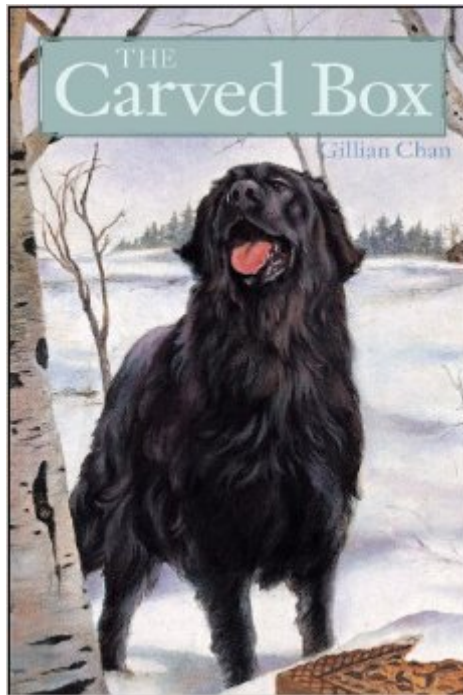


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Carved Box, The (Gillian Chan)



Synopsis

Fifteen-year-old Callum Murdoch knows he's a fool. He's just arrived from Scotland, and he's already handed over his money to a total stranger. And for what? A filthy, half-starved dog and a carved box that he's been warned never to open. Now he'll have to explain his impulsive action to Uncle Rory, the only relative willing to give him a home. Callum is unprepared for the grinding physical labor of farm work. His only source of comfort is Dog. She seems to know all his secret wishes and fears. With Dog by his side, Callum gains the courage to face life in the New World. But when the mysterious carved box is accidentally broken open, Callum is faced with astonishing revelations -- and difficult decisions.

Book Information

Series: Gillian Chan

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Kids Can Press (August 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1553370163

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1 customer review)

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Customer Reviews

I am a fan of Gillian Chan's short stories for young adults. I basically devoured her two short story collections, *Glory Days*, and *Golden Girl*, so when I saw that she had written a novel, I picked it up. From the very first page, I was swept into the story. My own beloved dog had died just a week before I read this novel, and so the character of Dog especially appealed to me. It is not easy to fully develop an animal character in a realistic novel, but Chan achieves this admirably. I had tears in my eyes as I read it. Dog was so "real" that I could almost pat him! And the historical research! As a historical novelist myself, I am very picky when I read other historicals, but this one is spot-on. Bravo! I also loved the touch of fantasy. *The Carved Box* is a universal tale that transcends age limits.

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