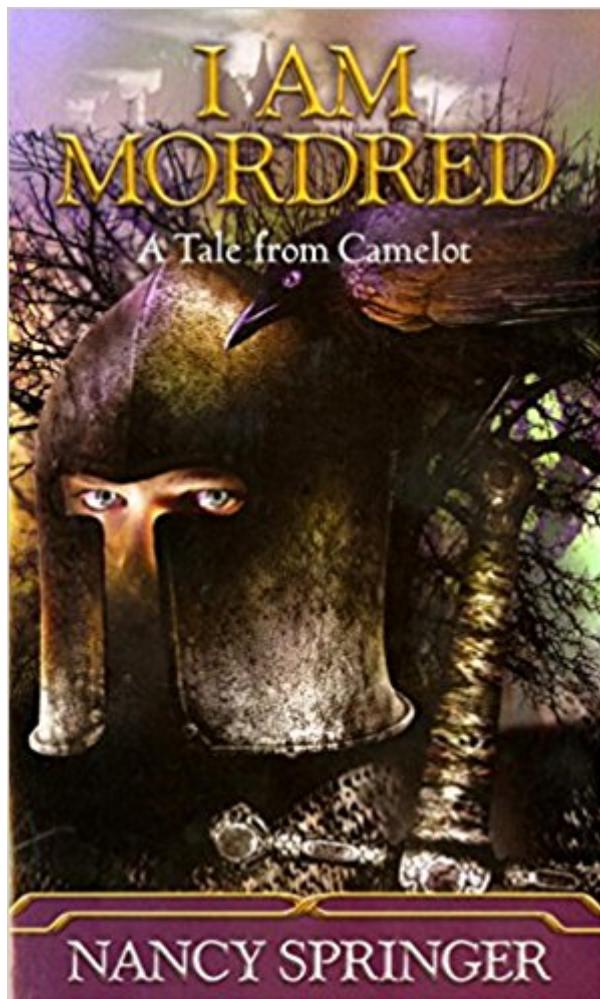


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I Am Mordred: A Tale Of Camelot



Synopsis

Fans of the King Arthur legend will love this tale about one of the most fascinating and misunderstood heroes of Arthurian lore. An epic fantasy comes to life for Camelot fans. Â What will a person give to forsake his destiny? From his very incarnation, Mordred has been a pawn in Camelot's history. Foretold by Merlin that he will grow up to kill his father, the beloved King Arthur, young Mordred struggles with his fate, loathing the great king who tried to kill him as a baby, yet journeying to Camelot where he learns to serve and idolize the legendary leader. Torn between feelings of love and hate, Mordred yearns to make peace with Arthur, who still refuses to acknowledge him. But Mordred is determined to have peace at any price--even if it costs him his soul. Â "In language worthy of her heroic subject, Springer reworks Arthuriana to craft an original tale resonant with archetypal themes of love, loss, betrayal and reconciliation. Her strong female characters and bold recasting of traditional villains and heroes will draw the rapt attention of both sexes." -- Publishers Weekly

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

King Arthur has fascinated young people for centuries, and since fantasy literature has become a passion for so many bright teens, a whole body of writing has developed that reimagines Arthurian stories in ways that make them psychologically relevant today--without losing the magical resonance of Camelot. In *I Am Mordred*, Nancy Springer, known both for her fantasy writing and the realistic novel *Toughing It*, brings the central father-son conflict of the Arthurian saga vividly alive.

Teen fantasy fans will be familiar with the background events: the young King Arthur, unaware, bedded his half sister Morgause and conceived the child Mordred, who according to the wizard Merlin, was fated to destroy his father and the kingdom. Goaded by Merlin, Arthur attempted to have the baby killed, but was foiled by the intervention of the good sorceress Nyneve and the evil sorceress Morgan le Fay. Years later Mordred arrives at Camelot and becomes a knight of the Round Table. Springer focuses on Mordred at age 15, as he struggles against his destined fate of killing the king and father he both loves and hates. In an adventure story festooned with the golden bells of enchantment, Mordred undertakes a quest in the Forest Perilous to save Arthur's life and his own soul, but ultimately fails. Springer brings the story to a moving and ingenious conclusion in which the prophecy is fulfilled--and simultaneously overcome. (Ages 12 and older) --Patty Campbell
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In a starred review, PW wrote, "Springer reworks Arthuriana to craft an original tale resonant with archetypal themes of love, loss, betrayal and reconciliation." Ages 12-up. (Jan.)nCopyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

This is an interesting take on Mordred from the Arthurian Legends. It is told in the first person. Mordred does not really die in the end, but then...does Arthur? Mordred finds out who his father is (King Arthur) and that 'fate' dictates he must kill him at the age of 27. He spends his youth trying to find a way to change his fate through journeys, quests and people. Don't forget magic! Chapter 13 is very descriptive and imaginative. It sends us speeding to the end. I liked Nyneve because she was strong and believed in true love. Mordred was an every day tween/teen trying to find his place in this world. A true coming-of-age tale. This book is full of sorrow, but hope as well. It tells us to never give up hope until we give up our souls!

It's an interesting tale but I especially like it because its metaphors are so extraordinarily wonderful and different so if you appreciate and look for unusual metaphors like I do you will probably like it. The middle school students I subbed for the day I was perusing this book told me they enjoyed the book as well so its appeal spans quite an age range. I just received the book and have not finished it yet but it's been worth ordering.

This was an amazingly written tale that kept me guessing and I couldn't put it down until I was finished. I've always loved tales written of Camelot, especially those in relation to Morgan Le Fay. I

would recommend this to anyone who loves a good read as well as an imaginative look at Camelot and the way fate cannot be escaped.

Great book!

This book by Nancy Springer is also well-written, well thought-out. It gave me a whole new perspective on Mordred. Good writing.

Interesting to have a story of just Mordred and why he became what he became...

One of the most enigmatic and mysterious characters of Arthurian legend is Arthur's illegitimate son, Mordred. Unfortunately, he is also one of the least explored. In a market flooded with preachy, badly-written Arthuriana, "I Am Mordred" shines like a rare, dark gem. The book opens with King Arthur sadly setting dozens of newborn babies adrift on the ocean. Several years later, we see a young boy living peacefully with a fisherman and his wife. Their happy lives are interrupted when a woman named Nyneve rides in to bring Mordred back to his biological family, the royal family of Lothian. However, they are not pleased to see him. He soon finds out why: he is the product of incest between King Arthur and his half-sister Morgause, and is destined to kill his father someday. Shocked by this, Mordred goes to Camelot and soon begins craving his father's love and acceptance. He is also terrified of the prophecy that he will kill Arthur, and does everything he can to fight it. But can he fight his destiny, or only fulfil it? This is probably the best book I've read by Nancy Springer, a dark, beautiful, suspenseful and very sad novel. It's very rare to find an inspired Arthurian novel with any new material, but she pulls it off by creating a new Mordred -- this is not the monster who wants to kill Arthur for no reason, but a confused young man who only wants to be loved by his father, while knowing he is doomed to destroy him. One of the primary themes is whether a person is "born bad"

I thought the book was good. I'm 11 years old, and thought that there was a lot of description and detail. There was also a lot of gore and bloody scenes. It is very sad at the end, but I really liked the book. It is very entertaining and makes you want to keep reading. A real page turner.

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