slow but picks off and never halts. Same with the heroine, who is a little dull at first, until she finds herself in a tricky situation with a man who isn't what he appears to be and makes the best of it. McKinley doesn't hit you over the head with the romance, some might say it's too subtle, but this book is mainly about a girl's adventure to find herself in a changing world, and in this it was amazing.

...even the 12th time around. I have owned this book since I was a teenager and devoured the story back then. I was pleased to find the ebook version at a reasonable price allowing me to have the story literally at hand without taxing my well-worn and much loved paperback. This book was written before *The Hero and the Crown*, though the timeline places it after. Don't worry, if you are new to the books the reading order doesn't truly matter...you will fall in love with Damaria and those called upon to save her in whichever time it might be; Harry and Aerin are both fabulous heroines.

I've read this book dozens of times. It has a little bit of magic, great combat without being gory or scary, a wonderfully stubborn and strong heroine, and just enough romance to make you care more than you admit to wanting to care about. It's wonderfully written.

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