



The Ghost Pirate's Treasure: Mystery of the Jaguar Warrior

Barbara Ivie Green

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Librarian Note: Previously published as Treasure of the Jaguar Warrior - Mystery of the Mayan Calender (ASIN B00AOW6DY6.)

A delightfully enchanting, ghostly tale, full of light hearted humor, heartwarming romance, haunted histories, and ancient mysteries.

A tale of Christmas spirits and Mayan mayhem!

What do you get when a mischievous ghost, a new divorcée, her helpful mother, the nosy neighbor, her hunky son, a leaky pooch, and a fed up gardener are thrust together for the Christmas season?

A fast paced, action-packed, mystical thriller that is just what the veterinarian ordered to start the new year (tun) off right!

Jessie has agreed to house sit her eccentric aunt's empty bed and breakfast for the Christmas holiday while she tours Italy. But Jessie soon learns that the old mansion isn't necessarily empty. . . . After meeting the resident ghost, she is convinced she's lost not only her old life, her practice, and her beloved dog, but quite possibly her sanity as well!

Having just gone through a divorce, Jessie has more on her plate than dealing with her nosy neighbor, the blue haired dynamo's perpetually leaky dachshund, and her gorgeous son, who could be at home in the halls of Valhalla playing the part of Thor. . . . She has to find Jacques, the ghost pirate's treasure map, the fabled city of El Dorado, and the Heart of the Mountain itself in order to save the man she loves . . . along with the planet!

This book explores the hidden mysteries of the ancient myths surrounding the Mayan Sun calendar, with enough nonsense thrown in to make it all deliriously wacky. The Christmas season takes on a whole new meaning in this humorous, romantic adventure.

The Ghost Pirate's Treasure: Mystery of the Jaguar Warrior Details

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Chelsea says

1.5 stars. More reviews available at my blog, Beauty and the Bookworm.

Part of the blurb for The Ghost Pirate's Treasure claims that the book "explores the mystery of the Mayan Sun calendar, with enough nonsense thrown in to make it all deliriously whacky." Well, "nonsense" and "deliriously whacky" are right, but not in a good way. I think most of the "nonsense" mentioned in the blurb comes from two things: the fact that Green is obviously desperately in need of a good editor, and her complete inability to keep various Mesoamerican cultures straight. The book claims to explore the mystery of the Mayan sun calendar, by which it mainly means "the supposed end of the world on 12/21/12." Except it also deals with El Dorado, Quetzacoatl, and Peru, none of which have anything do with each other. El Dorado, as in the city of gold, was supposedly located in the Amazon River basin. Quetzacoatl was the serpent god made famous by the myth of the Aztecs and Hernando Cortes, and the Aztecs and their famous city of Tenochtitlan were located where Mexico City is today. (Side note: there is historical reason to believe the Aztecs didn't actually think Cortes was Quetzacoatl, and that the "myth" of Quetzacoatl's return was made up after the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs in order to justify their loss.) Peru was in the area of the Incas, the Andes Mountains. And the Mayans were prominent around the area of the Yucatan Peninsula. What does all of this mean? While most of these civilizations shared some commonalities, as they were not completely cut off from each other, they were not the same and their mythologies, cultures, and ways of life differed immensely. Seriously, if you're going to write a book about the end of the world based on the Mayan calendar, at least actually use Mayan history and culture, rather than mishmash of whatever you think is cool. A little consistency is great, and considering that all of the things I mentioned above can be discovered on Wikipedia in a matter of minutes, you would think that it would be easy to realize that they're not of the same origins and consequently shouldn't be thrown into the same plot without something larger to bind them together--and if you don't try to unite them in some logical way, eventually someone who actually paid attention in history class (like me) is going to pick up your book and go, "What the heck is this person talking about?" Oh, and also, the Maya were not completely wiped out by the Spanish, and many people of Maya descent still live in Mexico today, and a variety of Mayan languages are still thriving.

Now let's get on to the editing. It's awful. Atrocious. Misuses of "your" and "you're," misplaced and missing quotation marks, random italics that don't make any sense, awkward changes of viewpoint, clunky sentences, and strange formatting abound. While the spelling is pretty good, the grammar isn't, and the formatting is pretty bad. Green apparently doesn't know where to properly place quotation marks, insert line breaks in dialogue, or even properly use dialogue tags. Let me give you an example. Things such as: "Blah blah blah," Jessie said. "Blabby blabby blab," Jessie whined, abound in this book, and anyone who reads or writes much can probably tell you right off the bat that the second dialogue tag isn't necessary. I find it highly unlikely that Green utilized an editor for this book, and she should have. Everyone needs an editor. No author is good enough to just self-edit, and I'm not entirely sure Green even did that, given the nightmarish quotation mark situation.

Finally, let me address issues of the plot other than historical accuracy. The plot is...flimsy, at best. There's very little explanation, and we jump from, "There is a ghost with a hidden treasure," to "It's the end of the world!" with very little in-between. Annoying characters abound and the "villain" of the piece appears to have been thrown in at the last minute because there's really no build-up to his villainy. At the beginning, Jacques the ghost pirate suggests that he's some dark and menacing demon, and this is never delivered upon.

The romance, for what it is, is pretty much instant; within the space of four days Jessie goes from divorcing her husband to falling in love with a dead guy who she thought was a figment of her imagination for two days. In the world of books, there is a difference between face-past and rushed, and this definitely falls into the category of rushed. Also, Green had the extremely annoying habit of using words like "potty" and "pee-peed," as if her audience isn't mature enough to read the word "toilet" without snickering like a bunch of two year olds. And there's also something near the end about one of the characters gaining supernatural abilities out of nowhere. Uhm...where did that come from? I'm so confused. Overall, it felt like Green had a bunch of different plots and just decided to mash them all together with no feel for consistency between one and the other, and came out with a great big mess as a result.

S.J. Byrne says

What happens when you mix Thor, Barbie, the Chiquita banana woman, a mad scientist, Tarzan, and a veterinarian?

A lighthearted, fun, romantic adventure that just plain feels good! Okay, so those aren't really the characters in this book, but it's a darn good analyzation given by the author herself.

I picked this up free and read it in less than 24 hours. It was just too much fun that I couldn't put it down. In a time when life is really difficult and more books are about the darkness of the soul, this one takes the reader to a different place in the heart.

Great job to the author...I look forward to reading more like it!

Kara Cheney says

I really liked it! Funny and it was free at the time. Now on to the second book!

Stephanie Pittman says

New twist!!!!

This is the first time I read Ms. Green work and I mist say it was enjoyable. I loved the ghost factor, and even though I am not a big fan of mysteries I did enjoy this one. So I definitely will be reading the next book and hopefully it will be as good as this one.

Dayle says

When I started reading this book I thought it was just too silly to continue but then got caught up in the story. Quick read!

Bonnie Moore says**Pirate Love**

It amazes me how many authors there is out there that I never heard about. Barbie Green is one of them. I really enjoyed this book if you like ghost and love and mystery this is one you want to read

Barbara Casiere says

Funny, well written. I enjoyed every minute reading this book. Have ordered her next book and have already begun reading it. Have also recommend it to my friends. Thanks for the laughs.

P.S. Winn says

This was a great adventure story mixed in with a ghost, a few crazy neighbors and Jessie who is trying to get her life back in order. I think the author did a great job with the character development and told an amazing story people will find interesting with a bit of humor thrown in for good measure. I believe it is a great read for adults and young adults and am looking forward to more from this author.

Pat aka Tygyr says

This book has mystery, romance, humor and interesting characters.

Jessie agrees to mansion sit for her eccentric Aunt Katie whose mansion is also a themed bed and breakfast - each room a different cartoon theme. Jessie is getting over a divorce, the loss of her dog and her dreams. The mansion does not offer her the peace she expects. The neighbor - Mavis - is determined to set Jessie up with her own wonderful son. Mavis's dog likes to pee on Jessie's shoes. Then, of course, the "pool guy" that the family jokes about that Aunt Katie likes, is really a pirate ghost. He is looking for his treasure map. So are other people apparently, when Jessie hears noises at night, doors she left locked when she leaves are unlocked when she returns. Jonathon, Mavis's son, Jessie nicknames Thor because he is so big and blonde. Jessie is really not interested. Unfortunately, once she accepts that Jacques is not a figment of her imagination, she sets out to try to help him. A very strange set of characters make this a funny read. And Christmas time, when Aunt Katie returns married, and the main characters have mostly paired up, we learn how very strange this family truly is.

If you like some humor with your paranormal, mystery, romance - try this fun book.

Adrienne Testa says

This story is so unbelievable you can't help but enjoy it. It's like reading a new fairy tale. With interesting funny characters that make you laugh out loud. Jessie is house sitting her aunt's home, when she learns a

ghost lives there. It is not an ordinary ghost but a Jaguar warrior, needing to get to Peru to save the world. With a thief hiding as gardener, a neighbor who is the ghost's relative and her mother, Jessie has her hands full. Give it a try if you want to pass the time without having to think.

Natalie says

A quick fun read with a little bit of everything; mystery, romance, adventure, history, even a little paranormal.

I really liked Jessie and Jacques, especially when they were together, trying to solve a mystery, and they played very well off each other. I was even falling for him a bit! Overall, a great fun adventure that I wish was even longer!

LorettaLynn says

What a fun and delightfully read. This story was full of action and adventure. So if you want something that will be fun and fast read this one is for you.

4 stars

Janet says

very good, loved the ending

Brian Bigelow says

This book is really good though romantic isn't normally to my taste. The ghost is funny. Finding it well written, with excellent dialog. I wish it hadn't ended.

Annette Dahl "Old Vicarious Reader" says

This story was cute and funny. The writing was excellent, the mystery had intrigue, and best of all there was a supernatural happily ever after. All that with no hanky panky...

I guess I can add cozy mystery to my list of genres. Great quick read!
