



Yellowfang's Secret

Erin Hunter

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Yellowfang has dedicated her life to ShadowClan. She is a loyal medicine cat, ready and willing to do anything to protect her Clanmates and keep them safe. But a dark secret haunts her, threatening her life and the lives of every cat around her....

Yellowfang's Secret Details

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From Reader Review Yellowfang's Secret for online ebook

Clara Madden says

The following contains no spoilers.

"Yellowkit always dreamed of becoming the greatest Warrior in all of Clans, but that was not meant to be: StarClan had picked out her destiny right at birth and that was to care for her Clan, to become a Medicine Cat. This story is about love, pain, and protection."

Aaah, good ol' Warriors. I grew up with this series, being a fan for about five or six years. I literally cherish this whole series and it's inspired me to read more, draw more, and write more. There were bumps in the road (and a lot of tears) but this series makes me so happy.

I usually think that rating something "three stars" is bad and that the book isn't GREAT, but for this, that isn't the case. At all. The only reason I didn't give it four or five stars was because it was so sad. After reading it, I felt like I needed to have a good, long cry. But I couldn't help but love it because the writing is great, it's really dramatic, and Yellowfang is such a great character. Overall, I loved it. As usual.

Anna says

Those who read the first arc of 'Warriors' know the story of Yellowfang: warrior, medicine cat, mother, outcast. She certainly had a remarkable life and deserved her own book. But had this book done Yellowfang's story justice? My answer would be both yes and no, because 'Yellowfang's Secret' has many merits and just as many demerits.

I'll start by saying that there are a lot of inconsistencies with the other 'Warriors' books. A lot. It's understandable that with four story arcs, over 20 books and five generations of characters certain contradictions are inevitable, but in 'Yellowfang's Secret' there are way too many of them and they are too outlandish. Some of them were explained, such as Nightpelt becoming an elder early due to his illness and thus making it possible for him to be brothers with strong and young Clawface, but there are so much more, like Mudfur starting his training as a medicine cat as an apprentice while in 'Crookedstar's Promise' he had already been a warrior or Cinderfur being Clawface's son while he clearly was an elder in the first arc while Clawface was a young warrior. Moreover, Clawface and Cinderfur's personalities are reversed: out of a sudden, Clawface, Brokenstar's assistant and murderer, is portrayed as level-headed and calm, and Cinderfur, who later lead a rebellion against Brokenstar, becomes the first to follow him around. And why Dawncloud is one of the youngest cats in the Clan while it was said in 'Into the Wild' that she was one of the oldest? What annoys me the most was how Boulder's whole backstory and personality were changed. It's as if Boulder from this book and Boulder from the first arc are two different cats: (view spoiler)

The secondary characters weren't exactly too bad, but they were noticeably less developed. It's a bit inevitable with Super Editions that bring in entirely new casts, but I felt that 'Bluestar's Prophecy' and 'Crookedstar's Promise' coped with this task just fine. Both Yellowfang and Raggedpelt have siblings, but they are so minor that we barely know them. Featherstrom, Nettlespot and Hollyflower were good, but it's not until the second part of the book when more characters like Nightpelt, Cloudpelt, Fernshade, Flintfang and the others become prominent. For example, the relationship between Yellowfang and Runningnose never

failed to cheer me up, just as Cloudpelt's friendship with her, and Nightpelt became one of my favourites: because of his illness, he has to work twice as hard as the others to keep up with the rest of the Clan, but he doesn't give up, and he isn't wallowing in self-pity. (view spoiler) I think that deserves real respect. To return to 'Yellowfang's Secret', many of the ShadowClan cats remain just names with no personality behind – Blizzardwing, Wolfstep, Frogtail, Flinchflight. And it annoys me how one-dimensional Foxheart, Yellowfang's rival, is. She is mean and jealous for no reason as if the author just wanted to make her look bad, and she has no depth and no trace of complex personality of Dustpelt, Sharpclaw or even Thistleclaw who all were somewhat of antagonists but still interesting characters on their own. Foxheart, on the other hand, has no traits save for her meanness.

But what makes me really angry is the supernatural element added to justify Yellowfang's transition to the medicine cat. (view spoiler) I love the development that leads the heroes from the life of the warrior to the path of the medicine cat, but in this case it wasn't Yellowfang's own decision, but her 'destiny' that was chosen for her by StarClan. And the most curious thing, Yellowfang's transition from warrior to medicine cat was actually very well done, from Yellowfang starting helping Sagewhisker out because she can't bear seeing her Clanmates suffering to her becoming reluctant to fight because she knows too much of injuries to willingly inflict them. However, she doesn't *need* to have supernatural gift to wish helping others or abhor violence, and it could've been handled excellently and even would've given Yellowfang more depth without entangling her (view spoiler) in it. It was clear from early on that Yellowfang certainly had a talent for healing, and it was interesting to see how she put her skill and her new ideas into work, improving the medicine cat art. The whole-hearted devotion with which she treated her Clanmates and refused to give up on them made a powerful story, especially when she chose to follow the path of medicine cat despite her previous doubts.

The story itself dragged for a long while at first, but it still provided such fine bonuses as exploring the relationship between Clan cats and cats from Twolegplace like kittypets and rogues and presenting a never before seen rivalry between ShadowClan and WindClan, expanding our knowledge of the forest Clans. In the end, it's Yellowfang's story itself that makes the book stand out. Yellowfang's life wasn't easy, and she and her Clanmates suffered a lot, but however dark the story was, I enjoyed it greatly despite of it – or maybe because of it. In a way, I liked that sense that retrospect knowledge of the heroes' fate gave me, the awareness that Yellowfang's happy childhood and apprenticeship would not last, that Raggedpelt's actions would backfire horribly, the sad truth that however dark the events seemed to be, the worst was still ahead. 'Yellowfang's Secret' is that type of book where you know from the very beginning that you would sob all throughout the story, and love it nonetheless.

That being said, I was surprised to realize that I actually like relationship between Yellowfang and Raggedpelt. It's pretty dysfunctional – but considering how tragic Yellowfang's life is, you don't expect love on the first sight like with Bluestar and Oakheart or a sweet, cuddly romance like with Crookedstar and Willowbreeze. Raggedpelt is a judgmental jerk, he can be cold to those who care about him, he snaps a lot, but Yellowfang isn't all over her head about him and she isn't going to tolerate his behavior just because she likes him, though she isn't ashamed of admitting she is proud of him and wants to be with him. (view spoiler) And this is how the noble even if secretive and harsh-hearted Clan turned into a gang of murderers who still believed they were in the right. It's no wonder that Yellowfang's heart was completely broken, her resentment and hopelessness growing as she was forced to watch her son destroy everything she ever loved and was helpless to stop any of it.

And yet... As the last spoonful of tar in the barrel of honey, I have the feeling that the ending was rather rushed. Of course, the brunt of the disasters befalling ShadowClan only happen after Brokenstar takes over, but I think that this section of the book should have been longer and more detailed. Otherwise it seems as if

the authors realized how many events they still have to fit in the story and crammed in all in the last quarter of the book. (view spoiler) I admit that the book would've become way too dark otherwise, and it is already dark, but it seems like such a missed potential for deeper drama.

Cat says

This book seriously made me weep.

It was depressing.

Yellowfang lost everything.

In the beginning, I was so in love with the book.

I love Raggedpelt, and I loved the relationship he had with Yellowfang. I knew it was going to end, and I knew their history, but I never knew how devastating it truly was.

First off, Raggedpelt/star was confusing. He had mood swings. He could be so devastatingly sweet and charming and gentle and enigmatic, a mixture of beauty and pain, or he could be mean and cruel, unpredictable and volatile. It was just mind-boggling.

And then there was Yellowfang. Reading about her not being grumpy let me understand why she became grumpy, considering all she'd been through. But it was still weird seeing her so young and active and cheerful (most of the time).

Somewhere around the time Yellowfang became a medicine cat, I wanted to give up on the book. I knew I'd be disappointed if I did, but even when I finished the book, I was disappointed.

I hate Raggedstar for being so blind, so proud. I hated him for not seeing what he was doing wrong, for asking for Yellowfang's help when it was already too late, already done. I hated him for electing Brokentail as deputy, knowing either way, Raggedpelt would die by the work of his son, but he could at least have left not leaving such an evil cat as leader. I know I can't pin all the blame on him, but I'm so angry.

And Yellowfang. She heard the prophecy. Cruel as it sounds, she should have killed Brokentail the moment he was born and she saw that twisted look of hatred and rage on his face. He's a beast. There was even an omen--both of his sisters died and only he survived, just a sign of the death and destruction he was to bring. He should have never been born.

I'm sorry that Yellowfang and Raggedpelt couldn't be together, ultimately, though.

I cried when Raggedstar died--I knew it was all Brokentail's fault and I dreaded what was to come.

And doesn't anyone else find it disturbing how utterly alone Yellowfang was at the end, with no Raggedpelt in StarClan to greet her at the Moonstone, with no solid foundation for a future?

Even Crookedstar, with everyone he loved dead, killed by Mapleshade, had a happy ending. He didn't let death end his love. He knew he would be reunited with his loved ones in StarClan. Yellowfang has nothing. I closed *Yellowfang's Secret* with a heavy heart and a feeling of no closure. And closure is very important to me.

Nonetheless, this was a excellent, if not depressing, book.

Shae says

I'm a longtime fan of Warriors. I am 15, and I started reading these when I was 10. The people who introduced me to these don't read them anymore, but I still continue to love them.

When I read all the books, I had never liked ShadowClan. I always went from loving ThunderClan to WindClan to RiverClan, but never ShadowClan. I always saw them as evil, as Brokenstar and Tigerstar lead

them, and I didn't really ever like Blackstar. I think it was past due that ShadowClan got a book about them.

I love these super editions that give us more information on the backstory of a cat, and Yellowfang had a very interesting story to tell. If you've read Warriors, I would strongly suggest reading this book. It is very good and gives you not only Yellowfang's history, but about ShadowClan when Brokenstar had taken over.

Joseph Leskey says

This was fairly good. The reasoning of the cats was quite a bit lacking in quality, but I suppose one must forgive them.

Rustin says

I'm going to start off by evaluating the back of the book.

"Yellowfang has dedicated her life to ShadowClan. She is a loyal medicine cat, ready and willing to do anything to protect her clanmates. But Yellowfang's dreams are haunted by a dark prophecy one that whispers a devastating secret that will threaten her future and the lives of every cat around her."

Yellowfang hasn't always been a medicine cat. She received her warrior name long before she was a medicine cat, from Deerleap. A fierce but very elderly warrior. The prophecy is about a kit that should have never been born. That kit is one of three.

Now for the book.

The story starts when Yellowfang is known as Yellowkit. Yellowkit's brother, Nutkit, has eaten a bad piece of prey. Yellowkit feels the same pain, but she didn't eat the prey. This is the very first hint that Yellowkit could have some kind of powers. The second hint is when she is an apprentice. Some warriors get wounded in battle, and she can feel all the pains that they are feeling, not just her own. Yellowpaw is now Yellowfang. When she tells Sagewhisker, the current medicine cat, about her pains, she says Yellowfang should be a medicine cat because she could know where the pains are, but Yellowfang refuses, because she believes that her path is to be a warrior.

Later on in the book Sagewhisker is asking Yellowfang to do medicine cat tasks very often and it really ticks her off. Yellowfang was always jealous of Raggedpaw when she was a kit, but now Yellowfang kind of likes him. But finally Yellowfang gives in and decides that StarClan wants her to be a medicine cat. Yellowfang decides she can't see Raggedpaw any more.

Later on, Yellowfang finds out she is pregnant, but it is against the warrior code for Medicine Cats to have kits! She tells Raggedstar and Sagewhisker, and Raggedstar is so happy and he wants the whole clan to know that Yellowfang is carrying his kits. But Sagewhisker and Yellowfang both agree that it is too dangerous. So Yellowfang has her kits and two of them die, but one survives.

Brokentail is now deputy, and Raggedstar is killed by WindClan. Brokentail has now become Brokenstar. He brings darkness over the clan by sending kits into battle. He then banishes Yellowfang and tells her never to return.

haley says

Recently re-read this, and (for some reason) enjoyed it more the second time around. Second time's the charm, I guess.

This is the only book (I believe) in the Warriors saga that takes place in Shadowclan, and it was exciting to see things from their perspective. I never really liked Shadowclan, but after this book I came to respect and even like them. Per usual, there is a lot of action and never a dull moment, which is good. And I do like Yellowfang. I feel sorry for her, she went through so much pain but stayed strong for her clan. Kind of like Bluestar. It was also a bit interesting watching Brokentail grow up from an innocent kit to a bloodthirsty, evil warrior.

There's just a few things I didn't like. Firstly, Yellowfang's character is a bit inconsistent, and I feel like her personality made a total 180 in the last chapter of the book. The Yellowfang in most of this book is sort of different from the Yellowfang we know from the original books. But hey, I liked both :)

Another thing I didn't like is that I lost some (if not all) of my respect for Raggedstar. He used to be one of my favorite leaders, but in this book he acts hot and cold with Yellowfang, sometimes really nice, other times being angry or ignoring her. Maybe I'm overreacting, but frankly I thought he was a little abusive. Raggedstar was also foolishly blind when it came to his son Brokentail, and he didn't see how evil Brokentail was until it was too late. In the original series, it's stated that Raggedstar was a noble leader and brave, and I respected him for it, but in Yellowfang's Secret he does not act like that at all. And you know what? I'm really upset about that. I was completely disillusioned.

But besides that, Yellowfang's Secret was a good book. Some Warriors books I absolutely loved, and others I didn't like at all. Yellowfang's Secret falls somewhere in the middle.

Andrew Parr says

In this book there is a she-cat named Yellowkit (when she is a kit(ten)). She later graduates to an apprentice and is known as Yellowpaw, and finally she becomes a warrior, and is named Yellowfang. As she goes through moons (months) in her clan, she starts to notice that something is wrong. Whenever there is a battle or another cat is hurt, she seems to feel other cats pain. Her clan's (ShadowClan) medicine cat, Sagewhisker tells her that her destiny is to become a medicine cat even though Yellowfang desperately wants to stay a warrior. Later on she agrees to take on the role of medicine cat and goes on with the struggles of this new life. This book made me feel empathetic toward Yellowfang because StarClan (the Clans' ancestors) have pretty much forced her to follow another path of life that she doesn't want. And by being a medicine cat, the medicine cat code says that she cannot have a mate, even though she already has one when she becomes ShadowClan's medicine cat. Raggedpelt is devastated that she has left her and feels angry at her that she chose to do so. The problems that Yellowfang had to face are the reason I chose to write this response. When Yellowfang says "But it was my mistake and I had to live with it." It made me wonder how she could live with herself knowing StarClan was going to punish her right until the very end. The book made me want to

read on because I kept having mixed emotions about every new thing that came up while I was reading the book.

Sheena says

I enjoyed this book about Yellowfang, but truthfully I expected more than what was there. It wasn't as shocking or exciting as Bluestar's Prophecy or Crookedstar's Promise and I found that, even though I read it quickly that it wasn't a very fast paced book. I did give it 4 stars because this is my rating scale:

- 1 - hated it!
- 2 - not great, but it wasn't the worst book either.
- 3 - neither good nor bad...it didn't stick out
- 4 - good book. Not the best I've ever read, but enjoyable none the less.
- 5 - excellent! I was thoroughly please with the book. Had a fast paced story. Nice plot/twists.

Deborah Pickstone says

I am enjoying these latterly-written prequels very much - they round out the world of the cats by taking us to all the other clans and making bit parts the centre stage.

Ariel says

I must say that I'm actually disappointed with this book.

SPOILERS!

I was really looking forward to learning more about ShadowClan and some prominent characters from this period in the Clans. It felt like one event after another with little time for characterization. I mean, I know we already knew Yellowfang's story, but I was hoping for a little bit more information or insight and I felt I didn't get it.

I was also hoping to see how Yellowfang and Raggedpelt would react to one another after Brokenstar revealed his true self. I wanted to know if they made up or if they at least forgave one another.

Finally there were quite a few mistakes, but given the number of characters and timelines it's bound to happen. I suppose if one is working on a scale like this then you would pretty much need to go all J.K. Rowling (really detailed notes, charts, timelines, tables, etc.) on this.

Overall, I felt that this book could have been a lot better than it turned out.

EDIT: Upon further discussion of this book with a few other readers (none on here), I would like to add that a couple of characters in this book contributed to my dislike of it.

Sagewhisker is probably the first medicine cat that I actually dislike. Once she learns of Yellowfang's powers she spends the rest of the time berating her to give up the life she wants in order to become a medicine cat, and once Yellowfang does give in the first thing she does is teach her how to ignore them. If Sagewhisker could teach Yellowfang to ignore her powers then why didn't she do that from the start so Yellowfang could be a warrior like she wanted or at least try? To be honest, the whole 'Yellowfang-is-an-empath' just seemed like a lame excuse to get her to become a medicine cat.

Raggedstar.... good StarClan Raggedstar. In the other warrior books you hear that Raggedstar is actually a decent leader for ShadowClan and there doesn't seem to be any cats that disliked him. I have no idea how that is possible because he nothing more than a manipulative, abusive jerk. Seriously. This wouldn't bother me so much if someone, particularly Yellowfang, would truly call him out on what a horrible cat he really is but of course no one ever does.

Faith says

I'm surprised that I am the only person who actually hated this book.

I guess that I have the same gripes with this book that I had with Bluestar's Prophecy - it ruined the character. However, many Warriors fans feel the same way as I do: this book was the worst Super Edition to date.

I'm going to list the reasons why I hated this book with a passion:

1.) Yellowfang's power. Oh my freaking god. This annoyed the heck out of me! Yellowfang, a great character from the Original Series who was widely respected for her skills even in other Clans have a freaking power. It's ONLY relevance was to make Yellowfang become a medicine cat. After that, she "learned how to control it" and it was never used and rarely mentioned afterward.

2.) Raggedpelt. Raggedpelt is one of the biggest jackasses in history. He mentally and emotionally abused Yellowfang and blamed her for every single one of his shortcomings. One minute, he seemed to love her, and then the next, he hated her.

3.) Yellowfang. In the Original Series, Yellowfang was a wise-cracking medicine cat who had a cynical, but humorous view of the world. When she was a kit and apprentice, I didn't expect her to behave like this. I figured that, with time, she would develop that personality, but she didn't. She acted like the generic female character the Erins write, particularly Dovewing or Ivypool. Yeah, she was angry, but nothing like her original character. At the end of the book when she came face-to-face with Firepaw, I was laughing had how forced her dialogue was. She was a completely different cat for 99% of the book and then in the final chapter, she suddenly becomes her old self.

I think that it was poorly written, and had bad characters. It lacked that certain, magical quality that the Erins have when they write. I was very surprised that Cherith had written this book - her writing, unlike Kate, focuses more on describing the scenery and creating a beautiful picture, but there was none of that in this book. It was a massive downgrade in writing that it didn't even feel like an Erin Hunter book.

Luckily, Tallstar's Revenge is a thousand times better. I'd say, if you like the Yellowfang from the original series at all, skip this and read Tallstar's Revenge.

Lilly H says

Personally, I LOVE LOVE LOVE Warriors! I even have a club 4 it with a bunch of people. This book took my breath away with the shadowclan cats. I am used 2 books with Thunderclan, but I got the chance 2 C what shadowclan was all about and there secrets. I totally recomendend this book 2 any young reader. But I loved the book SOOO much that I never wanted it 2 end, even though it was a super edition. I LOVE WARRIOR! All of there books, but I think so far, this is one of there best.

This book was about yellowfang from a kit, to a apprentice, to a warrior, and was destined to be a medicene cat. Which also meant she couldnt have Raggedstar to be her mate, which makes rivals between the two. When Yellowfang births as a medicene cat apprentice, she cannot have any other cat know they are hers. When the evil son, Brokenstar takes his role as leader, he makes all the wrong desisions. Many kits die because they start training too early, he beileves the elders serve no use, so they stayed outside the camp. Also, he thought Yellowfang killed 3 kits, which she didnt. She was vanished from the clan and then went on Thunderclan territory, which is a HUGE risk.... the story would continue in the first book called Warriors: Into the wild.

Ivy says

5 stars

Nice to be able to know Yellowfang's life story and life in ShadowClan. Also, about her relationship with Raggedstar.

Can't wait to read more Warriors books!!!!

Diana says

Yellowfang how strong you are... and how much you have suffered
