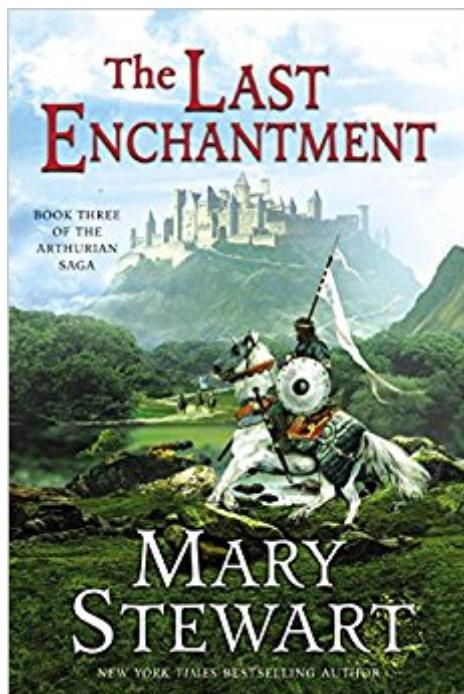


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The Last Enchantment (The Arthurian Saga, Book 3)



Synopsis

Arthur Pendragon is King! Unchallenged on the battlefield, he melds the country together in a time of promise. But sinister powers plot to destroy Camelot, and when the witch-queen Morgause -- Arthur's own half sister -- ensnares him in an incestuous liaison, a fatal web of love, betrayal, and bloody vengeance is woven.

Book Information

Series: The Merlin Series (Book 3)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 66 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

"An absorbing and haunting novel." --Daily Mail "A fascinating novel, a richly woven tapestry presented with a vividness that brings the characters from myth to real life." --Evening Standard

"Mary Stewart, enchantress ... an ability to evoke a situation, a mood or a season with a few phrases of prose that are almost verse." --Daily Telegraph "A perfect trip out of the present." --New York Times Book Review --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you haven't read Mary Stewart's Arthurian Saga, you don't know what you're missing. They are must reads for any romance reader, for any lover of Arthurian legend, for any history buff, for any voracious reader, and may be the books to get non-readers started. Basically, they should be read by everyone! Mary Stewart's research for these books is phenomenal. Her understanding of myth and its relationship to fact is remarkable. The books are complex, yet incredibly inviting and you will absolutely love the characters. They also weave together so beautifully that you won't be able to

read only one. Two things I find particularly interesting in this series is the portrayal of Arthur and the fall of Camelot. Arthur represents all of humanity in these books as opposed to the more mythical figure you usually see. And the fall of Camelot is more internal rather than external--more about the passions and lusts in the heart rather than a more obvious loss of power. The books go in this order: The Crystal Cave, The Hollow Hills, The Last Enchantment, The Wicked Day. Shauna Summers, Senior Editor --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Honestly, I thought the first two were fine, stand-alone books, with no need to revisit the saga. This third book does not utilize Geofrey of Monmouth's History of British Kings, but does make reference to the later French Romances of Arthurian lore. This change in foundation does hurt the story, as it loses the original gritty feel, but was inevitable as Geofrey wrote down all the surviving British legends (with his own additions). There simply wasn't anywhere else to look. The characters have a very different feel to them, which will annoy some readers. Having said all that, Mary Stewart wrote superb fiction and I cannot countenance removing two stars from what is otherwise an excellent drama.

The last installment in Stewart's Arthurian trilogy was a bit too prosaic for my taste. While some of her interpretations of the legend were very interesting, such as there being two wives named Guinevere and Dare I say it? I found the whole thing downright boring and had to force myself to finish. Marion Zimmer Bradley's "The Mists of Avalon" is still my favorite version of the legend.

Having loved the Arthurian legends since I was a small child, this series is turning out to be a wonderful prequel and elaboration, with some surprising details. The author includes some of the actual historical basis regarding how certain cultures moved around the that area of the world, and against each other. The characters are more developed, in a personal way, than any other book I've read on the subject. The story is engrossing, even though I know how it all turns out. At least I think I do.

A old series but a great read. I read series over 20 years ago and my daughter has read 3 times over same period. My wife was looking for a good series & I suggested this one, but forgot my daughter still had them and I purchased them again. My wife has read first book and is into the second & is really enjoying them also. Be sure to read the series in order.

This whole series is one of my favorites, and Mary Stewart was an author from whom many today could learn a great deal. The series was perception-altering back when I first read it as a teenager, and is still engrossing and wonderful with every subsequent re-read after all the years in between. I love this series, and I love every book in it.

Having read many of the standard (and not so standard) Arthurian and Merlin tales, I have often been drawn back to this trilogy (and a 4th book, as well) when I am in need of a dear friend. Thanks again to Mary Stewart for this work.

This is from a trilogy about Merlin. It is a fresh, exciting story. I purchased this series to keep on my kindle as my original books had been destroyed in a house fire. I was thrilled to find them available on kindle.

Adult Arthur, High King of Britain and Merlin the Enchanter continue their adventures. This series is so well written you feel like you are part of the story. I highly recommend it.

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