



Serafina and the Twisted Staff (Serafina Book 2)

By Robert Beatty

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Serafina and the Twisted Staff (Serafina Book 2) By Robert Beatty

The brave and unusual Serafina lives in the magnificent **Biltmore Estate** in the opulence of the Gilded Age and the rugged beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains. But she's caught between two worlds: she's too wild for Biltmore's beautifully dressed ladies and formal customs, and too human to fully join her forest kin.

Filled with history, mystery, and magic for both adults and young readers (8+), this Disney-Hyperion thriller debuted as a **#1 New York Times Best Seller**, earned the prestigious "Starred Review" from Kirkus Reviews, and is now being taught in over a thousand classrooms nationwide. Be sure to watch the exciting book trailer in the media section below.

Late one night while prowling through the forest, Serafina encounters a strange and terrifying figure, and then she's attacked by the vicious wolfhounds under his control. Even worse, she's convinced that the stranger is not alone, that he has sent his accomplice into Biltmore in disguise.

A mysterious series of attacks test Serafina's role as Biltmore's protector, culminating in a tragedy that tears Serafina's best friend, Braeden Vanderbilt, from her side. Heartbroken, she flees.

Deep in the forest, she comes face-to-face with the evil infecting Biltmore--and discovers its reach is far greater than she'd ever imagined. All the humans and animals of the Blue Ridge Mountains are in terrible danger. For Serafina to defeat this new evil before it engulfs her beloved home, she must search deep inside herself and embrace the destiny that has always awaited her.

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Serafina and the Twisted Staff (Serafina Book 2) By Robert Beatty Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5–7—Serafina's tale picks up just three weeks after the defeat of "the man in the black cloak." Serafina would like to settle into a comfortable existence at Biltmore House as Chief Rat Catcher, especially now that the Vanderbilts have accepted her role in their household. She wants to please her father and spend time with her best friend, Braeden. Her plans are thwarted when Lady Rowena Fox-Pemberton visits the estate.

Serafina cannot stand Rowena's snooty ways but is pleasantly surprised when the Lady bravely helps out when mysterious events recur at Biltmore. Many new characters are introduced, such as Mr. Grathan, a guest of Mr. Vanderbilt claiming to be a detective, and Essie, a helpful maid. Serafina's backstory is fleshed out, and readers will relish learning more about her strange origins, including the identity of her father. As in the first novel, the narrative gracefully blends the majestic history of Biltmore House with the ethereal beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains along with the deep-rooted superstition of mountain lore. Serafina's relationship with her catamount mother plays a stronger role this time. The characterization is solid, and the powerful imagery that made the first installment such a success is more consistent here. Readers who enjoyed the first novel will not be disappointed in this continuation and will anxiously await the next exciting adventure.

VERDICT Eerie gothic imagery, a ferociously scrappy heroine, and an elegant setting combine seamlessly to create a captivating mystery that will be well received by fans.—Julie Shatterly, W.A. Bess Elementary School, Gastonia, NC

Review

KIRKUS REVIEW

Even better than its predecessor, a sequel that delivers nonstop thrills from beginning to end. **(STARRED REVIEW)**

Triumphant after her defeat of the Man in the titular Black Cloak in her 2015 debut, Serafina cannot rest on her laurels for long: a new, mysterious evil force has entered the woods and set its sights on the Biltmore Estate. Serafina has slipped into a comfortable routine at Biltmore. The odd-looking girl learns the ways of catamounts from her shape-shifting momma while continuing her cozy home life with her white adoptive pa, enjoys friendship with Braeden Vanderbilt, and maintains a vermin-free environment as Chief Rat Catcher. Suddenly, as a new terror surfaces in the woods, three strangers appear: a snooty British girl named Lady Rowena Fox-Pemberton, the scarred investigator Detective Grathan, and a terrifying gray-bearded man with a twisted staff. On the mountain, all the birds have fled, other animals have gone missing, and sticky black pinesap oozes from the trees. While Mr. Vanderbilt cooperates with Detective Grathan and Braeden entertains Lady Rowena, Serafina must unravel the mystery before all the animals disappear. Beatty delivers an action-packed, suspenseful, emotionally resonant sequel. Serafina's resilience and determination inspire and rally the other characters.

Beatty continues to build a fascinating magical world, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Biltmore Estate developing beyond mere settings into characters themselves. Each place reveals history and clues to Serafina's life and those of other gifted, mysterious beings. Even better than its predecessor, a sequel that delivers nonstop thrills from beginning to end.

GEEKDAD - Review from Andrew Terranova

As much as Serafina learned about herself in the last book, she still has more to learn. There are new surprises and bigger, badder villains. Friendships forged in the first book will be put to the test while new and exciting relationships force Serafina to push herself even further. It is a story about growing up and

really coming into one's power as an individual.

As with the original book, this story is aimed at young readers, but I found it thoroughly enjoyable as an adult. Beatty has created original story lines with a unique heroine, colorful background, strong characters, and plenty of surprises. I highly recommend both books, and I'm confident the third book will keep us all just as riveted.

GOODREADS

"I enjoyed this book even more than *Serafina* and the Black Cloak! ... I enjoyed meeting the new characters and I really loved *Serafina*'s growth and character development!" --Paula

"*Serafina* fans won't be disappointed with Beatty's storytelling, which pulls the reader in at the first chapter. Beatty introduces several new characters as *Serafina* encounters a new mystery and discovers more about her parents. We learn more about Biltmore's history as *Serafina* tries to save the estate from destruction. Middle grade readers will devour this novel and wait in anticipation for the third *Serafina* book!" --Kirsten

From the Author

Dear Readers: Thank you so much for your awesome response to *Serafina and the Black Cloak*, the first book in the series. I can't wait for you to read this next book. I'm hard at work on Book #3 in the series, which will be out in July 2017.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bradley Simpson:

Book is definitely written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can understand everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading talent was fluently. A e-book *Serafina* and the Twisted Staff (*Serafina* Book 2) will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think that open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or ideal book with you?

Kristen Mazur:

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Frederick Roark:

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Nora Mickey:

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