

Lyra Belacqua

Profile

Name: *Lyra Belacqua, also known as Lyra Silvertongue*

Age: 12

Who is she?: *An orphan, brought up by the Master and scholars of Jordan College, Oxford. Her parents died in an airship accident. She is sometimes visited by her Uncle Asriel. Later Lyra is taken under the wing of the mysterious Mrs Coulter.*

Dæmon: *Pantalaimon (Pan)*

Dæmon form: *Mouse, cat, ermine, bird, sparrow, eagle, wildcat, frog, polecat, stoat, snake.*

Background

Lyra Belacqua is a feisty, inquisitive 12-year-old girl. With dirty knees and tangled hair, she doesn't like being told what to do, and is happiest when she is running free with her friend, Roger Parslow, around the Oxford college that is her home.

However, Lyra has a destiny that she is unaware of. According to an ancient prophecy, she is a special child.

Fortunately, Lyra is brave, resourceful, defiant and quick-thinking. She is also true to her word, and a loyal friend. When Lyra and Roger discuss the kidnapping of children in Oxford by the sinister Gobblers, she vows to rescue Roger if he is taken. Roger's sudden disappearance spurs Lyra into action, and she embarks on a quest to rescue him.

During this adventure, Lyra learns many new things, including how to master her fears and how to harness her acting and storytelling skills to make them work in her favour. These abilities come in handy when she takes on powerful opponents, such as Ragnar, the King of the Ice Bears.

Lyra has the makings of a lady, as well as a kind-hearted and lovable side. Despite being told she is impossible to educate, she is quick to learn and clever enough to outwit her enemies. She has an enormous desire to involve herself in situations – often against the advice of her faithful dæmon, Pan. However, it is this trait that enables her to influence events for the better, an ability that will ultimately help Lyra to fulfil her destiny.