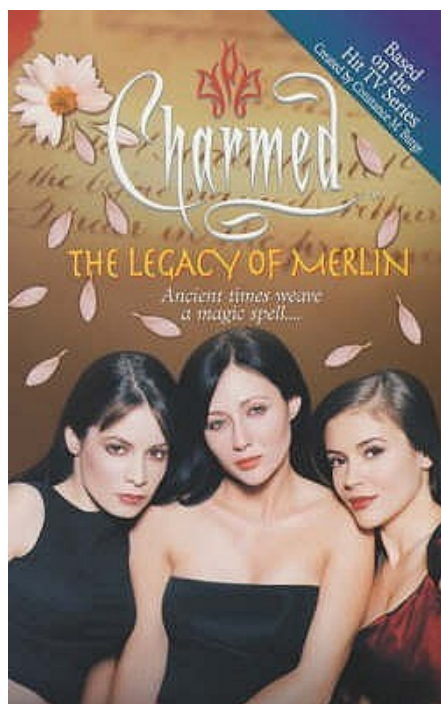




The Legacy of Merlin

Eloise Flood

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The Charmed Ones meet tall, broad-shouldered Niall (with soulful dark eyes) whilst on a trip to England. He claims to be the son of Merlin, a prisoner of the Druids and desperate to return to his own times. The sisters promise to help, but first they must use their powers to outwit the Druids.

The Legacy of Merlin Details

Date : Published June 1st 2001 by Simon & Schuster (Trade Division) (first published March 1st 2001)

ISBN : 9780743409322

Author : Eloise Flood

Format : Paperback 179 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Witches, Young Adult, Fiction, Magic

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From Reader Review The Legacy of Merlin for online ebook

Selene says

(I took care to give no obvious spoilers about the story)

Title: The Legacy of Merlin (on Librarything, on Goodreads)

Author: Eloise Flood

Language: English

Series: Charmed #8

Reviews for other books in this series (up till now): Charmed #6 - Schaduw van de sfinx (Carla Jablonski, Dutch translation of Charmed #16 - Shadow of the sphinx)

Format of publication: paperback

Number of pages: 179

Publisher: Pocket Pulse

Year published: original 2001, my edition 2001 (1st edition)

ISBN number: 0743412362

Topics: Charmed, Merlin, druids

Reason for reading: After reading "Shadow of the sphinx" I felt like reading more Charmed books.

Recommended: Yes, if you liked the Charmed tv series.

Short summary:

Prue, Piper and Phoebe are on holiday in Hay-on-Wye in England, because Prue had to go there for work. They discover a modern Druid group of which the leader tries to gain lots of power. This leader doesn't even hesitate to kill for that goal...

Phoebe meets Niall, a handsome guy, in a bookstore focusing on magic books.

Piper finds a book on flowers (including love spells) and while searching for flowers, she finds out about the Druid group.

Prue meets an old lady on her way to and from work, who unwillingly becomes involved with the Druids as well...

Back cover text:

Prue lands a summer trip to England to buy medieval books for a collector, so Phoebe and Piper tag along to the quaint village of Hay-on-Wye, in the Heart of King Arthur country. While Piper reads how to make love charms from flowers, Phoebe meets the darkly handsome Niall. But she's shaken by a desolate vision of him on a windswept heath, holding an infant. Is Niall a warlock?

Then Piper discovers a secret Druid ritual in progress, with Niall at the center of it! She freezes the group, and the Charmed Ones set out to discover Niall's secret. They learn that a local villager is in terrible from the Druids, and only a magical spell from centuries past can save her. The Charmed Ones are convinced that only a long journey can win against the Druids - a voyage back in time to Camelot!

Comments on the back cover text:

Actually the spell from the past is not to save the villager, but to save Niall... But writing that on the back cover would already answer the question from the first paragraph, wouldn't it?

First paragraph:

"Hey, look!" Phoebe Halliwell pressed her palms against the window of the airport minibus and stared out eagerly at the soft, rain-washed English countryside. "There's a ruined castle on that hilltop!" Her brown eyes gleamed. "I wonder what it's called."

"Relax, Phoebe," her oldest sister, Prue, said with a smile. "It's not Camelot."

"Are you sure, Prue?" Piper, the middle Halliwell sister, put on a mock-serious expression. "I could have sworn I just saw Lancelot riding in at the gate. I'd know that silver armor anywhere. And that helmet with the boar's head design."

Review:

Story:

The story entirely takes place in Hay-on-Wye, but it really has the feel of a tv-episode. The pacing is good - there's a nice amount of time devoted to the introduction, meeting all the characters, finding out the problem and the solution. The end fight isn't very big, but it really fits into the story as it's not a "big bad evil".

I also like that each sister has her own storyline which does fit her character, but they all come together to solve the problem with the Druids.

When I read "Shadow of the sphinx", I wondered if the Charmed Ones really could use magic when they travelled to the past. In this book, they also travelled backwards in time and used some magic. So I guess they can... Though they were careful not to use it too much, to prevent any possible changes in the future. Talking about changes in the future, Phoebe had two visions in this book. Both had to do with Niall and especially the last vision was scary, because it showed another way of how the current world could have been (alternate realities are always interesting to read about!).

Niall was an interesting character to read about. It was easy to understand why Phoebe liked him, but I think having a guy understanding magic is also a recurring theme throughout the tv series... It also played a role in the "Shadow of the sphinx" book, but then Paige had that problem (as Phoebe had already found Cole then).

The title is "The legacy of Merlin" and of course Merlin appears in this book (in the past). He is exactly as you'd expect ("a tall, gray-bearded figure in a long blue robe" - made me think a bit of the Disney image, though :P)! The description of Camelot was also nicely done, much more time-appropriate than the description Piper mentioned in the first paragraph.

As for the Druids - it was a "modern Druid group" including some Charmed-style magic and a leader with bad intentions... Not too detailed, but enough details to make it interesting for the story. Don't expect too much information about druids from this book. The focus really is on the Charmed Ones trying to solve Niall's problem (which is still related to the druid group).

Writing style:

In my review of the Dutch translation of "Shadow of the sphinx", I commented that the sentences all seemed to be so short. That was actually the case here as well, even though this Charmed book has been written by another author! Though I liked the sentences in this book a little better.

Conclusion:

I enjoyed this book! It really felt like a Charmed episode and I liked the connection with the Arthurian legends (though we only really meet Merlin).

Rereadability:

This one is enjoyable to read again (this was actually a re-read)!

Related links:

- This review on my weblog.

Similar books / recommendations:

More books about the Arthur legends I wrote about:

- The mists of Avalon by Marion Bradley

- The winter king by Bernard Cornwell

The best novel about druids I've read so far is still:

- Druids by Morgan Llywelyn

Megan says

This would have made an entertaining episode! I loved how the story took place in England and involved time travel - what fun!

The story had:

-Prue working (as usual), but this time her job took her to England with a very nice suite in a hotel. -- Phoebe falling in love with a guy she just met and thinking he may be the "one"

- Piper obsessing over Leo's job always taking him away at in opportune moments and making a love charm (which she didn't even think would work) and the consequences from that.

I'd recommend this to any fan of Charmed.

Kat says

Mein erstes Buch basierend auf einer Fernsehserie. Ich wusste damals nicht, was ich erwarten sollte, liebte ich die Serie doch sehr. (Ok, ich schaue mir die alten Folgen immer noch gerne an...)

Warum ich gerade diesen Band zu meinem ersten erwählte, hatte verschiedene Gründe:

- Der Titel: Welche HexenliebhaberIn könnte dem Namen "Merlin" widerstehen?

- Neu: Es war eine neue Geschichte, denn Merlins Erbe lief nie im Fernsehen. Ich hatte jahrelang die stille Hoffnung, dass sie daraus doch eine Folge machen würden. Aber immerhin durfte ich dieses Abenteuer in Buchform erleben.

- Großbritannien: Nicht, wie sonst, spielte das Abenteuer in San Francisco, sondern einmal über das große Wasser auf meiner Lieblingsinsel. Da ist die Magie doch gleich ganz anders.

- Zeitreise: Lieblingsfiguren in anderen Zeiten erleben, ist immer spannend.

In jedem einzelnen dieser Punkte wurde ich nicht enttäuscht, die Erwartungen sogar übertroffen.

Es steht wohl außer Frage, dass ich das Buch schon mehrmals gelesen habe, oder?

Noa says

Fantastic! This book was simply fantastic. This book was written by one of the original creators of the series, so I just knew it would have the same type of feel as the show. It did, and it was beyond amazing. Reading and watching a show are two different mediums, but when the story and characters are so similar in essence and story, it bridges the gap between the two. This is what this book did.

Some of the spells used in the book were interesting and so powerful. The vision that Phoebe had towards the end of the book just when you thought everything was over is eerie. It reminds you that chancing time or even just messing with it will prevent certain events from happening and people being born which in turn

will have serious concurrences.

RumBelle says

I loved this TV series, and had been collecting books, but had never tried any of them. After having read this first one, I will definitely read more. Prue was not one of my favorite characters on the show, but in the books she is not bad. I enjoyed the trip to England, and the Merlin subplot. It was a fun book.

Charles Humphrey says

The life lesson of the book is that the one thing you love the most is the thing you have to let go for reasons beyond our understanding.

Christy says

White Robes under the Druid moon.
Midsummer's Eve is coming soon
Spells and chanting call the power
To work dark Witchcraft in the hour.

The charmed ones are off to England in this book and actually back in time to Merlin to save his son Niall. This is the eight in the Charmed series based off the show of the same name. I collected these when I was in high school and even college. I own all that I know are out. I just don't remember reading this one in high school, but I enjoyed it this time for sure. The twist on Camelot and Merlin were perfect.

Prue is in England trying to find books for a buyer she has back in San Francisco. They are staying in Hay-On-Wye at the Trelawney Hotel thanks to her client Lloyd Claiborne. Prue has to go off and find the dealer when they get there, but Piper and Phoebe have other plans, oh say getting into trouble lol.

Piper goes with Prue, but finds a book that has love spells and decides to see if it will work on Leo and her relationship. It back fires badly because she ends up getting a man named Sir Andrew wanting her because he was present when she said the enchantment. It takes till the end of the book to resolve that problem.

Phoebe however finds love after literally falling into a guy after she faints in Niall's arms in another book store. (There were tons of bookstores in the area like 11 or more in a two or three block range). Niall is looking for a way back home after being brought from the year 584 when King Arthur ruled. A women named Diane wants to make a child with him and take the power it will bring, if the spell works.

Thankfully the Charmed ones fix what she has done first with Prue and Piper going back to the past to the year before Niall's birth and getting the spell that Diane burned that would take him back to his time. They then get back the friend that Prue made, that sold fruit, which had been kidnapped by Diane to be killed.

Once the ritual is stopped Phoebe, who planned to keep Niall with her because they loved each other, had another vision. I knew that they couldn't keep Niall with them and so with the spell from his dad he goes back to his time. They did find out he had a hand in the way the world is today by his family relation.

Another great book in the Charmed series I felt bad for Phoebe though losing yet another guy she liked. I was happy that even though not present Leo was mentioned. Always did like him and Piper together. Also Daryl is in the book, even though he doesn't talk it's a one way conversation with him and Prue. I thought he was great as well. I'm hoping he's in more books down the road. I think this was set in either two late in the season or early season three.

Carol Storm says

Fun CHARMED book by a wonderful author!

I'm not a big CHARMED fan, but author Eloise Flood was a classmate of mine at Columbia so I really wanted to read and review.

It's a very quick, pleasant read -- aimed at teens I assume so there's not much romance, but what there is feels very pleasant and not forced at all. And the "vision" Phoebe has at the end is really chilling. I also enjoyed the peek at King Arthur's Camelot and the girls meeting with Merlin!

Yvenalie says

I love this book and any other Charmed books. This was very fun to read. I also love the TV show. My favorite part of this book was probably when they went back in time to see Merlin. It was also cool how the book ended.

Rachael Morris says

Least favorite so far of all of the charmed novels. Found it quite boring and unoriginal. Had originally given it 2 stars but really would give it 1 and a half in an ideal world. A disappointment overall.

Nicole-Marie Hughes says

This book was so good. I wish it had been a real Charmed episode.

Thanks to this book I think I've fallen even more in love with the Arthur legends and the charmed sisters.

It's a MUST READ if you like either of the two.

Ashley says

Charmed: The Legacy of Merlin, is an edge of the seat book. You have always heard of witches being bad, but not in this book. The three witches in this book are actually three sisters that are all good witches. The author provides a lot in this book about them with detailed descriptions and background information. Splendid and captivating, the book is about evil and using magic to fight for good. This is sort of like Harry Potter, but it is even better!

The theme of the book Charmed: The Legacy of Merlin is about Piper, Phoebe, and Prue, three witches who fight for good. This time, they are on vacation, and they don't expect anything bad to happen. The three good witches, travel back in time to Camelot when they discover that they need to save a local village from the Druids.

Being able to imagine things and visualize while reading a book is an amazing thing; this shows how amazing the books descriptions and details are written. If you want to visualize and to be able to see images in your head while reading, this book is the right book for you! "Phoebe! Prue said, her ice-blue eyes widening." With all of the stunning descriptions and details about the characters like what they are eating and how they look like, it is almost as if you are watching a movie and can actually see the characters right there in front of you.

Background information is always constructive. Don't you hate it when books start discussing about characters and you don't get any background information? Well, in this book Charmed: The Legacy of Merlin, you get background information about all the characters! Yes- you heard right, all the characters! You get information about their history, where they come from, and descriptions about each character. For example, in the book, the author talks about the history of Prue, Piper, and Phoebe; "In fact, Phoebe, Prue, and Pieper were three of the most powerful witches in history." The author, gives background information to give the reader a little something to keep in mind before reading on. This is pretty cool for a novel, because most of the time, not all novels include all three of these things.

To conclude, this book is a really extraordinary book. The author goes into a lot of detail about the characters and gives you background information so it will just be as if Piper, Phoebe, and Prue are standing right in front of you now. Mesmerizing, the theme of this book can draw you in right away, breathlessly.

Seraphina says

I loved the plot but I wish the author had done some research on the geography of the UK! The author didn't realise that Wales was not part of England and also wrote about the sisters using pound notes when they don't exist. I feel that the author had a stereotypical version of the place that she was writing about and did no research which sucks as it let the book down!

Anke Zweel says

This was the 1st ever book I bough for myself. This book is the cause for me being a booklover.

I remember I paid R50 for it and my mom ask me if im sure if I want to buy a book. Before this I was never keen on reading.

Thank you Charmed for making me love books

Meg says

I haven't read one of these Charmed side story novels in a long time! I collect them and recently got a new one to read which was this one, The Legacy of Merlin! I was so surprised that even though I have grown up since middle school I still LOVED reading one of these side stories. This one had the Charmed Ones in England on vacation while Prue has some business to take care of over there. I was surprised by the twist that the novel took towards the end and was happy with the way the story wrapped itself up. It was a nice, quick, and relaxing easy read that I would recommend to anyone who has watched the show or if you haven't watched the show! I think that best part about this one book was that you did not have to have watched the show to really enjoy the story and the characters. Plus, the way they threw Merlin into the whole story was really very creative!! Overall, a great fun read that I would recommend to anyone who could get their hands on it!! :D
