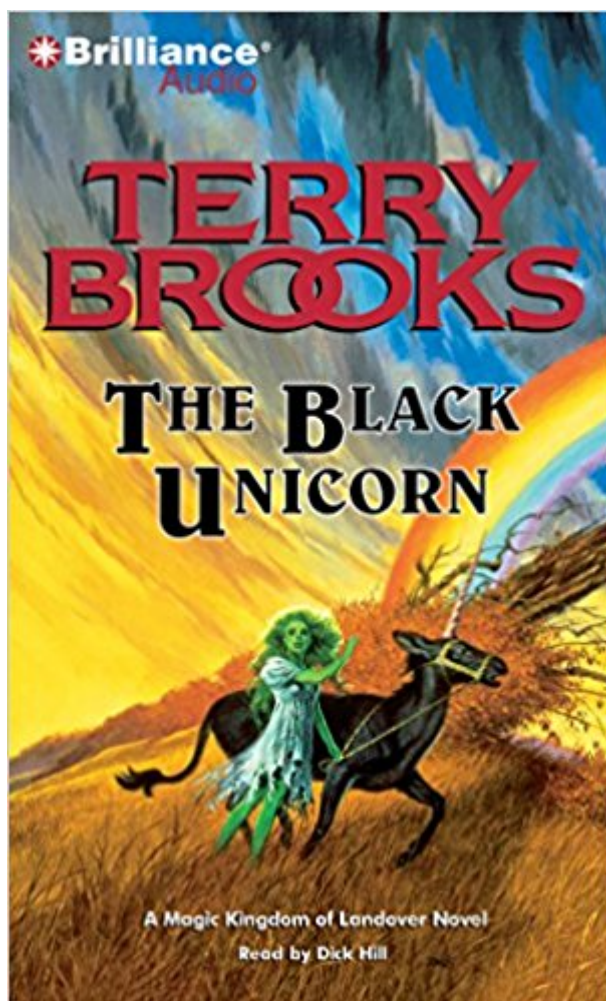


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# The Black Unicorn (Landover Series)



## Synopsis

A year had passed since Ben Holiday bought the Magic Kingdom from the wizard Meeks, who had set a series of pitfalls against him. Ben survived, by the aid of three loyal friends: Questor Thews, an ill-trained wizard; Abernathy, a talking dog, the Court Scribe; and the lovely Willow, who sometimes had to be a tree. But Ben had been troubled by dreams of disaster to his former partner, Miles Bennett. Yet when he returned to Earth, Ben found Miles doing splendidly. Unknown to Ben, the dreams had been a trap by Meeks, who had returned to the Magic Kingdom as a tiny insect hidden in Ben's clothing. That first night back in Landover, Ben awoke to see Meeks gloating over him, claiming to have the medallion that could summon the mysterious knight-protector, the Paladin, and that he had cast a spell to switch appearances with Ben. Ben found himself outcast, no longer recognized by any friend, though all his powerful enemies seemed to know him. Without the medallion, he couldn't seek the help of the Paladin against Meeks. There was only the prism cat - whatever that might be! And where was Willow - and the mysterious black unicorn she'd set out to find?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dreams of trouble, missing spellbooks, and a black unicorn send Ben Holiday, Landover's newest king, his wizard, Questor, and the sylph, Willow, on three separate quests that converge in a battle for control of their magical kingdom. This sequel to *Magic Kingdom for Sale* contains the same welcome touches of humor as its predecessor and confirms Brooks's talent for light fantasy.

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This work confirms Brooks' talent for great fantasy. --Library Journal --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ben has been Landover's King for over a year when he has a disturbing dream about his friend in Chicago. Strangely the Wizard and Willow have had dreams also and all three leave, as if on a quest, to follow up on these dreams even though they are warned by Abernathy, the talking dog, that there is something suspicious about this. This is a classic fairy tale set up, but we have a modern day ex-lawyer from Chicago who is unfamiliar with both fairy tales and magic. Of course trouble ensues. One of the best things was the presence of a Prism Cat who dropped hints to Ben throughout. Unfortunately they flew over his head while the reader (me) screams "No, no, no!!! It's obvious, duh." But of course that does make it a lot of fun. I loved the Cat's explanations when Ben tried to pin it down, "I am a Cat and your companion in this, not your mentor..." which totally aggravates him throughout. Kudos to the Cat.

In this book of the series, several characters display new characteristics that are surprising and interesting. This is also the first book that a unique fairy creature appears. His is my favorite character in the series so far. My husband and I love this series.

I read the entire Landover series years ago and was happy to see them in Kindle format. I finished the first one - Magic Kingdom for Sale - Sold! and was very disappointed at all the spelling & formatting errors, but since it was free, I couldn't complain too much, right? So I purchased "The Black Unicorn" - Kindle version. Again, on just about every other page there are misspelled words, formatting errors, strange characters (print type, not story type.) I'm really shocked at how poorly these things have been converted to Kindle format. As a comparison, I read the Kindle version of the first Shannara trilogy and don't remember any errors, if there were, they were few. I've written, got the standard canned (thank you for your feedback) response and also wrote to the publisher - Del Rey but haven't received a reply yet. I'm taking 2 full stars off this time for the poor conversion to Kindle format. The book is great but since I'm reviewing the Kindle version, it loses points. I just ordered the 3rd one in the series (stupid, I know) but I'm curious to see if there are still errors. If so, I may ask for a refund. To summarize: Great book, poor conversion to Kindle format.

Familiar tropes are comforting, precisely because they are familiar. This is standard fare to be sure. But if it's well done, that's not necessarily a bad thing. And this is well done. The repetitive nature of the emotional set building is all that prevents me from giving it four stars. Five stars would be for something truly transformative. If you love magical fantasy. This is definitely worth your time and attention.

I read the first book because my brother suggested to do so. I pick up this, the second, immediately after finishing the first. This is a great book, but not quite as good as the first. This might just be because I didn't give the first book enough time to settle in my mind before reading the first, or maybe letting enough time pass may weaken this one even more. Whatever the case, I recommend it and will soon be engrossed in the third book in this series.

I love all of Terry Brooks' books! I have almost read all of them. I feel like I know these characters and miss them when not reading about them. I know, sounds crazy, but he really gets you involved in the book.

These series are meant for younger readers and are probably good reads. However they are predictable. I like Terry Brooks just not so much this series.

I have not finished the book yet, but it was in perfect condition.

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