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In a final, desperate attempt to save the empire of the Strand, Mage Jerrof and Lady Marianna embark on a perilous quest in search of the mythical unicorn.

The Unicorn Quest Details

Date : Published June 1st 1992 by Tor Books (first published 1986)

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Author : John Lee

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From Reader Review The Unicorn Quest for online ebook

JB Lynn says

I do love me a unicorn tale. This is a wonderfully rich fantasy world that had me guessing most of the way through as to what was going to happen next. I like that the whole institution of magic was approached almost as if it were a religion, although the magicians do not acknowledge - or believe in - any gods. We don't meet the unicorns until about halfway through, but so far, I like the way they are handled and that each one is given their own personality that can be detected both in their behavior and in their dialogue. A good start to what I hope will be an entertaining series.

Tiffany says

Not a bad story, just took for ever to get it told. Really needed to pick up the pace.

Stephanie says

This enjoyable book is a little uneven in its pacing, but on the whole, it's an entertaining novel.

The plot moves along at a rapid pace- midway through the book, our heroes have found the quested-for unicorns and are headed home with them. The second half of the book drags a bit; there's a lot of descriptive passages about the ongoing war with the planet's mysterious Others, but the plot doesn't advance much. The book ends somewhat abruptly, and while it's set up for subsequent sequels, there's no cliffhanger.

The world and character building moves as rapidly as the plot. Supporting characters come and go quickly, and the protagonists are established very early on and go through minimal development. The world is interesting enough and familiar (eg magic, kings, etc) without being overly trite.

Overall, it's an enjoyable read for any fantasy fan.

Barbi Faye (The Book Fae) says

Only if you love unicorns can you read this book...! Ok grab your glitter, and, go! So, a giant apprentice, Mage Jerrof, and Lady Marianna embark on a dangerous search to find the magical mythical unicorn. A prophecy was told to them to save the threatened Strand from the polluting & poisoning Outland invaders. They leave from the college of Magic on their dangerous and desperate quest, facing many obstacles and evil enemies such as slavering werecats (aww niiice kitty!!!), massive mountains in icy conditions, stormy seas, serial killers and slavers, to talking bumble birds and soaring cloudsteeds. All of this in hopes of finding the Holy Grail of mythical beasts, the magical unicorn to set things right. Easy peasy. lemon squeezy, and save the day and be back for breakfast!

Christine says

This was a slog. Most of the characters were very poorly fleshed out - a lot of them were as substantial as cardboard cut-outs. The book read, at times, as though the editor chopped out massive chunks of text to make the book shorter, and in some places, as mentioned by a previous reviewer, words were used incorrectly.

Oh, and let's not even (spoiler alert, 20+ years after publication!) mention the "twist" that falls flat due to poor writing. No one's ever done the "we're the invaders, not the completely unexplained enemy we're warring with!" bit before, oh no. Totally original.

Mary says

I really liked the story, however it was a difficult read.

The writing style made it unclear what was being said at points, but what was even more annoying is that the text apparently had not been proof read very well. There were multiple instances where the wrong word was used. For instance the word "where" was used when it was obvious that the word "what" should have been used etc.

However the story kept me going and it was worth it.

I do have the 1st print of this book so maybe in subsequent printings the text was proofed better and corrected.

Anyway I would recommend this to anyone who loves Wizards and Magic.

As long as you can get past some of the above mentioned annoyances. For me the story was good enough to keep me hooked in spite of obstacles.
