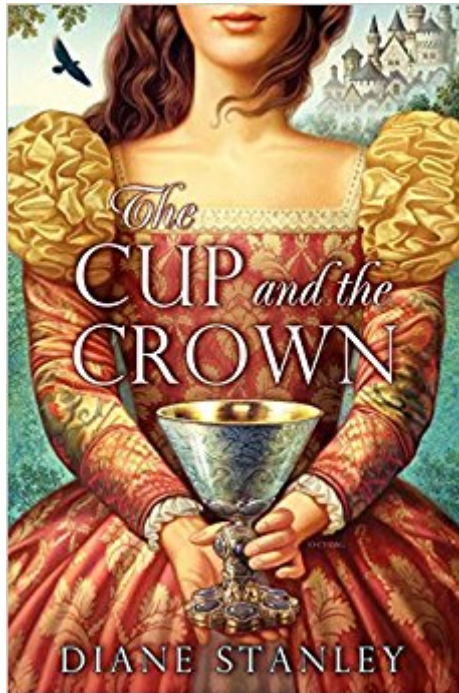




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The Cup And The Crown (Silver Bowl)



Synopsis

Readers who love the adventure in Megan Whalen Turner's Newbery Honor novel *The Thief* will be captivated by Molly's dangerous magical quest in this thrilling sequel to Diane Stanley's novel *The Silver Bowl*. Night after night, Molly has visions of a beautiful goblet: one of her grandfather's loving cups, which he filled with magic that bound people together. So it hardly surprises Molly when handsome King Alaric asks her to find a loving cup to help him win the heart of the beautiful Princess of Cortova. As Molly and her friends Winifred and Tobias journey in search of a loving cup, a mysterious raven joins their quest and appears to guide them all the way to the hidden city of Harrowsgode. There, Molly discovers secrets about her own family as well as the magic of the loving cup. But Harrowsgode is hidden for a reason, and leaving is more difficult than Molly imagined. Will she be able to escape, let alone bring a loving cup to King Alaric?

Book Information

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Series: Silver Bowl (Book 2)

Paperback: 368 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 5-8-Molly is a lady of Westria now, raised from servant to noble status by King Alaric in *The Silver Bowl* (HarperCollins, 2011). Political unrest with neighboring kingdoms means Alaric must secure an alliance by marrying a princess who doesn't want to marry him. He asks Molly to find the

Loving Cup, rumored to be made by her grandfather, which will cause anyone who drinks from it to fall in love. He assembles a crew, including Tobias, friend of Molly and fellow former peasant, to go on a quest to find the cup. The journey leads them to Harrowsgode, the land of Molly's magical ancestors, but this village has a sinister secret, and in order to keep it, no one is ever allowed to leave. Richard the Ratcatcher, a particularly well-rounded and delightful character, is key to helping the Westrians complete their mission and escape. The fast-moving adventure is wildly creative, and suspense builds on every page. Readers who already know Molly will be happy to see her again, but this story stands alone. Background information is skillfully placed, and it never interrupts or bogs down the new tale. The strong friendship between Molly and Tobias and slightly awkward growing feelings for one another is sweet and feels genuine. A story to be cherished and read again and again.-Mandy Laferriere, Staley Middle School, Frisco, TX (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

When Molly's friend, young King Alaric, sends her on a quest to find an enchanted loving cup, she discovers a hidden city, Harrowsgode, where magic is common and where she will find links to her own past and perhaps threats of a forbidding future. As in the first novel of Molly's adventures, the well-received *The Silver Bowl* (2011), the former scullery maid is reluctant to reveal her own powers, which might prove her undoing or perhaps her salvation. Elements of contrivance and episodes requiring willing suspensions of disbelief occasionally weaken this sequel's plot, but the setting remains strong, and Molly and her best friend Tobias continue to be thoroughly engaging characters. An open ending promises a third volume of Molly's adventures, which will surely delight Stanley fans. Grades 5-8. --Michael Cart --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is a sequel to "The Silver Bowl", which was a refreshingly unique story, incorporating fairy tale elements (a "curse" on a royal house, magic [of a sort], a heroine of humble background with possibly mysterious origins) in a very engaging and original way. As with the first book, this story has a reasonable reading level for 10-12 year olds and has good messages of friendship and loyalty. The surprise at the ending leads to a feel that is more bittersweet than the first.

THE CUP AND THE CROWN is the middle book of a very good trilogy by Diane Stanley. In fact, it is better than a lot of middle-of-the-trilogy books, with Molly, the heroine, refining and growing along the way, and learning some remarkable things about herself and her place in the world. Stanley

writes well, with engaging characters and gentle humor. I promptly bought the third book in the trilogy and devoured it in one longish sitting.

Good book

This was a decent sequel but left me wanting more. I felt that the descriptions were there, but there wasn't enough excitement or drama in this book as the first.

I thought that this book is even better than the first book, "The Silver Bowl" I'd recommend it to almost anyone! Diane Stanley has outdone herself!

I really enjoyed the Silver Bowl and as soon as I finished reading it, I ordered this. I enjoyed this as well.

This book was purchased at the request of my teenage daughter so I cannot provide a helpful review. What I can say, from my daughter's actions, is that the book "smells" good. Not sure what it is about new books, but the first thing she does is randomly open the book and stick her face in it to get a whiff. Her reaction indicated that it did pass the "smell" test. That is worth two stars in my book as a dad. The book did arrive before the expected time in good condition which is also worth two stars. As far as content, I will probably never be able to review that since there are many other books that are much higher up my reading list.

I was very disappointed in this book. The Silver Bowl was good but this one just was awful. The main character, Molly, has magic. However, the way this all comes about is unbelievable! I have read many magic books and Diane Stanley has no idea how to develop this in Molly. I won't spoil the story but the ending is hurried and ridiculous! Also, what her uncle is is stupid and so is the ending. In fact, to me, the ending didn't make much sense. I guess she is planning a sequel to The Cup and The Crown but I have no plans on reading it! I wouldn't waste your money on getting this book. If you really want to read it, check it out at a local library.

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