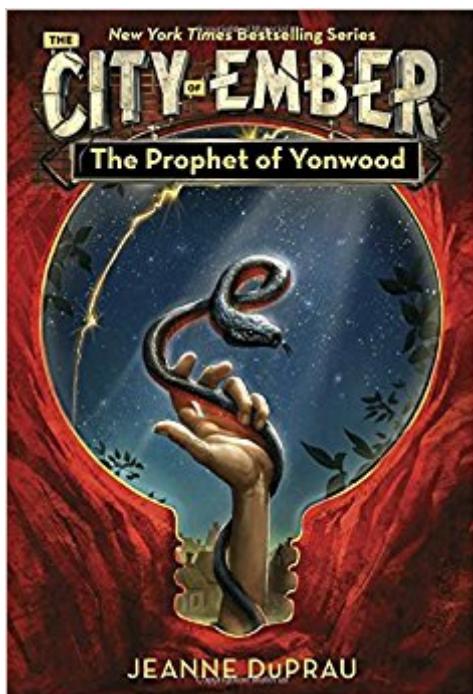


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# The Prophet Of Yonwood (Ember, Book 3)



## Synopsis

A prequel to the modern-day classic *The City of Ember*. This highly acclaimed adventure series has captivated kids and teachers alike for almost fifteen years and has sold over 3.5 MILLION copies!

Nickie will grow up to be one of the first citizens of the city of Ember. But for now, she's an eleven-year-old girl whose father was sent away on some mysterious government project. So when the opportunity to move presents itself, Nickie seizes it. But her new town of Yonwood, North Carolina, isn't what she'd anticipated. It's a place full of suspicion and mistrust, where one person's visions of fire and destruction have turned the town's citizens against each other. Nickie explores the oddities around her—her great-grandfather's peculiar journals, a reclusive neighbor who studies the heavens, a strange boy who is fascinated with snakes—all while keeping an eye out for ways to help the world. Or is it already too late to avoid a devastating war? Praise for the *City of Ember* books: Nominated to 28 State Award Lists! An American Library Association Notable Children's Book A New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing Selection A Kirkus Reviews Editors' Choice A Child Magazine Best Children's Book A Mark Twain Award Winner A William Allen White Children's Book Award Winner A A realistic post-apocalyptic world. DuPrau's book leaves Doon and Lina on the verge of undiscovered country and readers wanting more. A USA Today A A "An electric debut." A Publishers Weekly, Starred A A "While Ember is colorless and dark, the book itself is rich with description." A VOYA, Starred A A "A harrowing journey into the unknown, and cryptic messages for readers to decipher." A Kirkus Reviews, Starred

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 289 pages

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Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 352 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-8  
Nickie longs to escape from her life in Philadelphia where everything seems to be going wrong. She thinks she has found the perfect haven in her great-grandfather's estate in Yonwood, NC. But the war between the United States and the Phalanx Nations seems imminent and the Church of the Fiery Vision takes over the town, and all her goals seem farther away than ever. In Yonwood, people are not what they seem. The host of characters include a prophet and her interpreter who the townspeople blindly follow, a girl in the closet, a boy obsessed with snakes, and a hermit who can crack open the sky. Jean DuPrau has created an unusual prequel (Random, 2006) to *The City of Ember* (2003) and *The People of Sparks* (2004, both Random). Rather than the pre-apocalyptic climate one would expect, the backwoods setting, the humming bracelet, and the robot vacuum cleaner give the novel a strange anachronistic feeling. Becky Ann Baker's depiction of the native North Carolinian accent is believable, and she voices all the characters perfectly. Sound effects enhance the telling. Listeners new to the series will have no problem following along.  
This title can stand on its own. The ending drags a bit as DuPrau tries to wrap up all the subplots. *Ember* fans will be a little disappointed that only the subtleties in the last chapter, *What Happened Afterward*, point to *The City of Ember*. This timely novel offers astute observations about human relations, the fallibility of human perception, and the danger of over-zealousness.

Ann Crewdson, King County Library System, Issaquah, WA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 4--7. Set about 50 years before the previous books in the *Embers* series, this novel focuses on 11-year-old Nickie, who believes her great-grandfather's old mansion in Yonwood, North Carolina, may be a haven from the city wracked with fear of impending war. Unfortunately, the place isn't exactly idyllic. Nickie's experiences in Yonwood further the idea, established in the previous books, about the role of God in human affairs. Why, for example, would God say one thing to the Prophet

of Yonwood and another to a prophet halfway around the world?--a provocative question that is certainly apropos to what is happening in the world today. Sally Estes  
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The Prophet of Yonwood is (for some reason) the third book in the four-book® A City Of Ember Series. The story loosely fills in the background for the readers on why Ember was started. However, DuPrau's book is slow and needlessly detailed in trivial items. The book eventually gets to the point of the why's and wherefor's of the birth of the City of Ember, but much of the book is worthless. 3/4 of the book is filled with basically "teen angst" and could easily be cut without affecting the book. Essentially "Yonwood" descends into the kind of "teen book" that I felt DuPrau had resisted in the other three volumes - further distancing this book in quality from the rest of the Ember series. Beyond that, DuPrau only briefly touches on the beginnings of Ember which left many gaps in what we thought should have been explained, leaving both my son and I wondering about what could have been. We got through it, but we were mostly pushing through just to push through. We were both very happy when DuPrau release a 4th book so that the series wouldn't end on such a low note. In my opinion, the Ember series should have been a trilogy with this book tacked on as prequel adder - much like what John Christopher did when he released® A When the Tripods Came® 20 yrs after his® A Tripods Trilogy. Anyone who reads the Ember series should view "Yonwood" as an optional title to read if/when you feel like it and not as a necessary addition to the series. If you do read it, anticipate skimming pages and pages of useless filler material.

With thrill and excitement of books 1 and 2 number 3 was very disappointing. Not until the last couple and I mean couple of pages do you see how this book connects. The author did a disservice to their readers. I should have given it only one star.

I love this series! So I admit, I cheated and read this book out of order--after I read Diamond of Darkhold. It matches the style of the other books well. About four or five chapters in, some of the themes began to bother me. So I read some reviews on goodreads and found that a LOT of other people felt the same way! If you have come to this part of the book, I encourage you to keep reading it! The conflicts are resolved and everyone meets with the end they deserve! As usual, Jane Duprau wraps up her story with a nice satisfying ending!

This story is filled to the brim with suspense, and is absolutely amazing.! Nickie and Grover go on a local adventure, Grover being a full-time resident of Yonwood, and Nickie coming to Yonwood with her aunt to sell (or live in, she hopes). The town is obeying Brenda Breeson, who abides by Althea, the Prophet! This book is so great and I would recommend this to anyone who likes fiction at all!

This book is set pre-apocalypse, before the first book City of Ember. It doesn't really spend too much time on the event itself which drove the Ember citizens underground. Instead it focuses on problems that are real right now in our daily lives. It explains the problems in easy to understand terms for children, as well as explaining how to cope with these problems. This book covers the concept of religious extremism (in this case, some non-specified and created Christian based ethos) and how a message (perhaps divine in origin) may be misunderstood and twisted by people to further a material or personal agenda. It also covers the mass hype of modern day witch hunts, what we refer to as "terrorism". It teaches kids to think about who to talk to and what to say, and protecting your friends and family. Plus, my young son slammed the book down and started crying when they took the dogs.

Have to admit, was wondering where this book was taking me and how it tied into the other 2. Had to keep reading just to find out. Was surprised at the very end and it does all fit together

I was confused by The Prophet of Yonwood at first. As the third book in the Ember series, it takes the story in another direction. It seems totally unconnected until the end of the book. The movement is a little slow and the vocabulary is at about 6th grade level, but it is an enjoyable read. It is obvious that the author has a lesson regarding ethical behavior in the book; she is fairly heavy handed with it. Readers under 14 years old will find this an enjoyable read. Older readers may find it somewhat plodding. However if you have read the first two books of Ember, it will add to your understanding of the end of the first book and the end of the fourth book. Otherwise, you can almost skip this book in the series. There are only two minor plot points that this book helps to connect.

I had a hard time getting into this book. I knew it was a prequel when I got it and tried to approach it with that in mind. I eventually did get to the point of truly enjoying it and that "gotta finish it" state, but not until 2/3 of the book was done. I debated on three or four stars, but since it did finally grip me later on, I settled on four. Now I eagerly go to read the final City of Ember book!

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