

= Moonrise (novel) =

Moonrise is a children 's fantasy novel , the second book in the Warriors : The New Prophecy series . The book , which follows the adventures of four groups of anthropomorphic wild cats (called Clans) , was written by Erin Hunter (a pseudonym used by Victoria Holmes , Cherith Baldry , Kate Cary , and Tui T. Sutherland) , with cover art by Wayne McLoughlin . Moonrise follows six cats , Brambleclaw , Squirrelpaw , Crowpaw , Feathertail , Stormfur , and Tawnypelt , as they return to their forest home from a journey to the ocean . They travel through the mountains , where they meet the Tribe of Rushing Water , a new group of cats first introduced in this novel . The Tribe cats are being attacked by a savage mountain lion called Sharptooth . Although reluctant at first , the Clan cats agree to help the Tribe get rid of Sharptooth . Series editor Victoria Holmes drew inspiration from locations such as the New Forest and the Scottish Highlands .

Moonrise has been released in hardcover , paperback , and e @-@ book formats , and has been translated into French , Russian , Chinese , Japanese , and German . The book received mostly positive comments from reviews published in Booklist and Horn Book Review , which praised the plot and cliffhanger ending . However , a reviewer for Kirkus Reviews criticized the characters ' confusing names and the writing style . Moonrise held the number two spot on The New York Times Best Seller list for children 's chapter books for two weeks .

= = Development = =

= = = Inspirations , influences , and style = = =

The authors of the series drew inspiration from several natural locations in the United Kingdom . The four Clans (WindClan , RiverClan , ThunderClan , and ShadowClan) share a fictional forest based on England 's New Forest . Loch Lomond is another location that influenced the setting of Moonrise . Some other sources of inspiration for the series include the works of authors such as J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis .

Cherith Baldry , one of the people who write using the pen name Erin Hunter , said that it was hard to write the death of Feathertail at the end of Moonrise because they had to present it in a way suitable for the book 's younger target audience .

Moonrise is written in an alternating third @-@ person limited narrative , with the exception of the prologue , which is written in a third @-@ person objective perspective . The point @-@ of @-@ view alternates between the characters Stormfur , who is with the questing cats , and Leafpaw , describing her experiences as the destruction of the forest begins .

= = = Publication history = = =

Moonrise was written by Erin Hunter , a pseudonym used by authors Cherith Baldry , Kate Cary , Tui Sutherland , and series editor Victoria Holmes . The pseudonym is used so that the individual novels in the series would not be shelved in different places in libraries . Victoria Holmes chose the name Erin because she liked the name , and Hunter because it matched the theme of feral cats . It also ensured that the books were shelved near those of Brian Jacques , an author that the writers , collectively known as " the Erins " , liked .

Moonrise was published as a hardcover by HarperCollins on July 25 , 2005 , in Canada , and August 2 , 2005 , in the US and UK . The book was released as a paperback on July 25 , 2006 , and as an e @-@ book on November 6 , 2007 . Moonrise has been translated into various foreign languages : it was released in Russian on October 18 , 2005 , by OLMA Media Group , in Japanese on March 18 , 2009 , by Komine Shoten , and in French on March 5 , 2009 , by Pocket Jeunesse . The Chinese version of Moonrise was published on April 30 , 2009 , by Morning Star Group . It was packaged with a 3 @-@ D trading card depicting Feathertail , with some biographical information on the reverse side . The German translation was published on February 19 , 2011 , by Verlagsgruppe

Beltz .

= = Synopsis = =

= = = Setting and characters = = =

Moonrise takes place in several locations inspired by similar locales in the United Kingdom . With the exception of a disused mine , the forest in which the cats live is based largely on the New Forest . In addition , parts of the story take place by the ocean and in a fictitious mountain range .

The main characters each come from one of four Clans : ThunderClan , RiverClan , ShadowClan , and WindClan . All Clan cats share a belief in StarClan , a group of spirits usually represented by the stars , who are their ancestors and provide them with guidance . The Clans also follow identical hierarchy structures : Clans each have one leader , a deputy who is second @-@ in @-@ command , and a medicine cat who heals Clanmates in addition to communicating with StarClan . The bulk of each Clan consists of warriors , who carry out hunting for food , patrol borders , and fight battles when they occur . Apprentices are younger cats who are in training to become warriors , or more rarely , medicine cats .

= = = Plot = = =

In the previous book in the series , Midnight , StarClan , the warrior cats ' ancestors , sent four cats (one from each Clan ? Brambleclaw , Crowpaw , Feathertail , and Tawnypelt) on a quest . Squirrelpaw and Stormfur went with them . At the end of their journey , they arrived at the ocean and found an unusually intelligent badger named Midnight . Midnight told the cats that the Clans would have to leave their forest home and find a new place to live , as humans were going to cut down the forest and build a new " Thunderpath " (the cats ' word for a road) .

On the return journey , the Clan cats decide , after consultation with Midnight , to go through a mountain range which they had avoided in their initial travels . There , they meet a Clan @-@ like group of cats called the Tribe of Rushing Water , who have their own set of ancestors : the Tribe of Endless Hunting . The Tribe takes the traveling cats in and gives them food and shelter . The Clan cats discover that the Tribe cats have a prophecy : a silver cat will save them from Sharptooth , a savage lion @-@ like creature that has been killing many members of the Tribe . The Tribe thinks that Stormfur is the silver cat from the prophecy , and he is therefore expected to protect the Tribe from Sharptooth . Although reluctant at first , Stormfur eventually agrees to help the Tribe .

Together , the Clan cats succeed in leading Sharptooth into a trap in a cave . However , their plan to poison Sharptooth goes awry , and Feathertail jumps up to the roof of the cave onto a stalactite , causing it to fall . Both Feathertail and Sharptooth are killed by the impact . The Tribe then realizes that Feathertail was the silver cat in their prophecy , not her brother Stormfur , as they had previously thought . The five remaining cats then continue their journey . The book ends with Squirrelpaw noticing Highstones , which is at the edge of WindClan territory ; they are almost home .

Meanwhile , back in the forest , the Clans begin to experience the effects of the humans ' intrusion into their territories , including lost and poisoned prey , destruction of the forest and cats being abducted .

Moonrise is followed by Dawn , which details the events following the questing cats ' return to the forest , and their subsequent journey to find a new home .

= = Critical reception and sales = =

Moonrise received mostly positive reviews from critics . Sally Estes , writing for Booklist , praised Moonrise for its " cliffhanger " ending " that will leave readers eager for the next installment " , as well as the suspenseful possibility of the destruction of the forest . A reviewer for Horn Book Review

gave a positive review , praising the plot , characters , and writing . The reviewer stated that " Hunter successfully weaves character , plot , and good writing into another readable story " . Hilary Williamson , writing for BookLoons , gave Moonrise a positive review , calling it " exciting " and a " gripping epic " . A reviewer for Kirkus Reviews criticized the novel for mundane writing , easy to confuse names , and the use of the words " meowed " and " mewed " instead of " said " . The reviewer thought that the plot was " marred by the same preciousness of its predecessor " , but praised the plot for its " enhanced complexity " and suspenseful writing , saying that " a small plot twist is refreshing and suspense builds steadily towards the final installment " . The novel has also been mentioned for containing " magic , fantasy , and heroic adventure " , and was recommended to fans of Harry Potter as possible reading material after that series ' end . Moonrise reached The New York Times bestseller list for children 's chapter books , holding the number two spot for two weeks . It was also ranked 121st on USA Today 's bestseller list during the week of August 11 , 2005 . The work was also a success in Canada , reaching number seven on the Leader Post children 's bestseller list , and remaining in the top 15 for seven weeks . In a Fairfield , Greater Victoria store , Moonrise was reportedly more popular than Harry Potter .