

men at arms pratchett

men at arms pratchett is the second novel in Terry Pratchett's acclaimed Discworld series, published in 1983. This fantasy novel continues to explore the humorous, satirical universe of Discworld, focusing on the city of Ankh-Morpork and its evolving City Watch. Known for its wit, memorable characters, and clever social commentary, Men at Arms is a standout installment that enriches the series' rich tapestry. In this article, we will delve into the plot, themes, characters, and significance of Men at Arms within Terry Pratchett's Discworld universe, providing a comprehensive overview for both new readers and longtime fans.

Overview of Men at Arms Pratchett

The Setting: Discworld and Ankh-Morpork

Discworld is a flat, disc-shaped planet balanced on the backs of four enormous elephants, which themselves stand on the shell of Great A'Tuin, the cosmic turtle. This fantastical setting serves as the backdrop for countless stories, blending elements of fantasy, satire, and comedy.

Ankh-Morpork, the largest city on Discworld, is a vibrant, chaotic metropolis that embodies the complexities and contradictions of modern urban life. Known for its diverse population, thriving commerce, and a government often more interested in appearances than effectiveness, Ankh-Morpork provides an ideal setting for stories about societal institutions like the City Watch.

The Main Plot of Men at Arms

Men at Arms follows the evolution of the City Watch, a police force that begins to modernize and expand its scope. The novel centers around Captain Samuel Vimes, a pragmatic and morally upright officer, and his diverse team as they investigate a series of mysterious crimes involving a new weapon—an intelligent and potentially dangerous golem.

The story weaves together multiple plotlines, including:

- The theft and misuse of a powerful weapon.
- The discovery of a secret conspiracy involving the city's nobility and criminal elements.
- Personal stories of the Watch members, highlighting their growth and camaraderie.

The novel explores themes of justice, social change, and the importance of diversity within institutions.

Key Characters in Men at Arms Pratchett

Captain Samuel Vimes

The central character, Vimes, is the stoic and principled leader of the City Watch. His background as a working-class man and his commitment to justice make him a relatable and compelling protagonist. Throughout the novel, Vimes grapples with issues of authority, morality, and the challenge of reforming the police force.

Carrot Ironfoundersson

A human raised by dwarfs, Carrot is an idealistic and earnest member of the Watch. His straightforward sense of justice and unwavering honesty often contrast with the more cynical elements of the city. Carrot's background as a dwarf and his naive optimism play a significant role in the story.

Detritus and Angua

- Detritus: A troll member of the Watch, known for his strength and straightforwardness.
- Angua: A wolf-shaped werewolf who is also part of the Watch. She brings a complex dynamic to the team, balancing her animal instincts with her sense of duty.

Other Notable Characters

- Colonel Banfield: An officer known for his strict discipline.
- Nobby Nobbs: A streetwise and somewhat unscrupulous member of the Watch.
- The Golem: A highly intelligent construct that becomes central to the novel's plot.

Themes Explored in Men at Arms Pratchett

Social Justice and Equality

Men at Arms addresses issues of class, race, and social mobility. Through characters like Carrot and Angua, the novel showcases diversity within the police force and highlights the importance of inclusive institutions.

Modernization and Change

The novel depicts the challenges faced by traditional institutions adapting to new technologies and societal expectations. The introduction of the golem and the reform of the City Watch symbolize progress and innovation.

Justice and Morality

Vimes embodies the struggle to maintain personal integrity in a corrupt or

indifferent environment. The novel examines what it means to serve justice in a complex, morally grey world.

Satire of Authority and Bureaucracy

Pratchett satirizes the often inefficient and self-serving nature of political and police institutions, reflecting real-world issues with governance and law enforcement.

Significance of Men at Arms in the Discworld Series

Development of the City Watch Series

Men at Arms marks a pivotal moment in the Discworld series, transforming the City Watch from a ragtag group into a more organized and serious institution. The novel sets the stage for subsequent books that explore the Watch's evolving role in Ankh-Morpork.

Introduction of Iconic Characters

The novel introduces characters like Carrot and Angua, who become central figures in the series. Their personalities and backgrounds add depth and diversity to the narrative.

Social Commentary and Satire

Pratchett's sharp wit and satirical tone in Men at Arms offer commentary on real-world issues, making it not only entertaining but also thought-provoking.

Critical and Commercial Reception

Men at Arms is widely regarded as one of the standout entries in the Discworld series, praised for its humor, character development, and social insight. It has contributed significantly to the series' enduring popularity.

Impact and Legacy of Men at Arms Pratchett

Influence on Fantasy and Satire Genres

The novel exemplifies how fantasy can be used to comment on contemporary societal issues, influencing writers in both genres.

Adaptations and Cultural References

While Men at Arms itself has not been adapted into major films or series, its characters and themes have appeared in various Discworld adaptations,

including radio dramas and stage productions.

Fandom and Community

The novel's rich characters and humorous style have fostered a dedicated fanbase that appreciates Terry Pratchett's clever storytelling and social critique.

Why Read Men at Arms Pratchett?

For Fans of Humor and Wit

Pratchett's signature humor shines through in Men at Arms, making it an enjoyable read for those who appreciate satire mixed with fantasy.

For Lovers of Social Commentary

The novel offers insightful commentary on societal issues, making it relevant beyond its fantastical setting.

For Those Interested in Character-Driven Stories

With memorable characters like Vimes, Carrot, and Angua, the novel provides emotional depth and character development.

As Part of a Larger Series

Men at Arms is essential for understanding the evolution of the Discworld universe and the development of its key institutions.

Conclusion

Men at Arms Pratchett is a landmark novel in Terry Pratchett's Discworld series, blending humor, social commentary, and compelling storytelling. Its exploration of justice, diversity, and change within the fictional city of Ankh-Morpork resonates with readers and offers valuable insights into real-world societal dynamics. Whether you are a longtime fan or new to the series, Men at Arms remains a must-read that exemplifies Pratchett's mastery of satirical fantasy. Dive into this witty, thought-provoking novel to experience the charm and wisdom that have made the Discworld series a beloved classic in the realm of fantasy literature.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Men at Arms in Terry Pratchett's Discworld series?

Men at Arms is a novel by Terry Pratchett and also the name of the Ankh-Morpork City Watch unit, featuring characters like Carrot and Samuel Vimes as they uphold law and order in the city.

What is the main plot of 'Men at Arms' by Terry Pratchett?

The novel follows the City Watch as they investigate a series of mysterious crimes involving a new type of weapon and explore themes of justice, diversity, and social change in Ankh-Morpork.

Who are the central characters in 'Men at Arms'?

Key characters include Carrot Ironfoundersson, a human raised by dwarves; Samuel Vimes, the Commander of the City Watch; and other Watch members like Detritus and Angua.

How does 'Men at Arms' explore themes of diversity and social order?

The novel highlights the diverse makeup of the Watch, including trolls, dwarves, and werewolves, emphasizing themes of acceptance and unity in a multicultural city.

What role does humor play in 'Men at Arms'?

Humor is central, using satire and witty dialogue to critique social issues and add levity to the story, characteristic of Pratchett's writing style.

Is 'Men at Arms' part of a series, and should I read the previous books first?

Yes, it's part of the Discworld series and the City Watch subseries. While it can be enjoyed on its own, reading earlier books like 'Guards! Guards!' provides better context.

Has 'Men at Arms' been adapted into other media?

As of now, 'Men at Arms' has not been officially adapted into television or film, but elements of the novel appear in various Discworld adaptations and audiobooks.

What makes 'Men at Arms' a popular entry in Terry Pratchett's Discworld series?

Its engaging mix of humor, social commentary, memorable characters, and exciting detective plot make it a standout and beloved installment among fans.

Additional Resources

Men at Arms by Sir Terry Pratchett is a compelling installment in the Discworld series that masterfully combines humor, satire, and insightful commentary on society, politics, and human nature. As the 15th novel in the beloved series, it introduces readers to the City Watch, a police force in the city of Ankh-Morpork, and explores themes of order, chaos, and societal change with characteristic wit and intelligence. This novel is a quintessential example of Pratchett's talent for blending fantasy with sharp social critique, making it a must-read for fans of the series and newcomers alike.

Overview of Men at Arms

Men at Arms was first published in 1993 and is set in the bustling, gritty city of Ankh-Morpork, a place filled with colorful characters, political intrigue, and a healthy dose of absurdity. The story introduces Commander Samuel Vimes, the stalwart leader of the City Watch, who is tasked with maintaining order amidst increasing chaos and supernatural threats. The novel revolves around the Watch's efforts to modernize and professionalize their force, including the introduction of new technology and personnel—most notably, a sentient, self-aware golem named Detritus and the controversial use of a dwarf officer, Carrot Ironfoundersson, who is actually a human raised by dwarfs.

The novel tackles themes such as institutional reform, diversity, identity, and the nature of justice, all woven seamlessly into a humorous and engaging narrative. Pratchett's skill lies in his ability to create multi-dimensional characters that embody these themes, making *Men at Arms* both entertaining and thought-provoking.

Characters and Character Development

Sam Vimes

As the gritty and pragmatic Commander of the City Watch, Vimes is the moral backbone of the novel. His skepticism of authority and desire for justice

often put him at odds with political forces but also make him a relatable and compelling protagonist. Over the course of the story, Vimes grapples with issues of class, race, and duty, exemplifying Pratchett's recurring theme of the importance of integrity and compassion.

Carrot Ironfoundersson

One of the standout characters, Carrot is a human raised among dwarfs, embodying ideals of honesty, straightforwardness, and a sense of justice that transcends cultural boundaries. His innocence and moral clarity serve as a foil to the often cynical members of the Watch, and his character development explores themes of identity and belonging.

Detritus

The golem, who is sentient and capable of independent thought, adds a humorous yet poignant voice to the narrative. His interactions with other characters highlight themes of consciousness, free will, and societal perception of non-human entities.

Pros of Character Development:

- Rich, multi-dimensional characters that grow and evolve.
- The juxtaposition of cynical and idealistic characters provides depth.
- The characters' interactions drive the story's humor and emotional impact.

Cons:

- Some readers may find the large cast overwhelming.
- Certain characters' backstories are only lightly explored.

Thematic Analysis

Societal and Political Commentary

Pratchett uses the setting of Ankh-Morpork and its police force as a lens to critique real-world institutions. The novel explores themes of bureaucracy, corruption, and the need for reform within systems of authority. The introduction of new technology and diversity within the Watch reflect ongoing societal debates about progress and inclusion.

Justice and Morality

A central theme is the nature of justice—what it means to be fair and equitable—and how societal biases influence law enforcement. Carrot's unwavering moral compass contrasts with more pragmatic or corrupt elements within the city, emphasizing that justice often requires moral courage.

Identity and Diversity

The novel celebrates diversity through characters like Carrot, Detritus, and the dwarf officers, challenging stereotypes and highlighting the importance of understanding and acceptance. It questions societal labels and explores the fluidity of identity.

Humor and Satire

Pratchett's humor in *Men at Arms* is sharp, satirical, and often absurd. He employs parody and irony to critique societal norms, politics, and human follies. The comedic elements are balanced with serious themes, making the reader laugh while also prompting reflection.

Some notable humorous aspects include:

- The satirical depiction of bureaucracy and police procedures.
- The humorous dialogue, especially involving Carrot's naivety and Detritus's literal-mindedness.
- Parody of traditional fantasy tropes, such as the sentient golem and the dwarf stereotypes.

Pros:

- Witty and clever dialogue.
- Satirical edge that encourages critical thinking.
- Humor that appeals to a broad audience.

Cons:

- Some jokes may feel dated or culturally specific.
- The satire's sharpness might be lost on readers unfamiliar with the target subjects.

World-Building and Setting

Pratchett's depiction of Ankh-Morpork is detailed and vibrant. The city itself is a character, with its chaotic streets, diverse inhabitants, and unique blend of magic and technology. The introduction of new inventions, such as the golem and improved policing tools, showcases the city's constant state of evolution.

Features of the world-building:

- A rich, humorous history that informs current events.
- A mix of magic, technology, and mundane city life.
- A diverse cast of species and cultures, reflecting societal diversity.

The setting effectively supports the novel's themes and humor, immersing readers in a believable yet fantastical world.

Pros:

- Richly detailed environment.
- Creative integration of fantasy elements with real-world issues.
- A dynamic city that evolves with the story.

Cons:

- Rich detail may be overwhelming for some readers.
- Some aspects of the setting are only lightly explored.

Writing Style and Narrative Voice

Pratchett's writing style in *Men at Arms* is characterized by clarity, wit, and a conversational tone. His narrative voice combines sharp satire with warmth and empathy for his characters. The prose is accessible yet layered, allowing for multiple levels of interpretation.

The storytelling is fast-paced, with a good balance of action, dialogue, and introspection. The third-person narrative provides insight into various characters' thoughts, enriching the story's emotional depth.

Pros:

- Engaging and accessible writing.
- Clever use of language and humor.
- Well-paced narrative that maintains interest.

Cons:

- Some readers might prefer more descriptive detail.
- The tone may seem light compared to darker fantasy or crime novels.

Conclusion and Final Thoughts

Men at Arms stands out as a quintessential Terry Pratchett novel, blending humor, social commentary, and compelling characters into a cohesive and entertaining story. Its exploration of themes like justice, diversity, and societal reform remains relevant today, making it a timeless piece of literature. The novel's humor is sharp, its world-building meticulous, and its characters memorable, all contributing to its status as a cornerstone of the Discworld series.

Whether you are a fan of fantasy, satire, or simply looking for a thought-provoking yet humorous read, *Men at Arms* offers a rich experience. It challenges readers to reflect on their own societal structures while providing plenty of laughs along the way.

Pros:

- Witty, sharp satire with timeless themes.

- Memorable characters with meaningful development.
- Rich, immersive world-building.
- Thought-provoking commentary on society and justice.

Cons:

- Dense cast can be overwhelming.
- Some humor may feel dated.
- Light tone may not appeal to those seeking darker narratives.

In summary, *Men at Arms* exemplifies Terry Pratchett's mastery of blending comedy with social critique, making it a highly recommended read for those who appreciate humor intertwined with meaningful storytelling. It's a novel that entertains and enlightens, encouraging reflection on the nature of society and the importance of moral integrity.

Men At Arms Pratchett

men at arms pratchett: *Men at Arms* Terry Pratchett, 2009-10-13 "Unadulterated fun."—San Francisco Chronicle The fate of Ankh-Morpork rests on the unlikely shoulders of newly promoted Corporal Carrot and his hapless charges in the City Watch in this wildly wacky Discworld novel from the legendary New York Times bestselling author Terry Pratchett. Corporal Carrot is now in charge of the new recruits guarding Ankh-Morpork from barbarian tribes, miscellaneous marauders, unlicensed thieves, and other dangerous Discworld denizens. It's a big job for an adopted dwarf keeping the likes of young coppers Lance-constable Cuddy (really a dwarf), Lance-constable Detritus (a troll), Lance-constable Angua (a woman. . . most of the time) and Corporal Nobbs (disqualified from the human race for shoving) in line. Especially since someone in Ankh-Morpork has been getting dangerous ideas about crowns and legendary swords, and destiny—which points its crooked finger again when an ancient document reveals that Ankh-Morpork has a secret sovereign. What's more, Captain Sam Vimes is getting married and retiring from the Watch. For good. Which is a shame, because no one knows the streets of Ankh-Morpork or its criminal underworld better than him. It's the beginning of the most awesome epic encounter of all time (or at least all afternoon), in which the fate of a city—indeed of the universe itself!—depends on a young man's courage, an ancient sword's magic, and a three-legged poodle's bladder. The Discworld novels can be read in any order but *Men at Arms* is the 2nd in the City Watch collection and the 15th Discworld book. The City Watch series in order: *Guards! Guards!* *Men at Arms* *Feet of Clay* *Jingo* *The Fifth Elephant* *Night Watch* *Thud!* *Snuff*

men at arms pratchett: *Men At Arms* Terry Pratchett, 1997-02-01 A Young Dwarf's Dream Corporal Carrot has been promoted! He's now in charge of the new recruits guarding Ankh-Morpork, Discworld's greatest city, from Barbarian Tribes, Miscellaneous Marauders, unlicensed Thieves, and such. It's a big job, particularly for an adopted dwarf. But an even bigger job awaits. An ancient document has just revealed that Ankh-Morpork, ruled for decades by Disorganized crime, has a secret sovereign! And his name is Carrott... And so begins the most awesome epic encounter of all time, or at least all afternoon, in which the fate of a city—indeed of the universe itself!—depends on a young man's courage, an ancient sword's magic, and a three-legged poodle's bladder.

men at arms pratchett: *Men At Arms - Playtext* Stephen Briggs, Terry Pratchett, 2011-09-30 Scarcely a year on from the events of *Guards! Guards!*, the Ankh-Morpork City Night Watch find their services are once more needed to tackle a threat to their city. A threat at least as deadly as a

60-foot dragon, but mechanical and heartless to boot. It kills without compunction. It is the first gun on the Discworld. The original Watch - Captain Vimes, Sergeant Colon, Corporal Carrot and Corporal Nobbs - are joined by some new recruits, selected to reflect the city's ethnic make-up - Lance-Constable Cuddy (a dwarf), Detritus (a troll) and Angua (a w..., well, best to find out for yourself).

men at arms pratchett: *Men at Arms* Terry Pratchett, 1996-02-15 It was a dwarf's dream. Captain Vimes of the Watch was retiring. That put Corporal Carrot in charge of the new recruits guarding Ankh-Morpork, Discworld's greatest city, from the Barbarian Tribes, Miscellaneous Marauders, unlicensed Thieves, and such. It was a big job, particularly for an adopted dwarf who was so homesick for the gold mines of Ramtop that he often locked himself in the dark room and hit himself on the head with an axe-handle, just for fun. It was a young lord's nightmare. Edward, the 37th Lord d'Eath, newly graduated from the School for Assassins (the ideal institution for those whose rank is higher than their intelligence), had made an astonishing discovery. Ankh-Morpork, kingless for generations, and ruled by Disorganized Crime, had a sovereign! The new king just had to be convinced that he was, in fact, a king. Corporal Carrot had a job. Lord d'Eath had a Task. And so began the most awesome epic encounter of all time, or at least all afternoon, in which good and evil, greed and honor, trolls and dwarves, dogs and bells and swamp dragons would clash, crash, toll, bark, shimmer, and simmer. The fate of a city, indeed a kingdom--nay, a very universe!--was to depend on a young man's courage, an ancient sword's magic, and three-legged poodle's bladder. Don't look so surprised. This is Discworld, where anything can happen. Which means that everything always does.

men at arms pratchett: Summary of Terry Pratchett's Men at Arms Milkyway Media, 2024-01-17 Get the Summary of Terry Pratchett's Men at Arms in 20 minutes. Please note: This is a summary & not the original book. Men at Arms by Terry Pratchett follows the Ankh-Morpork City Watch as they navigate a series of challenges and changes. Corporal Carrot, recently promoted, writes to his parents about the Watch's diversification and Captain Vimes's impending retirement due to marriage. Edward d'Eath, a disgruntled noble and Assassin, discovers Carrot's royal lineage and tries to convince aristocrats of the need for a king...

men at arms pratchett: Beilsteins Handbuch der organischen Chemie , 1970

men at arms pratchett: Power and Society in Terry Pratchett's Discworld Justine Breton, 2025-04-24 A critical deep-drive into conceptions of power and society in Terry Pratchett's Discworld novels, this book brings together experts in fantasy literature, political sciences, economics, philosophy, history, and journalism to consider the intricate social tapestry of one of the most intricate worlds in modern fantasy. Surveying the Discworld's institutionalised power structures from government and police to civil services, banks and societies, it explores ideas such as language, translation, humour, crowds, community, justice and coercion in the series' major works. Featuring analyses of novels such as Men at Arms, Equal Rites, Carpe Jugulum, Guards! Guards!, Jingo, Night Watch, Wyrd Sisters, Witches Abroad and many more, this collection illuminates how Pratchett juxtaposed his narratives with contemporary reflections on social constructs. Broken down into parts looking at social power dynamics, building and destroying worlds and the power of language, the book offers a much-needed corrective to the dearth of scholarship on one of fantasy literature's worldbuilding titans.

men at arms pratchett: Men At Arms Terry Pratchett, 1997-02-01 A Young Dwarf's Dream Corporal Carrot has been promoted! He's now in charge of the new recruits guarding Ankh-Morpork, Discworld's greatest city, from Barbarian Tribes, Miscellaneous Marauders, unlicensed Thieves, and such. It's a big job, particularly for an adopted dwarf. But an even bigger job awaits. An ancient document has just revealed that Ankh-Morpork, ruled for decades by Disorganized crime, has a secret sovereign! And his name is Carrott... And so begins the most awesome epic encounter of all time, or at least all afternoon, in which the fate of a city—indeed of the universe itself!—depends on a young man's courage, an ancient sword's magic, and a three-legged poodle's bladder.

men at arms pratchett: Terry Pratchett's Narrative Worlds Marion Rana, 2018-02-12 This book highlights the multi-dimensionality of the work of British fantasy writer and Discworld creator Terry Pratchett. Taking into account content, political commentary, and literary technique, it explores the impact of Pratchett's work on fantasy writing and genre conventions. With chapters on gender, multiculturalism, secularism, education, and relativism, Section One focuses on different characters' situatedness within Pratchett's novels and what this may tell us about the direction of his social, religious and political criticism. Section Two discusses the aesthetic form that this criticism takes, and analyses the post- and meta-modern aspects of Pratchett's writing, his use of humour, and genre adaptations and deconstructions. This is the ideal collection for any literary and cultural studies scholar, researcher or student interested in fantasy and popular culture in general, and in Terry Pratchett in particular.

men at arms pratchett: The Intertextuality of Terry Pratchett's Discworld as a Major Challenge for the Translator Aleksander Rzyman, 2017-01-06 For the translator, intertexts are among chief problems posed by the source text. Often unmarked typographically, direct or altered, not necessarily well-known and sometimes intersemiotic, quotations and references to other writings and culture texts call for erudition and careful handling, so that readers of the translation stand a chance of spotting them, too. For the reader, the rich intertextuality of Terry Pratchett's Discworld series is among its trademark features. Consequently, it should not be missed in translations whose success thus depends significantly on the quality of translation of the intertexts which, as is highlighted here, cover a vast and varied range of types of original texts. The book focuses on how to deal with Pratchett's intertexts: how to track them down, analyse their role, predict obstacles to their effective translation, and suggest translation solutions - complete with a discussion of the translation of selected intertextual fragments in the Polish version, *Świat Dysku*, a concise overview of intertextual theories, and an assessment of the translator's work.

men at arms pratchett: The Wyrdest Link David Langford, 2014-03-13 A follow-up to the highly successful Discworld Unseen University Quizbook, *The Wyrdest Link* will present itself as qualifying tests for various levels of mastery in Ankh-Morpork City's Guilds and other organisations - from the dignified Thieves' Guild to illicit outfits like the feared Breccia (the trolls' Mafia) or the wholly reprehensive Elucidated Brethren of the Ebon Night (see Guards! Guards!). As before, the straight Discworld general knowledge inquisition - presented with offbeat twists and linking themes - will be varied with trick questions, outrageous bogglers, and the occasional near-impossible poser to suit all levels of Discworld fans.

men at arms pratchett: Discworld and Philosophy Nicolas Michaud, 2016-08-09 In Discworld, unlike our own frustrating Roundworld, everything makes sense. The world is held up by elephants standing on the back of a swimming turtle who knows where he's going, the sun goes round the world every day, so it doesn't have to be very hot, and things always happen because someone intends them to happen. Millions of fans are addicted to Pratchett's Discworld, and the interest has only intensified since Pratchett's recent death and the release of his final Discworld novel, *The Shepherd's Crown*, in September 2015. The philosophical riches of Discworld are inexhaustible, yet the brave explorers of Discworld and Philosophy cover a lot of ground. From discussion of Moist von Lipwig's con artistry showing the essential con of the financial system, to the examination of everyone's favorite Discworld character, the murderous luggage, to the lawless Mac Nac Feegles and what they tell us about civil government, to the character Death as he appears in several Discworld novels, *Discworld and Philosophy* gives us an in-depth treatment of Pratchett's magical universe. Other chapters look at the power of Discworld's witches, the moral viewpoint of the golems, how William de Worde's newspaper illuminates the issue of censorship, how fate and luck interact to shape our lives, and why the more simple and straightforward Discworld characters are so much better at seeing the truth than those with enormous intellects but little common sense.

men at arms pratchett: Fashion in the Fairy Tale Tradition Rebecca-Anne C. Do Rozario, 2018-06-06 This book is a journey through the fairy-tale wardrobe, explaining how the mercurial nature of fashion has shaped and transformed the Western fairy-tale tradition. Many of fairy tale's

most iconic images are items of dress: the glass slippers, the red capes, the gowns shining like the sun, and the red shoes. The material cultures from which these items have been conjured reveal the histories of patronage, political intrigue, class privilege, and sexual politics behind the most famous fairy tales. The book not only reveals the sartorial truths behind Cinderella's lost slippers, but reveals the networks of female power woven into fairy tale itself.

men at arms pratchett: *The Dictionary of Made-Up Languages* Stephen D Rogers, 2011-10-15 Can you converse in Klingon? Ask an Elf the time of day? Greet a speaker of Esperanto? These are among the more than 100 constructed languages you'll find in this book. For each one, author Stephen D. Rogers provides vocabulary, grammatical features, background information on the language and its inventor, and fascinating facts. What's more, easy-to-follow guidelines show you how to construct your own made-up language--everything from building vocabulary to making up a grammar. So pick up this dictionary! In no time, you'll be telling your friends, Tsun oe nga-hu ni-Na'vi pangkxo a fi-'u oe-ru prrte' lu. (It's a pleasure to be able to chat with you in Navi.)

men at arms pratchett: Science Fiction Quotations Gary Westfahl, 2008-10-01 In this unprecedented collection of science fiction and fantasy quotations, the reader revisits the stunning moment when Mary Shelley's Frankenstein monster first comes to life; witnesses the transformation of Robert Louis Stevenson's Dr. Jekyll into Mr. Hyde; is present when Bruce Wayne resolves to become Batman; and overhears the cosmic conclusions of The Incredible Shrinking Man. Drawing upon two centuries of the vast and provocative literature of science fiction and fantasy, this comprehensive book presents more than 2,900 quotations from wide-ranging sources, including science fiction and fantasy stories, novels, films, and television programs. The quotations are organized by topic—alien worlds; darkness and light; robots, androids, and cyborgs; machines and technology; weapons; and more than one hundred others. The reader will encounter the wit and wisdom of renowned authors (H. G. Wells, Ray Bradbury, J. R. R. Tolkien, Ursula K. Le Guin) along with definitive versions of such important statements as Isaac Asimov's Three Laws of Robotics and Star Trek's Prime Directive. With its thorough index, this book is both an invaluable resource for the writer or scholar and an irresistible page-turner for the curious browser.

men at arms pratchett: Alternative Worlds in Fantasy Fiction Peter Hunt, Millicent Lenz, 2005-08-15 Edited by Morag Styles and written by an international team of acknowledged experts, this series provides jargon-free, critical discussion and a comprehensive guide to literary and popular texts for children. Each book introduces the reader to a major genre of children's literature, covering the key authors, major works and contexts in which those texts are published, read and studied. This book provides an illuminating guide to literature that creates alternative worlds for young readers. Focusing on the work of Ursula Le Guin, Terry Pratchett and Philip Pullman, the book considers both the genre of 'alternative worlds' and the distinctiveness of these authors' texts, including Philip Pullman's *The Amber Spyglass*.

men at arms pratchett: Secrets of The Wee Free Men and Discworld Linda Washington, Carrie Pyykkonen, 2008-04-15 A fascinating guide to the international bestselling Discworld series and the award-winning *The Wee Free Men*—soon to be a major motion picture Before J. K. Rowling became the best-selling author in Britain, Terry Pratchett wore that hat. With over 45 million books sold, Pratchett is an international phenomenon. His brainchild is the Discworld series—novels he began as parodies of other works like *Macbeth*, *Faust*, and *The Arabian Nights*. *The Wee Free Men*, one of Pratchett's most popular novels, will be made into a movie by Spider-Man director Sam Raimi. It's the story of 9-year-old wannabe witch Tiffany Aching, who unites with the Nac Mac Feegle (6-inch-tall blue men who like to fight and love to drink) to free her brother from an evil fairy queen. A fun, interactive guide that will explore the land of Discworld, *Secrets of The Wee Free Men and Discworld* is filled with sidebars, mythology trivia, and includes a bio of the fascinating author Terry Pratchett, and an in-depth analysis of his work. This unofficial guide is a great resource for readers of *The Wee Free Men* and the other books of the Discworld series.

men at arms pratchett: *The Modern Literary Werewolf* Brent A. Stypczynski, 2013-05-16 Throughout history, from at least as far back as the Epic of Gilgamesh, mankind has shown a

fascination with physical transformation--especially that of humans into animals. Tales of such transformations appear in every culture across the course of history. They have been featured in the Western world in the work of such authors as Ovid, Petronius, Marie de France, Saint Augustine, Jack Williamson, Charles de Lint, Charaline Harris, Terry Pratchett, and J. K. Rowling. This book approaches werewolves as representations of a proposed shape-shifter archetype, examining, with reference to earlier sources, how and why the archetype has been employed in modern literature. Although the archetype is in a state of flux by its very definition, many common threads are linked throughout the literary landscape even as modern authors add, modify, and reinvent characteristics and meanings. This is especially true in the work of such authors examined in this book, many of whom have struck a chord with a wide range of readers and non-readers around the world. They seem to have tapped into something that affects their audiences on a subconscious level.

men at arms pratchett: *Men at Arms* Terry Pratchett, 2006

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