



The Time Smugglers

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Arthur Penhaligon is a skateboarder (usually).

He also happens to be a Guardian, knighted by Excalibur.

It's been a year since Arthur and his friends first met a shape-shifting cat and defeated the sinister Crow Man. But now, far below the Cornish hills the deep magic is stirring again, summoning Arthur's rivals to the contest for Cornwall's crown.

It's time to get to grips with the challenges of time-travel (have you ever tried it?), and with ancient knights who really shouldn't be around.

On a Cornish path a tiny, green-stone dragon stretches a claw.

In a churchyard a carved angel tests his wings while, out at sea, an emerald-encrusted pocket watch chimes once... and slips through time.

Life is about to get interesting.

Comero weeth – take care.

The Time Smugglers Details

Date : Published July 20th 2014 by CreateSpace (first published October 30th 2013)

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Author : Rosie Morgan

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From Reader Review The Time Smugglers for online ebook

Vicky says

My first thought is not kind: This author has no concept of how commas work. The higher Lexile on this series is in large part due to runon sentences that would benefit from the use of commas to separate the phrases and clauses. When she does use commas, they're where a semi-colon is necessary.

So much for the highly technical part of this review.

As a fan of Arthurian myth and modern-day adaptations, I enjoyed the overall premise of this series. The narrative suffers from a lot of long descriptions of what's happening or what characters are feeling and an occasional lack of action and showing emotion through dialogue and action.

Much of the main trio's discovery of unfolding events is through overhearing adults talk. They seem to figure out very little through their own initiative. Indeed, the protagonist, Arthur, rather passively accepts his role as Guardian of Wales, as do his friends of their own parts in the preservation of their country.

Speaking of main trio—a boy who is the chosen one. His best friends, one goofy male and one smart female—who also have roles to play in defeating evil. Sound familiar?

The author obviously loves her homeland. I may even be (very distantly) related to her, given that my Morgan ancestors emigrated from Wales in the 1600s. Her artistic representations at the beginnings of chapters are lovely.

While middle-grade literature doesn't need to be super-sophisticated, the narrative here is just a little too basic to be really engaging. I will probably read others in the series, because I hate to leave a story unfinished, but I am not sure I would recommend that anyone go out of their way to find these.

Possible Objectionable Material:

Children in perilous situations. Some frightening bits—especially the Crow Man. Children occasionally disobey adults. Fantasy elements, if you are opposed to such things. No cursing.

Who Would Like This Book:

Fans of Arthurian myth, those who enjoyed the Harry Potter group dynamic. While the protagonist is male, Tamar is definitely a strong female character. There are many other female characters, both good and evil. People who can disregard poor conventions and storytelling and just enjoy the plot. It's aimed at 10-14, and I'd say that's about right. Approximate Lexile: 1080.

Thanks, NetGalley, for the ARC.

Leslie says

The Time Smugglers, written by Rosie Morgan, is a great book. Although the second book in a series, it can be read as a stand alone. There will be a third book in the series, by things hinted at in this book, but it doesn't leave you hanging, just wanting more. The four main characters are children, just kids. When they get hurt, they bleed. They get scared. They don't have super powers, but they are as brave as can be. They know what they have to do to save Cornwall and don't hesitate in accomplishing their tasks. They are true heroes.

This is a very well written and thought out book. M/G to adult will enjoy it. I think my favorite character might be the dragon.

He's just a baby.

When reading this book stop to check out the illustrations drawn by the author. They are exquisite!
I received this book free from the author in exchange for a fair and impartial review. Thank you, Rosie. I'm glad I didn't miss these books!

Rob Beck says

The Time Smugglers is the second book in The Camelot Inheritance series, and with the exception of my still not being totally sure of the relevance of the title, I have to say I really enjoyed this book. The story felt much more coherent than The Golden Sword, and also answered several of the questions that I was left with following the first, as I hoped it would.

Being local to the area that the story is set in, I was easily able to recognise most of the locations, which certainly added to my enjoyment, although having never ventured beneath the moors, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of that description!

I particularly enjoyed Rosie's description and ideas of the journey from Porth Talant to the moor along the Sumggler's Way. Another Favourite scene was when one of the Watchers brought his young charge with him on a visit to the beach at Porth Talant - an unexpected delight for me!

I certainly feel that Rosie has grown as an author since the first book in this series. Although I believe that this book can be read in isolation, I think that the reader would definitely benefit from reading the series.

I would recommend this novel to anyone in the target age group especially those with knowledge of or an interest in South East Cornwall.

Pennie says

After reading the first book in this series 'The Golden Sword', I just had to read this one and I was not disappointed. The main character "Arthur" is superb, he really develops a deeper status throughout 'The Time Smugglers' being the guardian of Cornwall. An adventurous journey with another story from Book 2 of good verses evil. In this tale, in order to separate the guardians, 'Tamar' is kidnapped.

Very humorous in parts, and dark in others with fast paced and energetic entertainment throughout. The watchers are my favorite characters and are the most intriguing and mysterious, they seem to watch and record events as they happen. If you love magical adventures, cute dragons, shape shifters and time travel, this novel is sure to please, a truly enjoyable book and I can't wait for Book 3 in 'The Camelot Inheritance series to become available, I'll be first in line.

Billy Buttons says

This book was recently entered and was a finalist in The Wishing Shelf Book Awards. This is what our readers thought:

Star Rating: 5 stars

Number of Readers: 32

Readers' Comments

'Such a fantastic cover. The map in the front was excellent too. Now for the blurb. I liked the 'On a Cornish path' paragraph. It made me want to open the book.' Boy, aged 13

'I read The Golden Sword too but I actually thought this was better. Arthur Penhaligon has really grown up and is more interesting now. I loved the Watchers. They are so scary, just watcing you. Sort of creepy.' Girl, aged 14

'A very enjoyable read for my class of 14 year olds. They enjoyed all the magic and the modern take on the Arthur legend. What was particularly good for me, was how easily all my students followed the story from my top readers to readers of lesser ability. I would recommend it to any teenager looking for a page-turning read.' Teacher, year 10

Stats

Of the 32 readers:

31 would read another book by this author.

32 thought the cover was good or excellent.

9 felt the best part was the 'legend mixed with modern' plot.

28 liked the ending and thought it was exciting.

'Another gem from Rosie Morgan. Fun, exciting; a page-turner for any teenager.' The Wishing Shelf Awards

Indiebrag says

We are proud to announce that THE TIME SMUGGLERS by Rosie Morgan is a B.R.A.G.Medallion Honoree. This tells a reader that this book is well worth their time and money!

Jola says

'The Time Smugglers' is an excellent sequel in 'The Camelot Inheritance' series. It's very much like the first book, full of action and humour. The many adventures of Arthur and his friends are very compelling and I can't wait for book 3.

Thanks to Rosie Morgan for sending me an ebook in exchange for an honest review.

bookSmith says

I enjoyed slipping into another adventure with Arthur and his friends in the second Camelot Inheritance novel. This adventure follows the friends as they adjust to and embrace their new roles as the Guardians of Cornwall, both as a team and individually.

This book made me smile. I'm fascinated by relationships the characters form with the natural (and

sometimes seemingly inanimate) world. I'm in love with the tiny, green stone dragon. The illustrations added just the right amount of whimsy. Also, The Watchers intrigue me and I would love to see them in a spin-off series. Reading this novel was like curling up with a cup of hot cocoa.

I am looking forward to the next novel and plan to put the series on the shelf in my classroom.

(Source: eARC from NetGalley)

Pam says

The Time Smugglers is the second book in the Camelot Inheritance series. It is written and illustrated by Rosie Morgan. It is loosely based on the King Arthur stories from Cornwall, UK. Rosie lives here with her husband and two cats. She was a teacher and is still teaching through her books. This book like book 1 is an excellent book. It was hard to put it down when it was time for bed. I will recommend both books to my middle school teacher friends and librarian. All students should have a chance to read this book.

Arthur, Nick, Tamar, and Gawain are once again united in a story of good vs evil. They have been given the honor and privilege of being the Guardians of Cornwall. It is up to them to keep the dark from taking over. They are to help the memories of Cornwall's past live on. They come into conflict with Lady Clehy (ice), Crow man, Skeleton man, an albino with an albino dog, and other evil creatures. They have help from Zephaniah, Argo, Michael, Bedivere, and Lancelot as well as from a green stone dragon, a stone angel, and Lightning, now Arthur's dog.

Tamar is kidnapped in an attempt to separate the Guardians. She is placed in the hold of a ship that sails the bay with no wind. In the hold of the ship, Tamar meets a prisoner named Hairy Face and his dog. He shows her a pocket watch that he keeps hidden in his beard. He gives it to her and tells her she is the new Timekeeper. As she watches, her name is inscribed on it as if by magic. Soon Gawain, also kidnapped, is thrown into the hold. Hairy Face breaks his fall so he is not further hurt. However, he is badly hurt. Tamar uses the pocket watch to help him. How will they get out so they can help Arthur?

The story has several humorous parts involving the green dragon who comes to life but can't always control his fire. The Watchers almost get caught by Gawain and Arthur but manage to disappear quickly, although once one Watcher leaves his shoe, a jester's shoe. Once one Watcher brings the boy he is watching in a different era to the beach. There is nothing there for him to see that would change history. He allows the boy to play in the surf but keeps a sharp eye on him as well as on Arthur. However, a plane flies overhead and the boy sees it. When he takes the boy back to his time, the boy begins to draw pictures of man being able to fly. The boy is Leonardo da Vinci. Now we know where he got the idea of his drawings of planes.

The book is exciting and humorous as well as suspenseful. It is an excellent book and I wait with bated breath for the next in the series.

Kaylee says

It was a bit slow at first, but it picked up after a couple of pages. I love that the end isn't a total cliff hanger. Overall I loved it and would definitely recommend it.

Jonathan says

Firstly I would like to thank the author for proving me with a free review copy. What an amazing talented author that can write and illustrate. Enjoyed the book from start to finish. If you are going to buy this book you will need to buy the previous one as well. It has been a while since I had read the last book so it took a little bit of time to jog the memory bank. Overall a great read and very unique.

Erik This Kid Reviews Books says

Rosie Morgan has written another great book in the Camelot Inheritance series! The series mixes modern characters with characters right out of the Arthurian legends. It is not simply a re-telling of the legends of King Arthur. I think Arthur and his friends are great characters, and people you want to see succeed in their mission. The book picks up from where the last book left off. I felt there should have been a bit more back story in the beginning, but the reader catches up pretty quickly. You don't have to read the first book, but it would help going into the second, (plus I'd recommend reading it because it's good). ;) I like how the plot gets thicker in this book, but a lot is revealed too. The story is action-packed and there is some violence, but nothing graphic at all. There are black and white illustrations scattered throughout the book that are a nice addition to the story. I like the Writer character, a mysterious lady who pretty much records everything that happens and is in charge of the time-travelers. I think it's cool that the story takes place in modern Cornwall but people from different times pop in and out. The setting is described well and I found the story very enjoyable. This is great for MG or young advanced readers looking for a thrilling adventure.

NOTE I got a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Hilary says

In the great style of traditional summer holiday adventures, this time they're set in Cornwall, with a narrative tone similar to The Chronicles of Narnia and somewhat reminiscent of Alan Garner's Elidor.

Arthur, Nick, Tamar and Gawain are already aware that there's magic in the world (though Doctor Who fans may have a sticky moment), and being Guardians of Cornwall means they must stand together to overcome the enemy. In addition, there's time travel, Arthurian legends, pirates and even a dragon.

Jumping in on book 2 was a little tricky, but the prologue did a great job of introducing the characters, the setting and generally filling in the blanks.

I hope my copy was still pre-final edit, because although the story was fun there were a number of missing commas, some of which changed the meaning of the sentence entirely, but otherwise I thoroughly enjoyed both the book and the great illustrations.

Disclaimer: I received a free copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Jerome Brooke says

Morgan gives the reader a story that is crafted with care. Children read the legends of the Once and Future King, as the generations pass. The traditions live on from one generation to the next, and we are shaped by them. Morgan is a wordsmith. Long ago tales like this might be woven into an epic like Beowulf, and recited in a mead hall. In the far distant future, will these tales live on, and the same songs be sung? But I degress, Bravo!

Rubery Book Award says

This is the second in a series of books set in Cornwall. The four protagonists, based on Arthur and his knights, are drawn into a secret parallel world where nothing is as it seems, and where the Crow Man and his colleagues are plotting vengeance and destruction. It's a world where apparently ordinary people possess secret knowledge, and help comes from unexpected sources. Fast moving, dramatic and exciting, with pleasing pencil drawings placed throughout, and with a promise of further adventures to come.

Rubery Book Award
