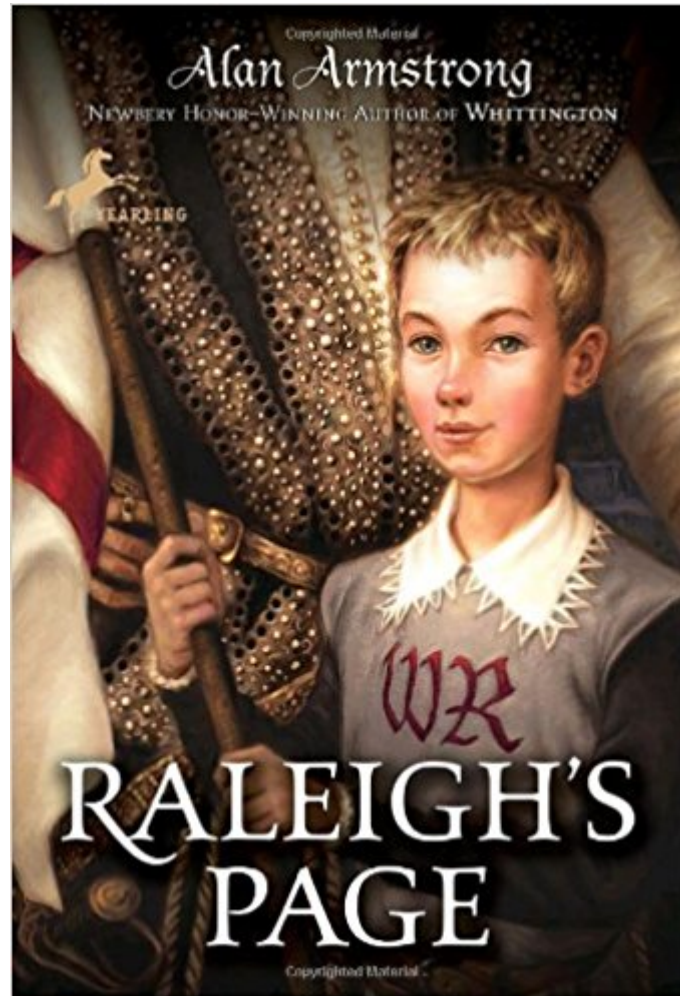




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Raleigh's Page



Synopsis

ANDREW HAS grown up near the Plymouth docks hearing the sailors talk about America. Knowing that Andrew's heart is set on going to the new world, his father sends him up to London to serve as page in the house of Walter Raleigh. In Queen Elizabeth's court, Raleigh's the strongest voice in favor of fighting with Spain for a position in the New World, and everyone knows that it's just a matter of time before Her Majesty agrees to an expedition. Can Andrew prove himself fit to go on an expedition to the New World? Meticulously researched and brilliantly crafted, combining fictional characters with historical, Andrew's tale offers up a vivid look at the cloak-and-dagger politics of the time and a genuine feel for what it must have been like for the first Europeans to set foot on the beautiful, bountiful, savage shores of America. From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

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Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,031,444 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #180 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #1621 in Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Eleven-year-old Andrew Saintleger lives with his family on a farm in Devon, England. Since Andrew's older brother will inherit the farm, other prospects must be arranged for Andrew's future. So, in the spring of 1584, when Andrew finishes school, his father surprises him with the opportunity of a lifetime. Andrew travels to London to join the staff of Sir Walter Raleigh, a famous entrepreneur, a favorite acquaintance of the Queen's and a man with a dream to explore America. Andrew settles into his new life in the loud, bustling city, despite missing home and being bullied by one of the other pages. Since he hails from a farm and is talented in such tasks, he is assigned to spend most of his

hours assisting Pena, the gardener, and learning about the experiments Pena conducts on foreign plants in English soil. In addition, Sir Raleigh sets dangerous tasks before him to test his intelligence, his trustworthiness and his bravery. In one such test, Andrew must go undercover as a wine clerk to sneak into a mapmaker's home and obtain a new and supposedly very accurate map. After proving himself worthy, Andrew earns the grandest adventure ever --- to join the expedition to explore America. Andrew now also assists with the preparation for the voyage, including visiting the Queen for her support, calculating for supplies needed and recording all transactions. He even befriends the two Native Americans brought back from a previous voyage, seeing to their needs and learning their language. They will return to America with Sir Raleigh's expedition and aid them in exploring the new lands. They set sail the following spring. Even with all of their preparations and research, no one could have prepared Andrew and the crew for the most extreme of all tests --- mere survival.

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