



# Merlin's Wood

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## **Merlin's Wood** Robert Holdstock

Martin and Rebecca return to the outskirts of Brocéliande, an enchanted forest in Brittany where they grew up as children approximately 15 years earlier. They have returned for the funeral of their mother. Despite being warned to leave by family and local friends, they stay to settle the estate and take up residence in their childhood home.

## **Merlin's Wood Details**

Date : Published 1994 by Roc

ISBN : 9780451455642

Author : Robert Holdstock

Format : Paperback 400 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Fiction, Short Stories



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## From Reader Review Merlin's Wood for online ebook

### Vicky says

I enjoyed the subject matter of this novel but I actually liked the short stories included at the end the most.

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### Bronislava Sencakova says

25. 10. 2015 (po roku od prečítania) Jáj, toto by som si veru prečítala znova. Je to riadne psycho. Holdstock mal skvelú fantáziu a magické príbehy, len ich nevedel poriadne napísať. Ale kvôli tým príbehom mi neprekáža ani jeho nedostatok písacích schopností.

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### Virginie says

Triste...

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### Denisa says

Another rating: 8/10

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### piratemoon says

This is a novella and short stories from the phenomenal Mythago Wood Cycle, the concept of which just blows my mind! It is so deeply imbued with folklore and scholarship I can't even begin to describe it, and it's own poetic language is fabulous.

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### Pamela Scott says

<https://thebookloversboudoir.wordpress...>

There are two things that annoy me about Merlin's Wood.

The first thing is that I don't understand how this can be considered part of the Mythago Wood series. It's not set in Ryhope Wood. It takes place in a wood in France that's similar to Ryhope but not really. The book seems like it should be part of his Merlin series.

The second thing is that the book is actually a novella, Merlin's Wood and then some stories that already appear in The Bone Forest. A bit of a rip-off. I only read Merlin's Wood because I read the other tales so

recently.

As a tale in its own right, I really enjoyed Merlin's Wood. The novella is quite dark and sinister at times, especially concerning what happens to Rebecca and Daniel when he starts to speak and she starts to fade. There are a few heart-breaking moments. I might check out the author's Merlin series as Merlin's Wood intrigued me.

Merlin's Wood is a well-written fantasy novella. I don't feel it really has anything to do with Mythago Wood. Book #6, Gate of Ivory, Gate of Horn does however and I look forward to returning to Ryhope.

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## Ints says

K?rt?jais Holdstoka gabals, kas velt?ts apburtiem mežiem, le?endu arhetipiem un cilv?ka pr?ta ietekmi uz realit?ti.

St?sts ir par mežu Brit?nij? ar d?vainu nosaukumu Brocéliande (varb?t tiem, kas zina fran?u valodu, tur nekas d?vains neatrodas). No š? meža ?r? ved taka, pa kuru laiku pa laikam p?rvietojas gari/spoki/mitago. Vi?us redz tikai b?rni, un b?rni m?l dejot cauri šiem gariem, dažs labs uz laiku ieg?st k?das p?rdabiskas sp?jas, tom?r izaugot viss beidzas, garus neviens vairs neredz. T? ir lieta kuru ciemati?a iedz?vot?ji nereklam?.

P?c divdesmit gadu promb?tnes ciemati?? atgriežas Martins un Rebeka, vi?i apprecas un vi?iem piedzimst d?ls Daniels. Tad nu s?k notikt d?vainas lietas, ?imene tiek ierauta Merlina un Vivienas m?ž?gaj? c??? par dominanci. Daniel? ir iemiesojusies da?a no Vivien dv?seles, bet Rebek? Merlina dv?seles da?a.

Kopum? diezgan interesanta novel?te, kas par?da, ka pasaul? nevar noš?irt labu no ?auna. Diezgan ciniski tiek att?loti ar? paši burvji, kas sav? c??? par varu nemaz neuztraucas par mirst?gajiem, galvenais ir uzvar?t.

T? k? novele ir visai ?sa, tad gr?mat? iek?auti ar? p?ris st?sti?i, „Scarrowfell” – par ciemati?u, kas piel?dz pag?nu diev?bas. T?da alternat?v? pasaule bez kristiet?bas. „Thorn” – pag?nisma c??a ar kristiet?bu. Un ar? par cilv?kiem, kas ?r?ji piel?dz jaunos dievus, bet dv?sel? kalpo vecajiem. Un par to, ka ne vienm?r tavs nosl?pums ir nosl?pums visiem. Earth and Stone – ce?ojumi laik? un tavu br?numu maz? Šama?a Tigg atgriešan?s . Teim, kas neatmin?s Tig puisis, kas rad?ja traci Mitago cikla gr?mat? „Lavondyss”. The Bone Forest – tieša Mitago cikla sast?vda?a, nedaudz m?s ievēd Hakslija eksperimentos ar zemapzi?u. T? sakot viens piedz?vojums no St?vena un Kristi?na b?rn?bas.

Gr?matai lieku 8 no 10 ball?m. Ieteiktu las?t tikai tiem, kas ar Holdstoka Mitago ciklu sask?rušies jau agr?k. Cit?di var san?kt, ka lasi, bet nesaproti, par ko ir st?sts.

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## Clark says

Holdstock. A rare one, this guy. He transcends any idea of genre fiction.

Fantasy? Yeah, sure, I suppose, as far as that pigeonhole means anything in reference to his body of work.

It's like saying Shakespeare's "The Tempest" is a fantasy story. Sure, it is. But, it's a whole lot more than just that: This is the kind of writing that can get inside you and change you.

When I tell you that after reading Holdstock, I look at the world differently and that he deepens my wonder at the profound mystery of existence, it's not hyperbole. There's wonder, terror, despair, joy, and salvation here. His characters are real, flawed, challenged, fully human beings.

Holdstock died far too young, and we need more from him... but, what we've got is so much.

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### **The Elves says**

Robert Holdstock was a great writer and his Mythago Woods Cycle of books are fantastic. His Merlin books are not on that level in our opinion but still good. Merlin's Wood is sort of a bridge between these two series of books, being the story of Merlin's efforts to escape the captivity by the enchantress Vivien to whom legend tells us he fell prey. It is a beautiful and poetic book, even while essentially tragic in nature. With this novel came four short stories that are all also very good especially the Bone Forest, which is part of the Mythago Woods Cycle. These are very pagan stories. Whether they take place in the distant past or the present, Holdstock had a way of evoking the atmosphere of our pagan ancestors and their lives and beliefs. His pagan version of the Lord's Prayer at the end of the story The Spirit-Echo's Promise is interesting in and of itself. Highly recommended.

The Silver Elves authors of The Elves of Lyndarys: A Magical Tale of Modern Faerie Folk

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### **Amy Martin says**

Wonderful as always. Something about the rawness in his story telling get me.

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### **Chiefdonkey Bradey says**

Ancient stories of thorn and stone

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### **Robert Hepple says**

This is a 240 page novel, followed by four short stories that take up a further 200 pages – an unusual combination. All of the stories are dark fantasy, with a certain amount of added macabre. The novel and the stories are deeply atmospheric and stylish – I felt I was reading something special and out of the ordinary from the start. I enjoyed this book a lot, and recommend it to all who encounter it.

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