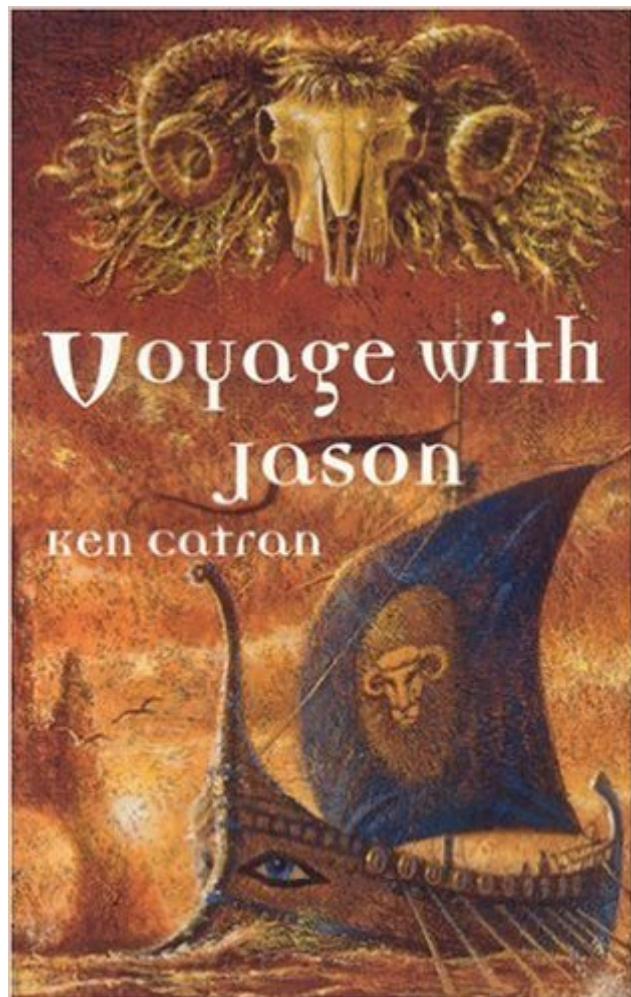


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Voyage With Jason



Synopsis

The story of Jason and his search for the golden fleece is one that is still a favourite with many children. The usurping king, Pelias, tries to get rid of Jason, who is heir to the throne of Icolos, by sending him on an impossible mission - far into unknown seas to bring back a magical golden fleece. Jason assembles a crew of heroes in a new super-galley, Argos. They make way against all the dangers - winged harpies, serpents, clashing rocks, birds that fire braxen wing-feathers like arrows, until they reach Colchis, where Jason faces further seemingly impossible feats and falls in love with Medea, the king's daughter. Ken Catran's reconstruction of the story looks at these events through the eyes of Pylos, a young ship's boy on Argos. Ken aims to deconstruct the magic and mythical elements into what the voyage was - a Greek journey of discovery into the Black Sea. There was a historical Jason, though, and the Colchis hill people to this day wash their fleeces in the streams, where the tangled wool catches tiny fragments of gold in the water. They then burn the 'golden fleeces' to recover the gold.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 5 x 0.6 inches

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #657,501 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Biographical #277 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Greek & Roman #767 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics

Customer Reviews

It was very satisfying for me to re-experience Jason and the Argonauts with my daughter because when I was a preteen I devoured every Greek mythology book I could get my hands on and I believe reading them informed my own writing later in life. She enjoyed this adventurous tale that was narrated by Pylos a lad of fifteen who finds himself voyaging with Jason, Hercules and the rest of the argonauts in search of the golden fleece. It's not for the faint of heart as it does have some violent moments what with all the sword fights. However it's not so descriptive that you'll lose your

lunch while reading it. And we got a kick out of reading about Medea and her s. We highly recommend this tale and think it would appeal to anyone who likes a well-told story.

I saw this book when I was in Australia and immediately had to have it. I've had a lifelong love of Greek myths and legends, and while there are a number of recently published books re-telling stories from the Greek myths, I hadn't seen anything on Jason. I read this one in an afternoon. It's told not by one of the heroes but by Pylos, a boy shipbuilder rescued from a brutal overseer by a man who seems like nothing more than a big country bumpkin. When I found out who the man was, like Pylos I was quivering with awe (no, I'm not going to spoil it for you!). After this encounter Pylos is dropped straight into the strangeness that surrounds Jason's quest for the Golden Fleece with his company of heroes. That sounds grand and glorious, and it is, but Pylos views the great heroes of the Argo with a stranger's eye. The story he tells has not been prettied up and decked out with laurel branches and gold leaf. He describes legendary people who are all too human, countries where the gods still fight over who will be worshipped and who will be forgotten, women with deadly grudges, and kings whose motives are highly mixed. This is a wonderfully believable book about human beings who still manage to accomplish heroic things, and about the ways they find to trip themselves and one another. Catran makes adventure and glory both reachable and dark. I have to track down more of his books!

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