

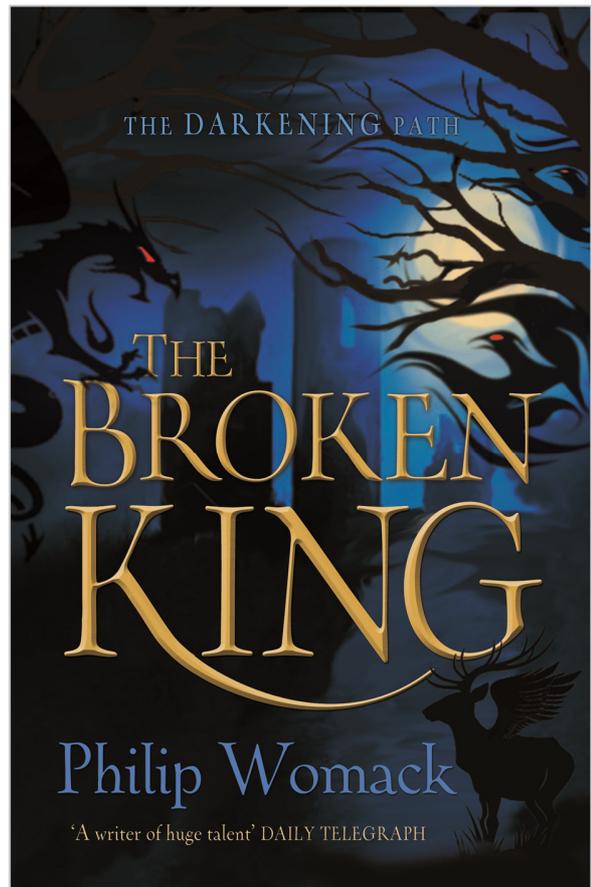
LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of The Darkening Path: The Broken King by Philip Womack

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Robert White, age 10

I loved this book; I could never put it down. A five star read! 'The Broken King' is a mighty action packed book filled with magical creatures of all kinds.

Simon is annoyed by his little sister, Anna. He finds what he thinks is a nursery rhyme and, like any big brother, acts it out to scare her! As a result of his teasing, a mysterious, unseen figure arrives and kidnaps Anna. Simon suddenly finds himself on a quest to find his sister. On the way, he meets someone who is in the same predicament, having been mean to her older brother. Together, they face many dangers including strange animals, the Knight of the Swan and the Royal hounds. Where have the missing children gone? Will they be in time to rescue them?



Emily Passmore, age 13

Imaginative, interesting and just amazing, this book is a definite for anyone who has a love of fantasy. Just trust me, read it!

I have to admit, this book was a bit of a slow starter for me, but after I'd read a bit, it was brilliant. The actual idea is a very interesting concept in itself, so as that continued I became more and more fascinated by it. By the time I'd finished

it, I already wanted more. Definitely going to read more of the author's work!

Sam Harper, age 10

This was an exhilarating, dark adventure which kept me hooked from the first page to the last word. The creatures were terrifying and amazing. Fantastic!

Simon finds his little sister Anna really annoying but when he chants the rhyme from an old story book he only wants to scare her. He doesn't, for a moment, believe that she could be captured by the Broken King and taken to his kingdom in another world. Simon must get her back but it's not going to be easy. The King has set three challenges which Simon must complete in order to get into the Broken Kingdom. He needs to 'eat the shadow', 'steal the sun' and 'break the air'. The messengers from the Golden Realm will guide him but they can't enter the kingdom as the Golden Realm and the Broken Kingdom are on the verge of war. It's a dangerous journey and they are hunted by the Knight of the Swan and his shadows who are never far behind. But Simon is not alone in his quest. Flora's brother, Johnny, has also been taken and the two must work together to save their siblings. And then there's the mysterious Pike with his strange visions. He can't remember anything about himself, or why he's there, but he can sense the shadows before they attack. Simon, Flora and Pike don't know who they can trust or even if Anna and Johnny are still alive but they must try to save them.

This was an exhilarating, dark adventure which kept me hooked from the first page to the last word. The creatures were terrifying and amazing. I particularly liked the royal hounds with their fur, feathers and scales and the map of skin made my own skin crawl. I can't wait for the next book in this brilliant trilogy. Fantastic!

Sidney Greenslade, age 10

A fast-paced tale of danger, magic and adventure which really makes you think: how far would you go to save your sibling?

'The Broken King' is a tale of danger, courage and magic. In this story a young boy named Simon recites an old nursery rhyme to scare his annoying little sister, Anna, but he is horrified when the Broken King from the rhyme really does come to take her away.

Soon a messenger from the Golden Realm comes to tell Simon that he must go to

save his sister from a terrible fate. Simon begins on an exhausting journey and soon meets Flora, a girl who has also wished someone away – her older brother. Together Simon and Flora must overcome many dangers and do three deadly tasks to reach the land of the Broken King and save their siblings. On the way they must be constantly on the watch for danger, particularly in the form of the King's servant, The Knight of the Swan.

I liked “The Broken King” because it was full of exciting challenges for the characters, who faced their tasks with courage and determination. The plot was fast paced and I loved the magical theme. **I was gripped from the very first page and I can't wait to read book two in the Darkening Path series. I highly recommend this book.**

Rose Heathcote, age 15

FANTASTICALLY written fantasy adventure, from the day it arrived it didn't leave my hands. It will capture your imagination from the very first page. I can't wait for book two to be published.

This book is about how a boy endures a long and arduous search for his sister. Simon goes on a nonstop adventure after he wishes his sister away. The author has captured the dark theme of the story line through the quality of his writing, it is truly ingenious. You are constantly surprised by the unpredictable events that continue throughout the story. You won't be disappointed with this read. Just as the book ends the adventure really starts, I hope it won't be long before the next book is available. I would give this book 5+ stars and I am definitely recommending it to all my friends.

Daisy Theobald, age 11

I extremely enjoyed this book, it is one of my favourite books that I have ever read. It gripped me from page one. It is about; Simon and Flora who are on a mission to find their siblings! Who is the strange boy that is following them! How do they eat the shadow, steal the sun and break the air? Can they do it? Or is it too late?

Benjy Randall, age 10

A very good book, read if you like adventures stories with lots of magic.

The Broken King is a spectacular book. When Anna disappears to another world, how will Simon get her back? Accompanied on his quest by Flora who has also lost a sibling by the Broken King. They must get to the land of the Broken King by completing three difficult tasks; eat the shadow, steal the sun and break the air. This is an amazing book written by the brilliant author-Philip Womack.