

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Dagny
Author: Matt Luedke
Genre: Fiction - Short Story/Novela

Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

3

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development: Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

5

Formatting: Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

4

Marketability: Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

4

Overall Opinion: The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

4

Review:

Reviewed by Emily-Jane Hills Orford for Readers' Favorite

There is evil adrift in the Scandinavian forest known as Mystwood. Dagny, left alone to tend the family's herd of reindeer, is confronted by a dangerous troll who threatens not only her but also her reindeer. Mesmerized by the evil troll's glaring eye, she struggles to regain her sight and her ability to defend herself and what's hers. In Matt Luedke's *Dagny*, a legend unfolds, complete with an elven prodigy who must learn her powers and how to control them to find and retrieve what is rightfully hers, before all is lost and destroyed when the shadow creature interferes. Her name means new day, something more powerful than the past or the present as all that is new redefines and ensures the future. But Dagny is strong, a wild force to be reckoned with.

Matt Luedke's novella, *Dagny*, reads like a treasured Scandinavian legend. The plot follows Dagny's quest into the magical forest to save her reindeer. It's a journey of self-discovery as Dagny learns more about her powers, her wild spirit, and who she really is. It's a coming-of-age story, as the main character must grow with her powers as each encountered obstacle presents new challenges. The author is a master storyteller and has readers enthralled from the very beginning. The narrative is captivating and dialogue is used effectively to move the story along. Although I found the use of swear words a little distracting, taking away from the legendary appeal of the story, overall, this was an enjoyable read.