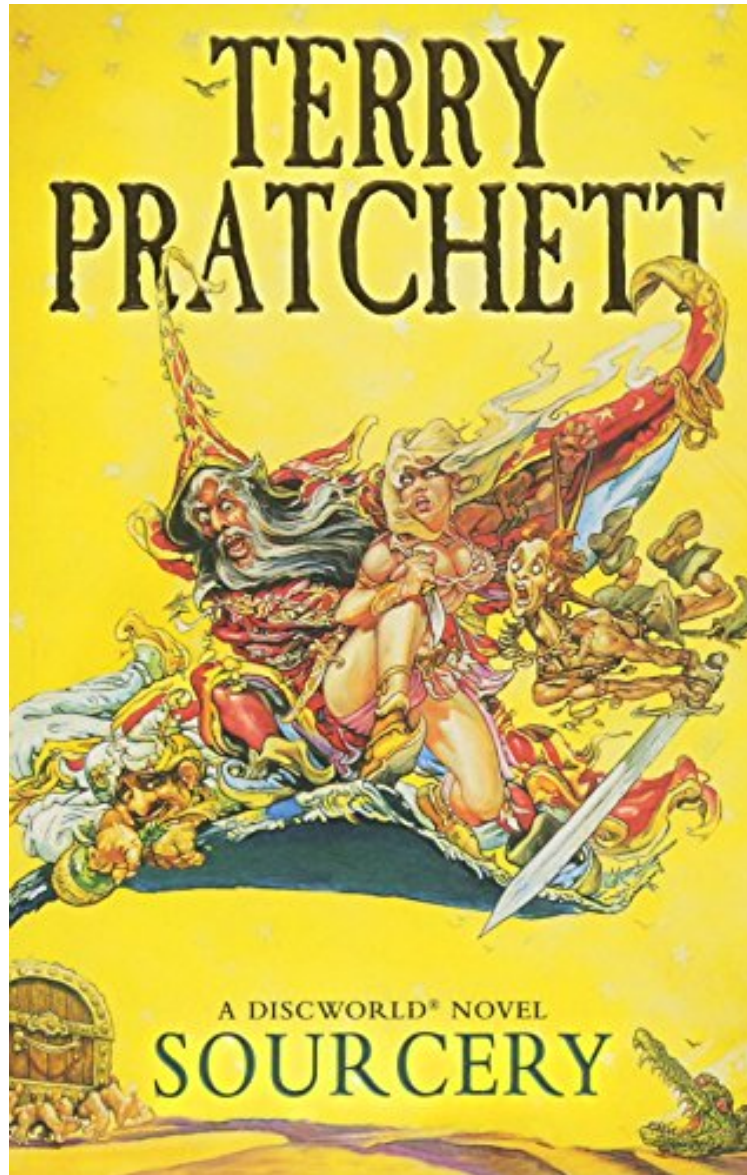


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## Sourcery: A Discworld Novel

*Terry Pratchett*

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**Terry Pratchett : Sourcery: A Discworld Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sourcery: A Discworld Novel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Farce, Heroism, Humor and ApocalypseBy Constant ReaderIts Ankh Morpork again and things are as wretched, dirty, disheveled and motheaten as usual. Suddenly a boy wonder

(Coin) arrives at the Unseen University. Coin is the eighth son of an eighth son. His father mostly died when Coin was an infant, but he still would make most parents look good by comparison. It is not long before everything in Ankh Morpork is bright and shiny and that is just the beginning of the disaster. *Sourcery* is a novel of Discworld. The Discworld novels fall into different categories: Tiffany Aching, Rincewind, the three witches, Sam Vimes and the guards, and Death. Each book focuses on one of them, although they cross over and pop up in each others' books all the time. It is best if you start from the beginning of a particular grouping and work your way through, otherwise you'll miss a lot of inside jokes, references, etc. There are charts on the internet that will show you the groupings. You can trust Terry Pratchett to not be too linear and to not be predictable. *Sourcery* is an early novel of Rincewind. Rincewind is a wizard with little mastery of magic whose feels that his main talent is staying alive in the background of his surroundings. He is also the master of the luggage. He views himself as fearful and not heroic: in other words, the perfect person to save the world. Like all of the Discworld books, the tone is satirical and clever. This book did not make me laugh out loud like *Wee Free Men*, but it was amusing. Anytime the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse show up in a Discworld novel, it is seriously humorous. Somehow, Terry Pratchett makes all the nonsense work. If you are someone who cannot smile at puns like martial lore or wizards were wazzards might not fully appreciate Discworld even though most of the cleverness is more sophisticated. Silly farce is also a major force. These books do not contain any scenes, language, or images that would rate even a PG-13 rating at the movies. If a reader does not have sufficient maturity, much of the book will be wasted, because you won't get the jokes or understand the satire. I count myself lucky to still have so many novels of Discworld ahead of me. Terry Pratchett was brilliant and the master of a fantasy sub-genre that probably belongs to him alone. The Tiffany Aching books remain my favorites, perhaps because they were my first, but probably because of the wee free men. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A stumbleBy Gotham HawkeyePast the midpoint of my life, I finally started to read the Discworld books. Having loved the first four books, and expecting to like many of the other Discworld novels, I have to say that Discworld book 5 was surprisingly disappointing. It started off rather strong but it certainly ended laboriously. Many of the scenes in this novel drag out as scenes did not drag out in the first books. There are fewer rich, comedic observations. Rincewind is thoroughly tedious in *Sourcery*. (Spoiler ahead) The Nordic myth-inspired ending (I don't want to give too many details) as well as those dealing with the Dungeon Dimension were uninteresting and unfunny. I flipped through half-read pages very quickly towards the end in a hurry to finish the story as opposed to reading quickly and thirstily because the story was so good. I found myself basically in a rush to start book 6 on the assumption that it would be better. Please bear in mind that books 1 through five all elicited four or five stars from me. So it's not as if I'm inclined to not like the Discworld novels. Though I won't know if this is the case until I have read more of the novels, I suspect book 5 was just a bit of a stumble along an entertaining 41-book journey. Sir Terry typically wrote about two books a year. They couldn't all be four- and five-star achievements. I'm well aware that a majority of people who set out to write fantasy of any kind comedic or otherwise never get even close to the enormity of achievement that Pratchett had. Book 5 has its good moments...but too few of them. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. that was funnyBy movie viewerI may have read this when it first came out, but Terry Pratchett's books are worth reading a second time. The wit flows out so fast that you tend to miss a lot of it the first time around. I've heard him compared to P.G. Wodehouse. I think it's a fair comparison, with a nod to Gilbert and Sullivan as well. The difference is that Wodehouse was great at putting down the British upper classes, but no one is safe from Pratchett.

There was an eighth son of an eighth son. He was, quite naturally, a wizard. And there it should have ended. However (for reasons we'd better not go into), he had seven sons. And then he had an eighth son...a wizard squared...a source of magic...a Sourcerer. SOURCERY SEES THE RETURN OF RINCEWIND AND THE LUGGAGE AS THE DISCWORLD FACES ITS GREATEST-AND FUNNIEST-CHALLENGE YET.

From Publishers WeeklyThis fifth Discworld tale ( *Mort* ), about a barely averted apocalypse there, reasserts Pratchett's adroitness as a storyteller. Inventive, satirical of the contemporary scene, Pratchett does not merely play with words, he juggles shrewd observations with aplomb. His creations are gently allegorical: for instance, the Unseen University Library is the repository of magic, its librarian an orangutan and its archchancellorship reserved for the most powerful magician, a "sourcerer" named Coin. But the author never takes himself or his message too seriously, and maintains a feather-light touch throughout. Even Death, an important minor character here, receives a distinctive voice. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Like Jonathan Swift, Pratchett uses his other world to hold up a distorting mirror to our own, and like Swift he is a satirist of enormous talent... incredibly funny... compulsively readable." --The Times "His spectacular inventiveness makes the Discworld series one of the perennial joys of modern fiction." --Mail on Sunday "May well be considered his masterpiece... Humour such as his is an endangered species." --The TimesFrom the Back CoverWhen last seen, the singularly inept wizard Rincewind had fallen off the edge of the world. Now magically, he's turned up again, and this time he's brought the Luggage. But that's not all.... Once upon a time, there was an eighth son of an eighth son who was, of course, a wizard. As if that wasn't complicated enough, said wizard then had seven sons. And then he had an eighth son -- a wizard squared (that's all the math, really). Who of

course, was a source of magic -- a sorcerer.