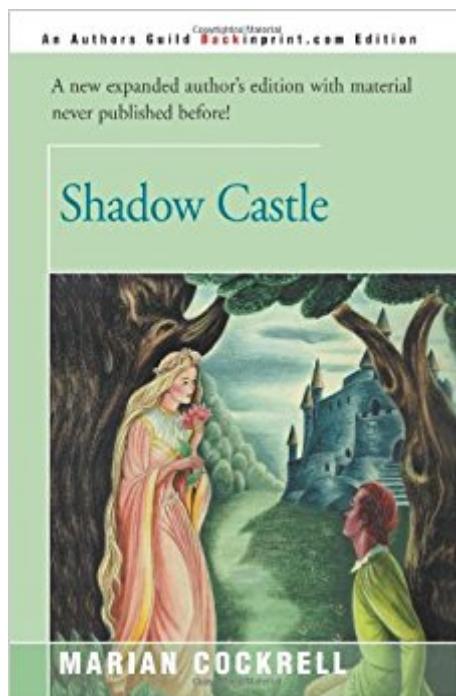


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# Shadow Castle: Expanded Edition



## **Synopsis**

In the middle of a deep forest is an enchanted valley and a castle where only shadows live, shadows of kings and queens who have waited for hundreds of years for the spell cast upon them to be broken. One day, a girl named Lucy follows a little dog through a tunnel into the valley and meets the mysterious red-haired Michael, who takes her into the shadow world to meet Prince Mika and his mortal wife Gloria, their children and their children's children, and learn the magic that will lift the spell. This new expanded Author's Edition contains additional chapters never published before!

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: iUniverse; Revised edition (October 30, 2000)

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Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 153 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,305,358 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore > Anthologies #33915 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction

## **Customer Reviews**

Marian Cockrell was born in Birmingham, Alabama, and lived in Southern California and Virginia in houses full of dogs and cats. Besides ShadowCastle, she wrote television screenplays and six novels for adults.

I am always looking for quality fiction for my advanced 8 year old reader. This book is an excellent buy. Furthermore, each chapter is set up as a short story in its own, though they are all serial, all tying in to the over history of the residents of Shadow Castle. I pre-read the whole book before giving it to my daughter. She really is enjoying it. There are goblins, fairies, and dragons. So if you are not a fan of fantasy, it won't be your cup of tea. But no characters are really killed, maybe just turned into doorknobs for a 1000 years : ) My daughter is very sensitive and prone to nightmares and has handled this book fine. The quality of the writing is very good too, another common problem with modern YA content.

I prefer the original ending and the Scholastic edition in green ink. Other than that it's the same story as the one I bought in 1968. My grandchildren love it.

Wonderful book. Loved it as a child and now as a reading teacher I have made it a favorite among many of my students. For everyone who loved The Chronicles of Narnia, this is a must read.

In 1968, my mother bought me a copy of this book---a slender paperback printed and illustrated in green ink. I loved the book, and thirty years later, read the story to my little girl, who LOVED it. Unfortunately, my original copy is yellowed and brittle, and I was reluctant to let my daughter handle its fragile pages as often as she wished. Imagine my delight when this wonderful book was reprinted. The new version has all the old illustrations, but the ink is black, not the original green. The color illustration from the jacket of the paperback is reprinted inside the new version, but in black and white. Despite these minor changes, I am thrilled to have this old favorite back again. A bit of the plot: a young girl named Lucy meets a kind, but rather mysterious young man named Michael, who tells her the story of Mika, a fairy Prince who falls in love with a mortal woman. This book contains all of the usual elements in a traditional fairytale---a princess abducted by an unpleasant suitor, goblins, a dragon, enchantments, battles between the forces of good and evil---but it is very different from the impersonal stories in typical fairytale books. Marian Cockrell's characters are vivid and unforgettable, and her story is magical, entertaining, and even humorous in parts. Give a copy to an eight year old that you love. You won't be sorry.

For starters, it's a library binding, gray color. There is no lettering or picture on the cover, and my book had small dents all along the edges of the cover. I remember original Scholastic book having like a green, black color of ink, which looked better especially with the illustrations. The illustrations in this edition look like they are scanned, or photocopied. The images have a whitish-haze, and look --well, like bad photocopied pictures. The content is great, but buyers be aware that this is NOT the revised edition. I think I will purchase another book and let this be my lender's copy. Happy reading!

I am so happy to see this back in print. Like many, I have the Scholastic edition with the gorgeous cover picture of Gloria in pink and Mica under a tree. Even the description of the book in the Scholastic Books catalogs was memorable! I read and read this book so many times that finally a teacher gave it to me. I too had a ring with a little green stone, and a "cave" (really just a funny

growing bush) in the backyard. But the stories lose nothing with age-- there is subtle, quaint humor and truth of human behavior throughout. As I approach my mid thirties I often think of Gloria looking in the mirror... and the story of Bluebell and the goblins really sticks with me. How Robin said that that goblin hadn't looked one little bit like his Bluebell! All the choices made throughout are as rich as those in the Harry Potter books-- characters are tested for loyalty, must choose whether or not to be mortal-- and the "framing story" is as good as the individual tales. This is my all-time number one favorite.

Like many other reviewers, I read Shadow Castle as a child. It was a school book, so I never owned a copy and had, indeed, forgotten the title, though not Prince Mika, Gloria, Flumpdoria, Bluebell, Robin and Meira. When the image of the book came up in suggested titles, though, I immediately remembered it. It is one of those books that completely creates its enchanted world--the stories are touching, surprising and funny all at once. For girls who love stories with magic in them, the book hits just the right notes over and over again. While it can be enjoyed by younger children, I'd peg it for 8 and up as I think older readers will enjoy the comedy and romance more. Anyway, I ordered it and gave it to my 10-year-old daughter for Christmas. With all the wonderful princess novels now out there, I wondered if the book would weave the same spell on my daughter as it had on me. She was promptly ensorcelled. A few hours later, she'd finished the book and then started it again. "It's perfect," she said. "It's the book of my dreams." So glad the Authors Guild has made Shadow Castle available again.

Read this when I was a kid and found a hard copy when I started teaching elementary school. Read it to my nieces when they were old enough to appreciate it. Wonderful story. Buy it for your kids. They will love it.

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