



Blood Red Horse (de Granville Trilogy)

By K. M. Grant

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FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. You need three things to become a knight: a horse, a fair maiden, and a cause. Will has a horse. Ellie is fair. King Richard is calling for a Crusade. Will and his brother will go. Blood will be shed, lives will be lost. But two things will be constant--Ellie and a blood-red horse called Hosanna.

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Blood Red Horse (de Granville Trilogy) By K. M. Grant Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-9—Based on the Third Crusade with England's King Richard I and the Muslim leader Saladin, this novel takes readers from the de Granvilles' Hartslove Castle to the bloody battlefields of the Middle East. It is a story of loyalty, honor, and nobility and centers around the lives of two brothers, Gavin and William; the fair maiden Eleanor whom they leave behind; and Will's beloved red horse. Readers are caught up in the bloody battles, with alternating chapters revealing what is happening on the "home front," and in the Christian and in the Muslim camps. Tying these stories together is the red horse, Hosanna, who is the book's most compelling and empathetic character. The futility of war is a theme throughout and readers will discover that, much like war today, combat in the 12th century had devastating consequences. The historical setting and the vocabulary may challenge younger readers but ensure that older ones will find the book a rewarding adventure, one not soon forgotten and one that lends itself to great discussion.—*Denise Moore, O'Gorman Junior High School, Sioux Falls, SD*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Gr. 6-9. In the tradition of Kevin Crossley-Holland's Arthur trilogy and Catherine Jinks' Pagan novels, this epic of the Crusades offers a historical perspective on modern conflicts, and lays bare the gap between propaganda about the Crusades and the "dismal, stinking nightmare" of warfare's reality. Onlookers scoff when 13-year-old William de Granville chooses Hosanna, a charismatic red stallion with a puny, impractical build, for his first warhorse. But after what seems to be a miraculous recovery from a grave injury, Hosanna earns widespread respect and a celebrated place in the campaign for Jerusalem, which William and his elder brother, Gavin, have zealously joined. Left behind is Ellie, who is promised to Gavin but feels more connected to William. Awaiting the Crusaders is the noble strategist Saladin and his young ward, Kamil, who eventually lays claim to Hosanna--and is similarly inspired by the horse's soulful presence. The parallel coming-of-age stories are compelling, and Grant portrays both sides of the conflict without demonizing or idealizing either. The novel's only false note is the overdone mysticism surrounding Hosanna; in the end, perhaps the stallion's most amazing achievement is the way in which its story--the first in a planned trilogy--transcends boundaries of gender and genre, with something to offer fans of equestrian fare, historical fiction, and battlefield drama alike. *Jennifer Mattson*

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About the Author

K. M. Grant was born into a large family that often found itself caught up in historical events—usually on the losing side. Stories of high adventure, most of them true, were part of everyday life. Married with teenaged children, the author now lives in Scotland and works as a writer and broadcaster. *Blood Red Horse* is K. M. Grant's first novel.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Glenn Hancock:

Here thing why that Blood Red Horse (de Granville Trilogy) are different and trusted to be yours. First of all

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