



## Return to the Isle of the Lost

*Melissa de la Cruz*

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There's no place like home. Especially if home is the infamous Isle of the Lost. Mal, Evie, Carlos, and Jay haven't exactly turned their villainous noses up at the comforts of Auradon after spending their childhoods banished on the Isle. After all, meeting princes and starring on the Tourney team aren't nearly as terrible as Mal and her friends once thought they would be.

But when they receive a mysterious invitation to return to the Isle, Mal, Evie, Carlos, and Jay can't help feeling comfortable in their old hood—and their old ways. Not everything is how they left it, though, and when they discover a dark mystery at the Isle's core, they'll have to combine all of their talents in order to save the kingdom.

## Return to the Isle of the Lost Details

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Author : Melissa de la Cruz

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Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Childrens, Middle Grade



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## From Reader Review Return to the Isle of the Lost for online ebook

### Jazmin says

It seems to be an interesting way to continue the story. but if I don't see something from Mal and Ben I'll be really disappointed

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### Julia Sapphire says

#### 3.25 stars

This book was actually a very pleasant surprise! As I did enjoy the first book, I still felt the second book would be just "meh". Boy, was I wrong! Despite my 3.25 stars, this book was an exciting and compelling middle grade novel.

The plot was really fun! The children of popular villains have to return back to the Isle of the Lost, they have received notes saying they have to return. We watch them sneak out and arrive and their journey and discoveries. This is such a nice adventure novel, it has short chapters and multiple perspectives. I felt some lines were cringe-worthy and cheesy though.

The characters are all really interesting! Mal, Maleficent's daughter, is one of my favorite- probably my favorite. She is strong, kind of snarky, and looks out for her friends. Evie, the Evil Queen's daughter is cool, she also has her friends backs. Carlos, son of Cruella De Ville is another favorite, he is snarky and just an interesting perspective to follow. Jay, son of Jafar, is the same as the others, funny and overall helpful to his friends. We also got Ben's point of view, who is the prince and Mal's boyfriend. I REALLY liked him! So kind, respectful and caring but not clingy. He's so charming and supportive, I thought him and Mal were great together. I really liked the four friends and their bond. They grow closer in this book, and it's nice to see friends who support one another and trust each other.

I feel that the ending was satisfying but I definitely feel there is more room for a third book!

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### Lola says

Unlike the majority of readers, I did not find *Return to the Isle of the Lost* to be better than its predecessor.

But that's most certainly because it's so *different*.

*The Isle of the Lost* had snarky characters and plenty of villainous yet silly and fun scenes, while this sequel to both the book and movie has a very, again, different type of atmosphere and thousands of corny - Disney-*ish* - moments.

Mal, Evie, Jay and Carlos are now good. Seriously good. There is not an ounce of villainy in them anymore. They changed so, so much.

And that's okay, because it's what had to happen, but it did make this book less entertaining for me.

I also thought the characterization was poorly executed. Normally, I enjoy this type of fairytale-*ish* writing style suited for middle graders, but to me it felt like the author wanted to focus more on the action/adventure of the story than the characters themselves.

So it's fast-paced and diverting as many, many things are happening and even the mystery is well done but, sadly, I felt disconnected from the characters and did not enjoy the writing and atmosphere as much as I did in the first book.

All in all, it's a charming read for young kids, though I do think it will be *exceptionally fun* on the big screen, do the producers decide to use any of the content of this book for *Descendants 2*.

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### **Juan Vorágine says**

**3,5**

Aunque estos libros tengan toques infantiles, creo que cualquier fan de Disney los va a disfrutar muchísimo. Además, los protagonistas son los hijos de villanos como Maléfica o Cruella de Vil (dos de mis villanas favoritas \*-\*). También me ha encantado que la autora haya escogido a los hijos de villanos en vez de príncipes y princesas, ya que esto le da mucha originalidad a la trama y nos muestra el mundo Disney desde otra perspectiva.

Reseña completa: <http://voragineinterna.blogspot.com.es/2015/07/return-to-isle-of-lost-2-descendants.html>

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### **Sue (Hollywood News Source) says**

*Anti-hero* is the villain that you root for in the story. An anti-hero is a hero who isn't perfect. An anti-hero doesn't ride up in a white horse, or have shining golden hair and wonderful manners. In fact, an anti-hero doesn't look like the typical hero of a story at all. Anti-heroes can be crude and ugly and selfish, but they are heroes nonetheless. As flawed as an anti-hero is, they're trying to do the right thing. You are all anti-heroes, and I'm proud of you.

### **My favorite anti-heroes are back.**

Return to the Isle of the Lost is a great follow up. I really like it compared to The Isle of the Lost. The

writing, and characterization drastically improved!

**Favorite parts:** the camaraderie of Mal, Evie, Jay, and Carlos

**You get to see more of Mal and Evie supporting each other. Yo.**

**I love that King Ben has firm roots in the plot.**

Even though, there's a romance undertone, it didn't reign over the plot. The main focus was been solving the mystery, and the bond of the four kids. **Perfect for young readers, especially who love the first book and Disney's adaptation.**

**Actual rating:** It's hovering between 3.7 to 4 stars.

**Explanation:** I skipped the parts were there were snakes on it.

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**Pang says**

**"Anti-heroes can be crude and ugly and selfish, but they are heroes nonetheless. As flawed as an anti-hero is, they're still trying to do the right thing. You are all anti-hero, and I'm proud of you."**

**We Evils Anti-Heroes Lives and I love you!**

*Much better than the first one.* **Wow so many new interesting characters** which I couldn't wait to see if they going to appear in the movie. That's Ginie Jordan! and Camelot! \*ahem\* Merlin and Antie \*ahem\* More roles of King Ben ( Our Ben ) Yeah He is not the prince anymore, and that's mean Mal is the queen? Not yet, I think. But who care? she is the King's sweetheart. xD

**Friendship is magnificent in this one.** and I love them all! Mal, Evie, Jay and Carlos. How they help each other and gone through adventure Quest? together. The friendship is just powerful. They have to return to Isle of the Lost for a reason *Mysterious reason..* You should find out by your self. ;)

**The Last Words I still insist.. MORE ROMANCE PLEASE!!!!**

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**Lauren Young says**

**YOU MAY NOT WANT TO READ MY REVIEW IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THE BOOK!**

This was an amazing sequel and I love that it ended with a cliff hanger. I can't wait for the next book to come out!!! I love how different twists pop up here and there and some you may not suspect. If you've read the first book and loved it, you DEFINITELY have to read this one! I wished that it had included more details about retrieving each talisman but that's just my opinion! I thought all along that the lizard was a fake and that the dragon was truly Maleficent. I didn't expect that ending though.

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### **Nanci \*\*Warning\*\*IWASASailor??MyMouthisDirty says**

I'm not going to rate this book or really review it. I put it on here because my daughter wanted to see what I did on GR and she wanted to read this book together. That said, this is cute. I can't wait for the movie to come out but to rate this would be ridiculous. My daughter loved it so for her she wants a 5 star. Me, I thought it was cute but to mark down to a 3 wouldn't seem fair seeing as I'm not 9. And that is the audience that is currently reading this, so they should rate the book. Do I recommend it for your kids, nieces/nephews, cousins or whoever else in the 3rd 4th grade? Absolutely.

Do I think I should be reading this book on my own. No, I'm sorry but it's clearly for elementary school kids. Were there some errors? Yes, of course but honestly a lot of books have errors. Yes, some names were misspelled but my daughter wasn't freaking so I didn't either. She laughed, she oohed and she did her I told you that would happen speech. The thing I loved most was enjoying this with her. I loved her big cheesy smile and her giggles over a character. I even enjoyed her getting mad over some of the characters she doesn't like. For that experience alone it's well above a 5 star book.

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### **Kayla says**

Return to the Isle of the Lost by Melissa de la Cruz follows after the movie happens. Mal and the other descendants are getting settled in at aurodon but evil is calling them back.

#### **CHARACTERS-**

I love all these characters and I just need them in my life.

I love all their personalities and I love their sense of fashion as well.

#### **ROMANCE-**

So,, I don't ship Mal and Ben. I've tried but it's just not my thing. Opposites attract but not this far, Mal is made from pure evil and Ben is 100% good so this relationship is doomed.

#### **PLOT-**

Plot is still interesting and intriguing.

#### **Ending-**

Left off great! Can't wait til next one.

Characters-8/10

Romance-4/10

Plot-10/10  
Ending-8/10

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## Darth J says

2.75 stars

If you pick this up at Target, the backside of the jacket has this map:

As you can see with these areas, there's a quest that needs to happen for our 4 young heroes. Mal, daughter of Maleficent, must find a dragon egg. Jay, son of Jafar, needs to find a golden cobra. Evie, daughter of Snow White's Evil Queen, is tasked with finding a poison apple (which borrows more from the story of the Garden of Eden than what happened with the apple in the fairy tale). And Carlos, son of Cruella, needs to get a ring of envy. While the first 3 are children of sorcerers, it's bizarre that Cruella's progeny needs something magical because she doesn't have powers (unless we're going by the *OUAT* continuity, but that still doesn't mesh with the supposed magic of the ring here). I've said it before and I'll say it again: Carlos is a useless character. It would have made more sense for him to be the son of Ursula or another villain who was magical because it would round out the cast's utility.

This quest doesn't even take place until the last 80 pages of the book, but the rest is entertaining. There are some red herrings that allude to Maleficent being the villain, but when the author introduces Merlin it's fairly obvious that the protagonist is (view spoiler)

Another issue I have with the story is the technology. It feels anachronistic to have phones and computers and televisions in a fairytale kingdom. I get that this is supposed to appeal to teens but it sacrifices the timelessness of the original stories to such pandering; maybe enchanted scrolls and portable magic mirrors (which Evie uses) would have fulfilled this purpose better than having apps and video games? All it does is make the reader question why certain things are updated to reflect modern times while others are left in antiquated conditions. [Note: Yes, I'm aware this isn't the author's decision as this is a tie-in with a pre-existing Disney franchise; all I'm saying is that it doesn't make that much sense for the world.]

The book has technical errors too. Page 271 has *talisman* misspelled as "tallisman", because the editors couldn't be bothered to run spellcheck. Page 38 finds Prince *Naveen* misspelled as "Naveem".

All in all, while this is a fast popcorn read and a little bit entertaining, I'm still saddened by the watered-down vision of the classic Disney oeuvre. This whole *Descendants* thing just feels like innocent fanfiction (as opposed to slash), in that it doesn't capture the tone or essence of any of the original characters but uses their likenesses anyway. To me, it just isn't canon.

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## **Kerry says**

This is an adventure. The reformed "villain kids" embark on a mission to save the world as they know it.

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## **Veronique says**

I liked the first book, however I didn't enjoy this book that much.. first you should know that even this is the second book the story picks up after the movie. If you didn't see the movie you sure miss the first part of the book to understand what happened in the movie. It didn't grip me, I didn't care about the plot or the characters anymore. This should have been a standalone with the movie.. although I kind of kept reading because I like Disney so yeah 2.5\*

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## **Alex ? Deranged KittyCat ? says**

**[June 2016 edit]** Yes! I got it!

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## **Jessica says**

This book was great.

I liked how it took place in both Auradon and the Isle of the Lost. It even briefly explored other places like Camelot, Neverland, and Charmington Cove (where Cinderella lives).

There were some new characters as well as characters from the movie. Also Ben had a larger role in this book than he did in the previous one.

I enjoyed the plot and the quest and everything fit together nicely.

The ending sets up a new movie and/or book perfectly. I can't wait to find out what happens next.

Overall, a solid book in the Descendants franchise.

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### **Sharon Mariampillai says**

This was an amazing read. I loved how the story took place in both Auradon and the Isle of the Lost. Also, it also gave us a look into Camelot Heights, Netherlands, and Charmington Cove. Also, we learn more about what happened after the dome broke in the first Descendants movie. I love the characters all the same. These four villains are the villains that we root for. They each have their individual talents. Also, I absolutely love Ben. He is a great King of Auradon. I thought he ruled fair and justly. The ending prepares us for the next book or movie in store. I am still wondering if the second Descendants movie will be the sequel to this book or a sequel to the third book. I can't wait to find out. Overall, an incredible read.

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