



A Quest of Undoing

John P. Logsdon

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Why does questing have to be so persnickety?

Xebdigon Whizzfiddle is a wizard who has to find a quest, get it contracted, and finish it to the letter within 30 days or he'll lose his guild membership status, meaning he'll have to actually work for a living. At the perpetual age of 650, this is really no longer an option.

After interviewing countless people who are looking for a wizard to quest with, Whizzfiddle all but gives up. But then one last questing party arrives, and they're the oddest bunch he's seen in a long time--and being a wizard in the land of Ononokin, that's saying something!

They have to traverse the portals from the Upperworld to the Underworld; deal with Trolls, Ogres, Gorgans, Orcs, and worst of all...Humans; survive the land of professional salespeople; go through the afterlife; and fight to avoid Whizzfiddle's disgruntled past-apprentice's attempts to thwart them at every turn.

Going through all of this makes Whizzfiddle wonder if maybe he shouldn't just give up magic and go back to his roots of being a farmer.

The land of Ononokin gets its influence as a hodgepodge from Monty Python, National Lampoon, Family Guy, Terry Pratchett, Piers Anthony, Douglas Adams, Harry Harrison, and countless other comedic mediums. Readers will find a new, fun, comedic fantasy world to play in. Wizards, magic, Dwarfs, Orcs, Ogres, Trolls, Gnomes, Halflings, Vampires, Zombies, Dragons, Gorgans, and more fill the vastness of Ononokin.

A Quest of Undoing Details

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From Reader Review A Quest of Undoing for online ebook

Sharon Kennedy says

I saw this advertised via Facebook, and liked the sound of it, so decided to purchase...and I'm glad I did! I found this very funny in places - not necessarily laugh out loud, but very sly and clever. Loved the machinations of Treneth of Dahl, and the different power sources. The interaction between the wizards and the questers was spot on for me.

Very, very enjoyable, if you like your fantasy a bit off the wall (vampires = mosquitos!). Looking forward to more.

Chris says

Brilliant! I won this book in a Goodreads giveaway, which I entered mostly because my name was listed as one of the authors. It's a light comedic fantasy romp, following the wizard Whizzfiddle as he bumbles his way through a quest. I can't say much more without handing out spoilers, so just pick up a copy and read it!

Gilly says

Absolutely loved this book had me giggling and wanting more when I'd finished being a Terry Pratchett fan I didn't think I'd find any other books that matched that wit after reading this I think I may have just found it so much so I've moved straight onto reading the Full Moon Event and already I'm giggling

Joel Bresler says

Xebdigon Whizzfiddle is a wizard with a problem.

Having been set up with the Wizards' Guild by a disgruntled and devious former apprentice, Whizzfiddle must complete a wizardly quest to the letter, or face the loss of his magic privileges.

The quest in question involves undoing a spell cast by another wizard against a handful of fantasy-world type beings, which rendered them opposites of their former selves. Thus begins what Whizzfiddle hopes will be the last adventure for an old wizard who prefers rest and relaxation to, well, anything, really.

There are fantasy novels and there are parodies of fantasy novels. "A Quest of Undoing" is a combination of both. It is not exactly a parody, though there are a few tongue-in-cheek references most people should recognize. Rather, it is a very funny fantasy novel. Absent are the massive layers of fantasy-lit stuff, and equally detailed descriptions and explanations of the fantasy-lit stuff, that sometimes make a reader pine for a mental machete to help in cutting a swath through.

"A Quest of Undoing" is well-written and a joy to read.

Lucinda says

An imaginatively witty world wherein worldly Wizards and epic quests collide in a magnificent explosion!!

This truly inspired fantasy creation of sheer genius left me awestruck, for it was unexpectedly exceptional and just brilliant. As an avid reader of the fantasy genre (from high/ epic fantasy like Tolkien, Erikson, Elliot and Donaldson to the more contemporary and modern), I was greatly impressed by John P Logsdon's well-written story. "A Quest of Undoing" contains similarities as to the outlandish, peculiar style of **Terry Pratchett** who captures humour and bizarreness in a nutshell. Hilariously funny, exciting and totally mind-blowing this novel epitomizes all that is great about this genre and why when reading fantasy it is easy to "escape" from reality. I would **highly recommend** to all readers of this genre.

"Thus, anything requiring heavy channeling often ended in a slur of words, haphazard lightning bolts sizzling this way and that, and Whizzfiddle himself being chased by an agglomeration of bunny rabbits and geese."

- Quote

This book is a 'light' read and is highly readable, for it doesn't have you sinking in excessive detail. Inspired and inventive, the author's singular vision and in-depth world building is brilliant and dazzling. I felt like I was reading a conglomeration of parodies, of other fantasy works (such as JRR Tolkien's 'the lord of the rings' for example) with J P Logsdon seeing the funny side of events. Set within a distinctly unique world where bizarre characters journey on a quest, this book **sets itself apart** from everything else within this genre due to the plot and distinct storyline. Fabulously fun and full of tongue-in-cheek references this wonderful book is a joy to read!

"...The land of Ononokin is much like other lands, though quite different at the same time...there is also a divide that separates two distinct realities. One of these realities is known as the upperworld."

- Quote

I won a copy of John P Logsdon's fantasy novel "A Quest of Undoing: A Tale from the land of Ononokin" through a Goodreads, first-read giveaway

Docxen says

Really good book i got a free copy and i must say was enjoyable. The wizard characters did remind me some what of Terry Pratchett's wizards.

Jennifer says

This book was a fun read, it was like a combination of Terry Pratchett + Piers Anthony + Craig Shaw Gardner.

There was a lot of whimsy, bumbling wizards, plays on words, and little insider jokes about the Hobbit/Lord of the Rings (and probably some more that I didn't have the geek-level clearance to understand).

So if you like any of the three authors I mentioned in the beginning, then you will probably be entertained on some level by this book.

Carole O'Brien says

I loved this book, it was very funny, It was a tale of a wizard who was very lazy and it turns out he has never finished off a quest, but now he has to complete one to keep his wizard status.

Have fun reading it is well worth the money, I will be reading more from this author.

Bryce Wilson says

A whimsical tale

Each main character grows in detail through the story. I like character development rather than all given out in a page or two monologue. I also enjoyed the dry humor more like Douglas Adams than Terry Pratchett.

Jan says

A fun little read to clean your palate before the next "big" book. I enjoyed the antics of the various characters.

Brandy says

This book is a enjoyable diversion from the heavy reading that I usually have on my shelf. The story is reminiscent of an outtake on the hobbit. The group of misfits are on a quest with a little old wizard and many mishaps befall them. It was not predictable and did not feel contrived. Some of it was funny and other parts rather clever in their execution. I would recommend this book to those who enjoy tales of adventure, comic reading, and lighthearted stories of wizarding.

This book was won as part of the goodreads first reads program, however, the review that I have written is entirely my own and not influence or directed by author, publisher, or as part of the contest.

Sion Morris says

I saw this series on a Facebook ad and its the first ad that's ever held any interest for me and I'm so glad I found out more about, not only this series of Comic fantasy world books, but that John P. Logsdon has also written several other series of comedic books including comic Space adventure, my favourite!

Anyway, back to 'A Quest of Undoing'. Its always a good sign when you are hooked into a world within a few pages. The writing is very natural and keeps you smiling and often laughing out loud with a comedic idea or a funny turn of phrase. John P. Logsdon is from The USA, but to my British ears, his writing voice is very familiar sounding - if you've read Douglas Adams and Terry Pratchett or know Monty Python, Fawlty Towers etc you will be at home here. there is also an element of US comedy in there too - think Southpark, Family guy. Different series have different mixes of these influences. The Ononokin series probably feels weighted more towards Pratchett I would say.

Although set in the fantasy genre, the plot and ideas in the book are not crazy, wacky or annoyingly far fetched. Everything has to make sense within the laws of albeit a magical world of Elves, Orcs, Wizards etc.

As a read, its an easy mixture of dialogue and plot with some description, but not too much to get in the way of things.

There are many great original ideas here such as, that in this world a Wizard must find their unique source of magical power. The main character, Whizzfiddle's source is 'ale' which means he must basically get drunk to be able to cast spells - but the more he drinks, the less he is able to control his powers! His nemesis', Treneth of Dahl's power, poor soul, comes from having ostrich dung under his finger nails - which brilliantly conveys partly why he is so bad tempered and socially unwelcome! That single idea makes for much hilarity all the way through the book.

The arc of the book is a satisfying quest of a journey, travelling to a few interesting lands and concluding in a non-obvious way.

After finishing this book, my quest to find a great new author is also over 10/10. Highly recommended!

Rebecca says

This is a pretty good book. Certainly not amazing, but a nice fluffy read. I didn't find it particularly funny, as it is toted to be, but I did enjoy reading it.

Jennie Rosenblum says

I received this book as a Goodreads Giveaway. I was hoping this would be something I could recommend to the middle schoolers - however it is much more of an adult book. The wit and humor as well as the characters make this a fun and entertaining read. A dragon, who is now a lizard, starting a nudie magazine, a gay elf and a giant who wants to be a wizard??? What could be more funny!?!? I will be recommending this to adult readers.

Allison Hawn says

"A Quest of Undoing: A Tale from the Land of Ononokin" is a fantastic read for anyone looking for something on the lighter side of fantasy. Funny, inventive and not laboriously detailed, this is a read that will have you smiling and chuckling the entire way through.

The book successfully parodies other fantasy and adventure staples, such as "Lord of the Rings," while maintaining it's own plot. Set in a rather distinct world, with bizarre characters and an interesting quest, "A Quest of Undoing" sets itself apart from many other works in its genre.

Plus the book features quite a few writing gems, such as this one:

“Thus, anything requiring heavy channeling often ended in a slur of words, haphazard lightning bolts sizzling this way and that, and Whizzfiddle himself being chased by an agglomeration of bunny rabbits and geese.”

Overall, this was an enjoyable book that I would recommend to anyone who enjoys any form of fantasy.
