

## The land of painted caves audiobook free

I won't go too much into detail as other reviewers have exhaustively explained why this book sucks donkey arse but essentially1 Auel likes to repeat things A lot What I meant to say is that Auel likes to repeat things A lot2 Auel really digs caves No really Ayla spends 23 of the book shuffling through caves peeing in caves knocking the ash off her torch in caves and scrutinizing all of the art in caves What a cavewoman snicker3 Ayla and Jondalar's interactions consist of Why don't you take Jonayla for a while Jondalar? I need to go and do something esoteric with Zelandoni that involves lots of celibacy4 Jondalar Okay5 Jondalar thinks about this for a while and says to himself Not okay It turns out he has spent most of the book bonking the shit out of Marona though in secret except since it is a small cave in which they live god we can't get away from the fucking caves here can we? everyone knows about their incessant bonking except for naturally Ayla6 Ayla finds out about Jondalar's uasi infidelity we have to remember that although up to this point Jondalar Ayla have been monogamous they nonetheless live in a polyamorous society a week after having miscarried her baby while being called to the Zelandonia via you guessed it herbs She discovers this infidelity by watching Marona slurp on Jondalar's7 Well at least this book went easy on the porn8 Jondalar and Ayla act like lovelorn middle schoolers She hates me He hates me Jonayla cries a lot9 As though Auel realised toward the end what a stinking pile of shit this book is she decided to revive it by making Ayla carry out what consists of an intentional suicide attempt by trying out the Clan roots used by the Clan Mogurs and drinking nearly the entire contents of the bowl after letting Zelandoni have the tiniest of sips Ayla nearly dies and is called back to life by a contrite and suddenly passionately loving Jondalar10 Ayla reveals to this cave dwelling society that it isn't spirits that make babies it's sex Good old fashioned sex Which is ironic since we don't see a lot of sex in this book11 The Goddess society is now on the decline thanks to Ayla and her goddamned interfering12 This book contradicts a lot of what is said in earlier books especially in Shelters of Stone in that book Ayla asks Jondalar what datura is called in Zelandoni and he answers Foxglove In this book Ayla has absolutely no idea what the plant is called in Zelandoni and has to describe it to Zelandoni who has never seen the plant which leads one to wonder how the hell a Zelandoni word for it ever existed in the first place13 There is no character development Ever At allImportant Note You will cry once you've shlogged through your fortieth cave complete with exhaustive descriptions of the cave's art and its physical structure and you find that you still have forty caves for Ayla to exploreOh and I have to warn you that you might just laugh until you cry when Jondalar beats the shit out of Laramar who is bonking Ayla at a Mother Festival while screaming in a high pitched falsetto He's making my baby You see Ayla has just announced prior to the Mother Festival great timing naturally since I'm sure all the guys will be wanting their women to conceive by other dudes that men's essence creates babies So perhaps this pile of shit was worth digging through just so we could hear Jondalar screaming He's making my babyAll in all drivel Complete drivel It's as though Auel looked at her body of work thus far realised she still had to write one last book said DAMN to herself and told the characters Frankly my cavepeople I don't give a damn and proceeded to write plastic people who could have substituted for one another without any of our noticing 9780307886651 Excuse me I have some paint I need to watch dryAyla trains to be a Zelandani Ayla goes to many caves Ayla unveils the Big Secret that readers have known about since Book 1 The EndSpoilers Abound Like Mad Ye Have Been WarnedMy God If I thought the last book was fan fiction I have no idea what to call this piece of sht "Boring" "disappointing" "stupid" "mindless waste of time and paper" and "underwhelming" all come to mind But no words can describe how absolutely horrible this book isI don't like to think I am a person who gives into hyperbole but this book is probably THE worst book I have EVER read not to mention THE worst conclusion to a beloved series It doesn't wrap up the billion plot threads that have arisen in the previous five books Characters act largely out of character or like idiots Two thirds of the book has no plot and the last third has a plot that was regurgitated from an earlier book The writing is

horrible The dialogue is terrible Whole conversations are dedicated to one character telling another about events the other character should already be aware of The pacing is all over the place More time is spent on detailing every cave Ayla visits but important events are sloppily skimmed over Several "exciting" events pause to detail Zelandani social norms the usages of cattail or recap earlier book scenes thus breaking any sense of tension Large chunks of the book are stories from the previous five books or reiterations of events that occurred earlier in the story There is no cohesion in the book; it is separated into three parts that have very little to bind them into one work The sex though greatly reduced only two explicit sex scenes and two instances of being interrupted while having sex are still hilariously over the top and monotonous The conclusion is mournful and an insult to fans About the only laudable quality is the research It is obvious that Auel has put a lot of effort into the research which is commendable But regurgitating research pell mell into a novel without good characters a plot and decent writing does NOT make a story And it doesn't help to have anachronistic info dumps written as if from a technical manual either It is inexcusable how horrible this book is Auel has had many years to plan her ending to this once great series In the five previous books she introduced many interesting plotlines which she could have explored view spoiler The relationship between Zelandani and the Clan What happened to Durc Jonayla's growth and how it was different than Ayla's A legitimate struggle between Ayla's duties as a Zelandania and a wife and mother Real marital strife—maybe Ayla wanting to be with Brukeval or Ranec or one of the many men who drools over her or Jondalar struggling with wanting to perform First Rites and maybe wanting to be with Joplaya hide spoiler 9780307886651 I just read the interview with Jane Auel that came out before the book was published It was a LOT interesting than the book was While reading LOPC I kept finding myself saying AGAIN??? Wolf helps to find Jondular AGAIN??? You're repeating the Mother's Song AGAIN????? You're talking about cattails AGAIN??? Someone is jealous AGAIN??? It seemed to me that Jondular and Ayla still hadn't gotten past the problems that they had in MH They haven't grown as characters at all It would have been far interesting if there would have been a few scenes with Marona sorry if I spelled it wrong and WHY and HOW he decided to relieve his needs with her I also didn't quite understand why Marona packed her things and left She had at least a part of Jondular and Ayla weren't talking why give up the high ground?? And it would have been awesome if he and Ayla would have actually TALKED about it instead of just hiding from each other AGAIN I LOVED Clan of the Cave Bears It had a good vibe a clash of cultures a variant of nature vs nurture Valley of Horses was AWESOME Coming to terms with known prejudices Mammoth Hunters was GREAT A look at a society that values differences Wasn't so crazy about Plains of Passage but it was interesting seeing the way different cultures handle things I even liked Shelters of Stone as it defined relationships in a community and the effect of an outsider on the dynamics of said community Land of Painted Caves was just nothing There was nothing new except for the red and black dots No relationship went forward or back no one learned anything no one had any insights I could go on but I won't 9780307886651 After three years six books and 4345 pages I have finished reading the Earth's Children saga by Finnish American author Jean Auel nee Untinen and my first reaction is I will miss the fabulous persistent Ayla her strange though quite lovable family both human and some not so much the beautiful loyal people there too always impressive and the exotic creatures yes the Wolf Whinney Racer Gray horse animals her new mate's tribe the Zelandonii especially the unique atmosphere of the prehistoric lands 30000 B C where the few beings in existence survive against all odds otherwise nobody today would be breathing It is with a little regret Auel's last novel is the weakest in the series she seems to have run out of interesting ideas except for the constant suabbles between Ayla and Jondalar mostly just trivial misunderstanding which a couple of words could settle the problems but they lack courage to speak to the other The writer's continuous retelling of past events gets tiresome I don't mind some but she can't help herself as if any new readers can never get the gist of the books only by this way understand otherwise they'd be lost but do we really need to repeat over and over the same by-gones? The duo are trying to nest with their menagerie a killer wolf three wild horses and an inquisitive daughter of six Jonayla the naive Ayla and her very jealous mate Jondalar While the foreigner is studying to be a

medicine woman for the Zelandonii tribe neglecting her handsome man with lusting women all around looking favorably at him not wise still the main emphasis of the plot are the cave paintings which Ayla visits a requirement to become a full fledged healer and leader wonderful drawings which have endured for tens of thousands of years If you like creepy caves not the nervous type want to find out what's around the corner shadows don't frighten weird noises are heavenly exploring them deep underground in real tight spaces darkness saturating the tunnels with just a torch to light the path in cold chilly temperatures looking at the walls decorated with painted extinct animals the magnificent mammoths from a long vanished era hoping to find your way back to the entrance this might be nirvana for the rest not a thrill obviously the author loves ancient cave paintings you have stamina and a wonderful adventure in a sacred terrain I liked it A marvelous experience for anyone with a curious streak this may be fiction and we probably can never know how humans back then lived yet this is as good a guess as we're likely to discover Not perfect but it will suffice

9780307886651 The Clan of the Cave Bear was a masterful character driven drama if slightly plodding an intensive study of both the nature of characters and relationships The protagonist Ayla was a flawed and vulnerable girl possessed of genuinely admirable determination existing in a very dangerous brutal and unfair world which caused her to suffer real hardships and even be threatened with death on than one occasion The Land of Painted Caves is a poorly written repetitive tedious unenjoyable mess The pace of the book moves at a bare crawl the plot doesn't even show up until the last third of the novel and even then it's a half baked implausible affair that's essentially just a rehash of the plot of the third book The protagonists are overpowered and boring but even worse in an attempt to inject some drama into this story they act inconsistently and out of character with their previous incarnations whilst a veritable tide of thinly sketched secondary characters are introduced and never heard from again How could the debut novel of the Earth's Children series have been so good whilst its finale is so bad? The Land of Painted Caves was touted by publicity campaigns as the bestseller of 2011 Instead the negative reaction from fans this time round has been overwhelming and the word I have seen being thrown out there most often is disappointing

Disappointing is the word that comes foremost to my own mind in regards to this final instalment in the Earth's Children saga but to be honest I can't pretend that after having observed the decline of the series and problems inherent in The Shelters of Stone I actually expected The Land of Painted Caves to be on a par with The Clan of the Cave Bear I went into Painted Caves with the strong suspicion of what I would be getting myself into and the book didn't prove me wrong in that regards What I found so disappointing about it was that beyond the mess that this book was it had the potential to be so much better Previous books had established a few potential conflicts and hinted at a few intriguing little strands that if these conflicts had been handled better and given any element of risk or these loose strands picked up on and pursued Painted Caves could have been a whole lot better There was potential for a good story somewhere in there it was simply wasted and the easy option taken instead Even with a severe editor eliminating all the repetition and unnecessary chaff from this book something could have been produced that would have been half as long and at least concise and acceptable enough to pass muster

Repetition is a major problem in The Land of Painted Caves Certain themes or sentences are repeated over and over again characters would pause right in the middle of a scene to embark upon a lengthy reminisce about an event from one of the previous books characters would even speak to one another about such prior incidents as if the other person hadn't been there at the time and didn't know what had happened The repetition was so interminable that towards the last third of the novel incidents that had happened earlier in the book were revisited and readers reminded of them This was probably the single most annoying thing to me in this book the one thing that really got my rubbing my temples and having to simply stop reading because I could only take so much For fun and to pass the time a little whilst I was reading the book I kept an accurate tally of the number of times certain things were repeated

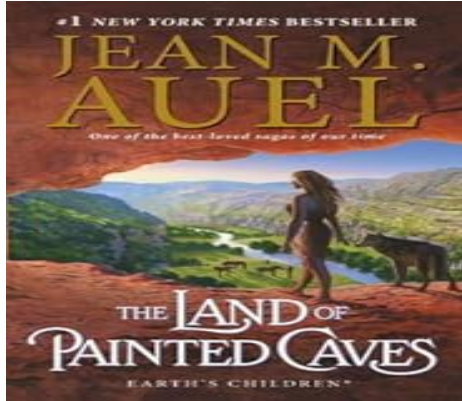
Number of times Wolf is introduced to someone 4  
Number of times Ayla's baby waits to pass her water on the ground instead of in her blanket 4  
Number of times Ayla's titles and ties are recited 12  
Number of times the Mother's Song is either wholly or partially recited 13  
Number of times Ayla's

accent is mentioned 32 Second to the repetition is the sheer dryness of the descriptions In The Land of Painted Caves the sheer page space devoted to description alone overwhelms all other aspects - plot action characterisations - and as a result those elements really suffer from being sparsely drawn and not nearly developed enough Had these descriptions been written with skill vigour or imagination it might not have been too bad but unfortunately the vast majority of descriptions in Painted Caves are dry dull and technical This has a knock on effect and drags the pacing down incessantly turning the book into a tedious laboured drudge that takes real effort to get through or even pick up Most of the description is centred around the eponymous painted caves of the novel's title and the heart of the book is simply the main characters visiting cave after cave after cave The first whiff of a real plot doesn't even show up until three quarters of the way into the book and by that time clichéd and awful as this last minute contrivance is you're desperate for something anything to happen in this breeze block of a tome Auel mentions in the Acknowledgements that she's particularly grateful for a certain book which told her the exact positioning and placement of every image in the painted caves that Ayla's visits in this book and whilst I'd probably say that's fair enough and it's a good idea for the author to be sure of such information just in case the need crops up it is totally unnecessary for her to pass on such level of detail to the readers Now as an historian I'm not saying that these details are unimportant - far from it - but if I wanted a coldly factual site report I'd read an academic publication about it - I am not looking for this level of dry detail in a fictional novel which I am reading for personal entertainment Auel's done her research kudos there I do prefer my historical fiction to be accurate rather than inaccurate but surely the point is that she wants these historic sites to capture the imagination of her readers the way it's captured her imagination If that was the effect she wanted she should have focused on creating the right impression conveying how exciting and interesting these cave paintings are even if that meant using broader brush strokes in her descriptions of them and omitting a few unnecessary details here and there - it shouldn't be as important for us to know exactly how high up on the cave wall the painting is or whether it's facing left or right what we should walk away with is an interest and a general idea Instead Auel seems to have shoved every last one of her research notes in here tacked on a lame plot at the end had it published and called it a fictional novel Here's an example of the kind of scintillating stuff I had to read through Page 326 The cave was high above the river valley floor and reasonably dry inside but it was calcareous rock which was naturally porous and water saturated with calcium carbonate constantly seeped through it Painted Caves might still have been salvageable had it had a decent plot but it doesn't There's very little plot to speak of in the first three quarters of the book Ayla and Jondalar go to a Summer Meeting visit a lot of caves meet a few people and that's pretty much it The timeframe jumps ahead by four years at one point totally without warning and apparently totally without reason too When the actual plot does show up it's so awkward and artificial that it just falls flat The first strand of the plot the big revelation falls flat because it's not actually a big revelation at all but something that Ayla has known pretty much since the first book view spoiler Auel draws thick implications through Ayla's later drug induced hallucinogenic trip that the revelation that men have a role in creating babies through sex is what actually leads to the downfall of the Zelandonii's female dominated goddess worshipping society and is responsible for the spawning of patriarchal societies that subjugate women and overexploit the planet thus leading to skyscrapers and a ruined Earth but this implication is so inelegantly drawn that it just comes across as preachy and sweepingly damning hide spoiler 9780307886651 In The Land of Painted Caves Jean M Auel brings her ice age epic series Earth's Children® to an extraordinary conclusion As the story opens Ayla Jondalar and their infant daughter Jonayla are living with the Zelandonii in the Ninth Cave Ayla has been chosen as an acolyte to a spiritual leader and begins arduous training tasks Whatever obstacles she faces Ayla finds inventive ways to lessen the difficulties of daily life searching for wild edibles to make meals and experimenting with techniques to ease the long journeys the Zelandonii must take while honing her skills as a healer and a leader And there are the Sacred Caves that Ayla's mentor takes her to see They are filled with remarkable paintings of mammoths lions and bears and their mystical aura at times overwhelms

Ayla But all the time Ayala has spent in training rituals has caused Jondalar to drift away from her The rituals themselves bring her close to death but through them Ayla gains A Gift of Knowledge so important that it will change her world from the product page at BNcom The Land of the Painted Caves All right that's finally done Nothing like making a stomach bug feel worse by reading a very disappointing book First off I will say that I do admire Ms Auel for a couple of things 1 She researched this like no one else The depth and breadth of her experiences while writing all this are absolutely commendable Above and beyond Very few people get interested in something and go that far into learning about it And 2 She has always said in the few interviews I can find that she wrote this whole thing for herself Few writers can say that and mean it and I hope she is satisfied with what she produced Ultimately all writers know that that is what really matters I'd like to thank her for introducing me to this fascinating world That said here I go Spoilers very much follow The first 2 parts of this book are just an agonizing repeated ad nauseum rehashing of incidents from the first 4 books nothing of note happened in the 5th really and Ms Auel's own field journal of tours of painted caves Nothing happens The end Didn't even make me want to see the caves and I've ALWAYS wanted to see those caves Now if I do see them I will just be thinking of the fat chick peeing in the corner and Wolf taking a crap on the path Note to aspiring writers Telling about people and animals' bodily functions is not a detail needed for realism Just not The third part was where the published story should have started A few halfway exciting plot points happen or start to happen and then just don't fulfill Even Ayla's drug induced calling was disappointing And while it might be realistic and refreshing to show that Neolithic Paleolithic? My college Anthropology escapes me right now people were not benign noble savages with strict cultural morays against violence by showing them beating a group of criminals to a bloody pulp I don't think that was necessary It made me sad that this book ended on such a negative note; that instead of Ayla contributing somehow to the future of mankind as had been teased throughout the saga she was the singular cause of its eventual downfall into a patriarchal system All because she realized that the penis has a biological function for procreation I expected from Ayla And let's talk about that for a moment shall we? I have never ever seen an author turn on their protagonist in such a blatant and hostile way The narrative of this book the underlying tone makes it very clear that Ms Auel was sick to death of this story That by the end of it she hates this wonderful character she created and wants nothing to do with her and lost the will to help Ayla become what we all thought she would Ayla is flat and unsympathetic and simple Even when Jondalar cheats on her with that malicious slut I just rolled my eyes at the rehashing of the plot of MH that followed I know she struggled with a huge bout of writer's block That happens to every writer me included I shall not throw stones into her little glass house I wish Ms Auel could have come through it with a little grace and dignity with some recognition that she was not alone in this endeavor that there are millions of us out here who needed this story to be Is that too maudlin? Did I hold her pedestal up a bit high? Maybe But you can't start a meal with filet mignon and end it with green jello I've never been a fan of fan fiction But I think I might take a stab at this one Someone needs to fix this book And following Jean Auel's own credo I shall write it for myself And now back to reading ChickLit crap that I love 9780307886651 I can save you the trouble of attempting to plough through Ms Auel's Potteresue doorstep in a few easy sentences view spoiler 1 Ayla who has become increasingly superpowered with each book is described in the first chapter as having been born with heightened acuity in all her senses but not realising just how uniuie she is Why didn't we know about this before? And what about the detailed descriptions in Clan of the Cave Bear of how Ayla had to work hard to learn all these skills because she didn't have inborn knowledge? Wouldn't her years of hunting practise heighten her acuity? Is Auel just making up things as she nah couldn't be 2 Ayla continues to work as a healer and takes Zelandoni lessons 3 Note to Auel When you are writing the verses to chants or songs in another language especially sacred ones do not I repeat do not try to make the words rhyme in English No matter how compelling or beautiful the original you'll end up with fourth form tyro drivel 3 Ayla explores a lot of caves with beautiful wall art like visiting a lot of museums Along the way she accidentally discovers evidence that one of her fellow Zelandoni apprentices has been cheating on his OWLs The poor guy gets kicked out and told to study a craft or

something 3a I like this so much that I'm going to vote from it We have foreshadowing multiple times that something bad is going to happen to Ayla particularly that a band of evil bad rapist men are going to kidnap her and drag her off But no They grab her and Jondalar somehow miraculously goes from in front of the evil band of rapist men to behind them breaks the leather thong assisted choke hold the dude has on Ayla and saves her from them Then the Zelandoni beat them to death in an instance of mob justice Well At least something sort of happened?4 Ayla gets pregnant again but loses the baby She and what's his name have another breakup He goes off and does it with his old girlfriend who has always had it in for Ayla Ayla goes off and does it with someone else during a festival where it is proper to do it with anyone you like What you may call it becomes very annoyed especially since he now believes that sex makes babies and delivers a terrific beating to the party in question meanwhile bellowing He's making MY babies which doesn't even make sense Blame it all on the barma I suppose I was actually hoping that the two of them would end up mating with other people so that there would be at least a bit of a surprise Nothing doing5 Surprise Sex makes babies The people accept this and coin the word father etymology as follows Fa in Zelandoni means to do with men and there is a fa lodge where fellas hang out and scratch burp watch football drink barma c Fair enough However the priestess also says that father comes from combining the words far mother together The man is the child's far mother or father Huh? Don't they speak Zelandoni or something?6 Ayla understandably upset by everything that's happened makes herself a bowl of the sacred Clan medicine gives a taste to the Reverend Mother and drinks the rest herself She sees that she has wrecked the entire Mother Goddess religion and early Cro Magnon culture with her insights about men's essence thereby creating internal combustion engines airplanes freeways Jersey Shore and the Bush Administration 7 Ayla is near death from excessive ingestion but what's his name comes back and saves her Fade out on them swimming in the river happily ever after Annoyingly enough we never learn Ayla's real name what happened to Durc or who her people were The original mystery the thing that kept us reading has just gone off into endless repetition of non essential details hide spoiler 9780307886651 Big thanks to all the Good Reads and reviewers who have already given this one a big THUMBS DOWN You've given me permission to stop wasting my time hoping it will get better I'm always afraid of being the one to burst everyone's expectation bubble without putting in a fair effort No problem with that here As of this writing there are 398 ratings on Good Reads and the average rating for all editions is 2.80 As I scroll through the first dozen reviews ALL of them are one or two star ratings This has to be the biggest bomb I've ever seen for a long anticipated book by a popular author I don't know what happened to Jean Auel's writing skills in the hiatus but this book is purely awful The dialogue is worse than the worst chick lit I've ever read and the story is confusing and just plain BORING I know the lady did a lot of research but where were her editors? She didn't have to make this an epic If she wanted to share what she'd learned about the painted caves she could have done that in a much shorter book Bummer dude Back to the library it goes for the next eager person in line 9780307886651 I loved these books as a kid It's been a loong time since I read one though Now I'm 40% of the way through this one complete with Part One If you've read her previous books you could probably skip part one and just go straight to Part Two unless you wanted to read and reread and reread all the major points of the previous books just for fun Key points you will enjoy being beaten over the head with 1 Ayla has an accent Everyone notices Sometimes than once 2 Wolves they are social creatures They like children Because they're social creatures3 There are caves They have paintings in them Please enjoy this tour of every single cave and every single painting in every single cave Hey I know let's discuss them in our strange accent With a wolf I couldn't finish it 9780307886651 Herewith the Land of the Painted Caves drinking game Everytime the text mentions Ayla's accent DRINK the text called Ayla beautiful or Jondalar handsome DRINK the word vivid is used to describe Jondalar or Jonayla's eyes DRINK there is a verse of that goddess forsaken song DRINK there's a description of how much some other person adores Ayla DRINK the word uncanny is used to describe Ayla's special abilities DRINK Ayla remembers her vision uest with Creb DRAIN YOUR GLASS You'll be so soused by the third chapter that it may not hurt to keep reading This was hands down the worst book I've ever finished And I've

read books written by fifth graders I don't actually know why I finished it's really that awful Maybe it was because the first three books were so key to my teenage years and I felt a sense of loyalty to the series I know I read the fourth and fifth books but I don't remember them But they could not have been this bad I won't bother describing why it's bad there's only 18955 characters left and you don't care that much because you're not going to read it Also Jondalar is a whiny emo putz and I knew that even when I was 13 9780307886651 Jean M Auel née Jean Marie Untinen is an American author best known for her Earth's Children books a series of historical fiction novels set in prehistoric Europe that explores interactions of Cro Magnon people with Neanderthals As of 2010 her books have sold than 45 million copies worldwide in many translations Auel attended University of Portland and earned an MBA in 1976 She receiv



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