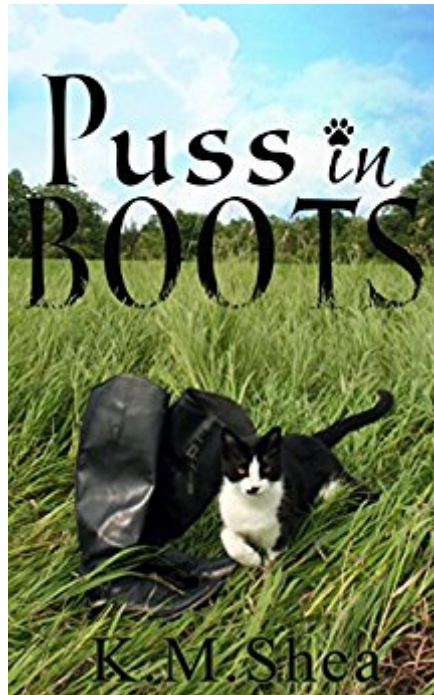




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Puss In Boots (Timeless Fairy Tales Book 6)



Synopsis

Though she dreams of adventure, Gabrielleâa peasant girlâis given only a cat for her inheritance and is told she must marry, immediately. So when the cat, Puss, offers her a life of excitement in exchange for a pair of boots, Gabrielle jumps at the opportunity. Through Pussâs cunning and Gabrielleâs good deeds, they become celebrated heroes in small villages across the country. Their adventurous life is complicated by Prince Steffenâa handsome prince who has a low opinion of love. He befriends Gabrielle and comes to grudgingly respect Puss as they work together to purge monsters and brigands from the countryside. Disaster strikes when Steffen realizes his growing feelings for Gabrielle, and Puss and Gabrielle fight the evil ogre who rules the lands of Carabas. Can Gabrielle save Carabas? Will Steffen accept his feelings for her before it is too late? Set in a world brimming with magic, monsters, fairies, and heroes, PUSS IN BOOTS is a retelling of the classic French fairy tale. It is part of the best selling series, TIMELESS FAIRY TALES. The books in this series take place in the same world and can be read all together, or as individual, stand-alone stories. If you enjoy sweet romance, strong female leads, and sassy cats, download a sample or buy PUSS IN BOOTS today!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For anyone who (also) didn't read the second book, this is a prologue of sorts to the whole series, as the primary story occurs three-ish years prior to *Beauty and the Beast*. I guess I'm still a little confused as to that, but I like the story enough to ignore it. First, this wasn't what I expected, but I'm glad. I ways support gender-bending traditional fairy tales, and Gabrielle is a fun lead, a young woman who is strong when we meet her and only grows stronger. Even though she doesn't like people, she still manages to show them compassion and empathy, and she's hard-working and down-to-Earth. She's sensible, likeable, and well-written. Gabrielle joins the line of kicka\$\$ heroines from books 1, 4, and 5. (I have not read 2 or 3, so I won't comment on their female leads.) Puss is the character that I would consider the deuteragonist (which may be good or bad, considering.) He's just as fun to read as Gabrielle, and he provides a strong foil to her character. They highlight each other well, and he's the best cat I've ever read about. Like another reader, I hope to read about him meeting Elle and Severin. Steffen's presence was weak in the novel. Now, since this was my first encounter with him, perhaps he had more character development in 2. Here though, in terms of presence and importance, Steffen was the fairy tale princess to Gabrielle's hero. He popped up when the plot called for it, but he never moved past slightly arrogant, hot-and-cold Crown Prince. Gabrielle and Puss dominated this book, and Steffen felt more like a flat side character than the love interest. I liked the way the proposal scene went at the end, but the epilogue confused me. Again, maybe reading the second book would really have helped, but it was like, "what do you mean you weren't affectionate, Steffen?" So while I liked the heroine and her magic cat, this book read as more of an adventure than a romance, probably mostly because Steffen was just never really around. I'd be fine with that, but I think K. M. Shea was still going for a strong romance, not just an adventure. (Are we getting to that sleeping princess soon? And when are Elle and Severin coming back on page?)

Warning! Spoilers ahead! *Puss in Boots* was one of those classic bedtime stories that everybody grew up with in childhood, and, like any fairy tale, there's a certain challenge in making it stand out from its original counterpart. I'm starting to believe that Ms. Shea could nail it with her eyes closed and a hand tied behind her back. Her writing style is engaging, witty, and seamlessly draws the reader right into the story. The overarching plot of the evil takeover is

thoroughly expanded upon in this book and we even get a peek into what happened to Enchanter Everest (whom I've determined at this point I don't wholly trust). Furthermore, her world building is fascinating and beautiful. I'm always thrilled when I see the fairy tales within fairy tales that pop up in her books. In addition to Puss in Boots and The Six Swans, we have allusions to Hansel and Gretel, The Golden Goose (would that make Steffen the princess who never laughed?), Rumpelstiltskin, and I'm pretty sure there's even a reference to The Bremen Town Musicians in there! She always manages to throw in as many references as possible, and then some, and I absolutely love it! Gabi is a delightful main character. I loved the banter between her and Puss. Coming from a small town, I can really relate to her wanting to get out, see the world, and have adventures. I was a little disappointed with how much she reminded me of Gemma, but that can be ignored if one focuses a little more on the plot and a little less on the characters themselves.

This is a series of fun, easy, quick reads, and this was no exception. That said, I truly enjoyed it. Puss and Gabi had me cracking up with their banter, and I loved Gabi's strength and humor. Poor Prince Steffen was no match for them :) These books are great for putting real people into these fairy tale situations and making them believable and relatable. And the perspective this one have into Arcainia had me going back and re-reading The Wild Swabs with much more enjoyment this time. The overarching storyline the author has going, too, is fascinating. I can't wait to see what happens.

These "Timeless Fairy Tales" are great YA re-imaginings of a medieval land in which girls are expected to marry young for the good of their families, but are also able to discover their own paths, and use their intelligence...and even be desired for their minds and courage. This is another strong novel very much in keeping with this series. Reading in order isn't important because light references to other tales don't interfere with understanding. The romance is very light. I'd think this would be a good series for a young reader. The characters, plots, adventure & relationships make it an enjoyable read for "older" readers too.

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