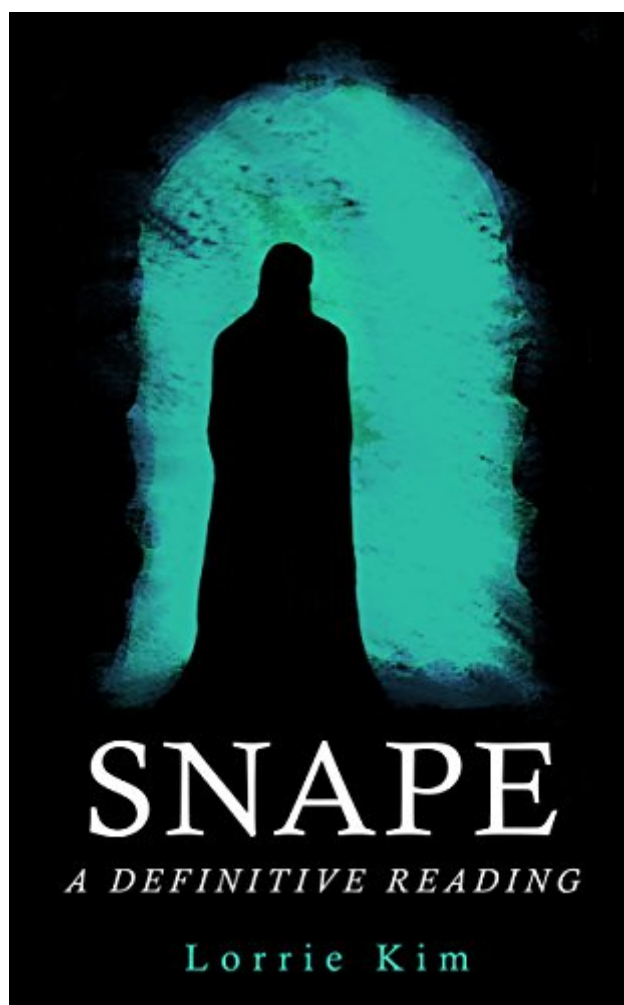


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Snape: A Definitive Reading



Synopsis

The Harry Potter series may be named after the Boy Who Lived, but if you want to know the story, keep your eyes fixed on Severus Snape. This hook-nosed, greasy-haired, grumpy character is one of J.K. Rowling's enduring gifts to English literature. He's the archetypal ill-tempered teacher: acerbic, yet horribly, deliciously funny. When he's in a scene, you can't take your eyes off him. Snape is always the story. - From the Introduction In this examination of J.K. Rowling's most enigmatic character, Lorrie Kim shows us how to sort through the illusions and lies to the man who dared to spy on Voldemort and without whom, Harry's story would have turned out very differently. In his final moments, he asks Harry (and the reader) to "Look at me." This book does just that.

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Customer Reviews

I know of many people who still accept Snape's actions at face-value without stopping to consider why he did the things he did, said what he said, and behaved as he did. Lorrie Kim provides an interpretation of Severus Snape's actions that is precise and accurate. His actions in each book are

broken down and explained with highly logical reasoning, and each chapter, just as with the series itself, builds on the previous one. This sort of precise logic that is worthy of Snape himself. It is gratifying to see that there are others who view Snape in the same or similar light as myself. While one can argue that you cannot still defend Snape's behavior when he went too far in some instances, one cannot find fault that every action had a reason. Nearly everything he did/said or let happen was carefully calculated, with the few exceptions where he lost control of himself or the situation. That being said, Kim clearly explains how he regained control or used the situation to his advantage. It also proves that he's human and that, as readers, we have to learn to look beyond what we see through Harry Potter's eyes. When we step away from the situation and isolate ourselves away from our highly emotional response (typically the same or similar response brought on by Harry), we can see how and why Snape did as he did. That is especially important in hindsight now with the series being complete. Lorrie Kim discusses how there is always more than meets the eye with Snape, and as someone who has always read between the lines where Severus Snape is concerned, it is refreshing to know that there are others who can think and interpret and not just blindly accept JKR's words (wonderful though they may be) as they are without the desire to dig deeper for a proper understanding. Snape is still a fascinating character and this wonderful work makes him all the more fascinating and only reinforces how much I enjoy his scenes in the books. Well worth the read, and the re-read. Any time anyone starts on their defamation of Snape, I will point them in the direction of this book and let them see for themselves how there always was more than appearances where Severus Snape is concerned.

Severus Snape is a great complex character. He is also very important to the Harry Potter story. Think about it if it wasn't for the Lily/Snape relationship, there wouldn't be the boy who lived. It was Snape's begging Voldemort to spare Lily and Voldemort giving her the choice to step aside because of it, that result in the AK curse backfiring on him and saving Harry. The analysis in this book pretty much lines up with how I saw the character and his conflicting motivations. Is very detailed walk through from Snape's POV of the events in the books scene by scene. Any fan of this character should for sure read this book. Even haters should get it to understand him since they clearly miss the point that JKR was trying to make. The Harry Potter books are about love and redemption and Snape embodies that.

I loved the HP series and always hoped there would be something released to further delve into the story of Professor Snape the man. There was so much more to his character than was allowed to

show through in the HP books. His devotion to Lily was reminiscent of Heathcliff's love for Cathy but on a much more "pure" level. (No sleeping with corpses here!) Lily was the defining presence in his life. It was she that taught Snape about love and sacrifice not just Dumbledore. She cared for Snape when no one else did from the time they met and while teenage experimentation and poor judgement separated their paths, her impact on his soul was immediate and lifelong. Didn't really agree with some of the "sexual" references in relation to his character because I thought things were deeper than that but really enjoyed the book. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who loved the series.

You think you know Snape from reading the entire Harry Potter series? Well think again! This book takes you through every book of the HP series and educates you on the likes of Snape vs Potter and the life long history behind the story. Snape is the Ultimate double figure, playing both sides, but really which side is he really working for? Many think they know the answer but do they really know the why? You must know the inner workings of Snape to truly understand the entire HP series too its core and to its end to understand how Harry Potter is ultimately able to defeat Voldemort. The Ultimate Snape..... is not what you expected!!

Severus Snape has long been my favorite character in the Harry Potter books. At the time the 6th book was released, I remember the great divide that split fans and readers of the books regarding whether Snape was good or evil. Even after the release of the final book when Snape's backstory was revealed, many remained divided on how to read Snape. Yes, he had indeed been working for Dumbledore to save Harry, but for many his treatment of Neville, Hermione and many other students in his classes was cruel and damaging. Lorrie Kim's definitive reading provides an in depth look at Snape's history and motivations to better reconcile the often contradictory aspects of this sometimes cruel, humorous, pathetic and powerful character. Her analysis is supported by extensive quotes from passages across all 7 books, extremely helpful for those whose memory of Rowling's books may not as fresh.

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