

# the hero and the crown

The Hero and the Crown: A Tale of Courage, Magic, and Identity

**the hero and the crown** is more than just a phrase; it evokes a vivid image of bravery, destiny, and the timeless struggle between light and darkness. This concept, popularized by Robin McKinley's acclaimed fantasy novel *\*The Hero and the Crown\**, has resonated with readers and fantasy enthusiasts for decades. At its heart, the story weaves a powerful narrative about self-discovery, courage, and the transformative power of embracing one's true nature. If you're a fan of epic tales filled with dragons, magic, and strong heroines, this story is a treasure trove that goes beyond typical fantasy tropes.

## Understanding the Essence of The Hero and the Crown

When we talk about *\*The Hero and the Crown\**, we're referring to a rich fantasy novel that broke new ground by featuring a female protagonist who rises from obscurity to legendary status. Aerin, the story's heroine, is not your typical princess waiting to be saved. Instead, she embarks on a journey of self-empowerment, battling fierce dragons and confronting societal expectations to claim her rightful place in her kingdom.

## Who is Aerin: The Unlikely Heroine?

Aerin's character challenges the conventional archetypes often found in fantasy literature. Initially seen as an outsider within her own family, she struggles with feelings of inadequacy and isolation. However, her resilience and unique talents gradually shine through, revealing her as a skilled warrior and a powerful wielder of magic. This portrayal offers readers a refreshing perspective on what it means to be a hero, especially in a genre where male protagonists dominate the narrative.

## The Symbolism Behind the Crown

The crown in McKinley's novel symbolizes more than royal authority—it represents destiny, responsibility, and the acknowledgment of one's true potential. Throughout the story, the crown is a metaphor for the burdens and privileges that come with leadership. Aerin's journey toward claiming the crown is also a journey of self-acceptance, courage, and the willingness to face daunting challenges head-on.

# Key Themes Explored in The Hero and the Crown

*The Hero and the Crown* delves into several profound themes that add depth and richness to the narrative, making it a beloved classic in fantasy literature.

## Identity and Self-Discovery

One of the novel's most compelling elements is Aerin's exploration of her identity. As she grapples with feelings of not belonging and experiences rejection, her quest becomes as much about discovering who she is as it is about defeating external threats. This theme resonates with readers of all ages, reminding us that the path to heroism often begins with understanding and embracing oneself.

## Courage in the Face of Adversity

Facing terrifying dragons and political intrigue, Aerin exemplifies bravery. Her courage is not the absence of fear but the decision to act despite it. This message inspires readers to confront their own challenges, whether literal or metaphorical, with strength and determination.

## The Power of Magic and Mythology

Magic pervades the world of *The Hero and the Crown*, intertwining with folklore and mythical creatures. The dragons are more than just monsters; they symbolize chaos and destruction but also the unknown challenges that test Aerin's limits. The novel's rich use of mythology creates an immersive experience that captivates the imagination.

## Why The Hero and the Crown Continues to Captivate Readers

Despite being published decades ago, *The Hero and the Crown* remains a staple in fantasy literature, appreciated for its engaging storytelling and multidimensional characters.

## Strong Female Protagonist in Fantasy

At a time when fantasy novels often sidelined female characters, McKinley's novel stood out by placing a young woman at its center. This broke barriers and opened doors for future stories featuring complex,

empowered heroines. For readers seeking diverse representations, Aerin's story is both inspiring and groundbreaking.

## Immersive World-Building

The detailed world of Damar, with its intricate cultures, landscapes, and magical systems, enchants readers. McKinley's descriptive prose invites readers to lose themselves in a land where dragons soar and ancient prophecies unfold. This immersive quality is a hallmark of great fantasy literature.

## Timeless Life Lessons

Beyond its fantastical elements, *\*The Hero and the Crown\** offers valuable lessons about perseverance, acceptance, and the importance of forging one's own path. These themes transcend the pages and stay with readers long after the last chapter is closed.

## Incorporating The Hero and the Crown into Your Reading List

If you're drawn to stories of heroism, magic, and complex characters, *\*The Hero and the Crown\** should be high on your reading list. Here are some tips to enhance your experience with the novel:

- **Take your time with the world-building:** McKinley's descriptive style rewards patient readers who immerse themselves in the details of Damar's landscape and history.
- **Reflect on the themes:** Pay attention to Aerin's inner journey as much as her external battles. Her growth is a blueprint for overcoming personal challenges.
- **Explore related works:** After finishing, consider reading McKinley's sequel, *\*The Blue Sword\**, which expands on the same universe and themes.

## Legacy and Influence of The Hero and the Crown

The impact of *\*The Hero and the Crown\** extends beyond its pages, influencing a generation of fantasy writers and readers. Its portrayal of a strong, flawed, and determined heroine paved the way for more

inclusive and varied voices in the genre. Moreover, the novel's blend of myth, magic, and relatable human emotions continues to inspire adaptations, discussions, and fan communities.

In many ways, the story embodies the enduring appeal of fantasy literature: the chance to explore new worlds while reflecting on timeless human experiences. Whether you're a longtime fan or new to the tale, the journey of the hero and the crown offers a compelling adventure filled with heart, magic, and the courage to claim one's destiny.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the main plot of 'The Hero and the Crown'?**

'The Hero and the Crown' follows Aerin, a young princess with a mysterious heritage, as she battles dragons and discovers her own strength to save her kingdom.

### **Who is the author of 'The Hero and the Crown'?**

The novel was written by Robin McKinley.

### **What genre does 'The Hero and the Crown' belong to?**

'The Hero and the Crown' is a fantasy novel, often categorized under young adult fantasy.

### **What themes are explored in 'The Hero and the Crown'?**

The book explores themes of identity, courage, self-discovery, and overcoming prejudice.

### **Is 'The Hero and the Crown' part of a series?**

Yes, it is part of the Damar series by Robin McKinley, but it can be read as a standalone novel.

### **What awards has 'The Hero and the Crown' won?**

'The Hero and the Crown' won the Newbery Medal in 1985.

### **Who is the protagonist of 'The Hero and the Crown'?**

The protagonist is Aerin, a princess who defies expectations and becomes a hero.

## How does 'The Hero and the Crown' portray dragons?

Dragons in the story are fierce adversaries, integral to the plot, symbolizing danger and challenges Aerin must overcome.

## Why is 'The Hero and the Crown' considered a classic in fantasy literature?

It is praised for its strong female protagonist, rich world-building, and compelling storytelling, influencing many later fantasy works.

## Additional Resources

The Hero and the Crown: An In-Depth Exploration of Robin McKinley's Fantasy Classic

**the hero and the crown** stands as a seminal work in the fantasy genre, marking a distinctive milestone in young adult literature since its publication in 1984. Penned by Robin McKinley, this novel not only redefines traditional fantasy tropes but also offers a nuanced portrayal of heroism, identity, and empowerment through the journey of its protagonist, Aerin. As a cornerstone of feminist fantasy, the book continues to resonate with readers and critics alike, inviting ongoing analysis of its themes, narrative structure, and place within the broader context of fantasy literature.

## Overview and Significance in Fantasy Literature

At its core, *The Hero and the Crown* presents a classic hero's journey, but with a fresh perspective that challenges conventional gender roles. Unlike many fantasy works of its time, McKinley's novel centers on a female protagonist who must overcome personal insecurities and external threats to claim her rightful place as a warrior and leader. The narrative intertwines elements such as dragon-slaying, magic, and medieval settings while emphasizing character development and emotional depth.

The book's significance extends beyond its plot; it contributed to the rise of feminist fantasy in the 1980s, inspiring subsequent authors to explore complex female characters in traditionally male-dominated genres. McKinley's approach to world-building and myth-making also differentiates *The Hero and the Crown* from its contemporaries, grounding fantastical elements in rich cultural and historical detail.

## Narrative Structure and Character Development

The novel employs a third-person limited perspective, primarily focusing on Aerin's internal and external

struggles. This narrative choice facilitates a deep exploration of her insecurities — stemming from her status as an illegitimate royal and her perceived physical inadequacies — and her gradual transformation into a confident hero. The psychological realism embedded in Aerin's characterization is a key strength of the work, providing readers with an authentic emotional arc.

Moreover, McKinley's storytelling balances action sequences with introspective passages, ensuring that the fantasy adventure does not overshadow character growth. The pacing allows for a steady buildup of tension, particularly in scenes involving the formidable dragons, especially Maur, the antagonist dragon whose menace permeates the storyline.

## Thematic Exploration

Several themes emerge prominently throughout *The Hero and the Crown*, each contributing to its lasting impact:

- **Empowerment and Identity:** Aerin's journey is one of self-discovery and empowerment, challenging societal expectations tied to her gender and birth status.
- **Heroism Redefined:** The novel reimagines the hero archetype, emphasizing courage, resilience, and moral integrity over mere physical prowess.
- **Magic and Nature:** Magic in the story is intimately connected with the natural world, highlighting a symbiotic relationship that enriches the narrative's mythic quality.

These themes are interwoven intricately, allowing readers to engage with the story on multiple levels — from the surface adventure to deeper philosophical questions about fate and free will.

## Comparative Analysis with Other Fantasy Works

When compared to contemporaneous fantasy novels such as Ursula K. Le Guin's *Earthsea* series or Patricia A. McKillip's works, *The Hero and the Crown* distinguishes itself through its focus on a female protagonist's internal struggles and societal challenges. While *Earthsea* explores themes of balance and identity predominantly through a male lead, McKinley's novel shifts the lens to female empowerment within a patriarchal framework.

Furthermore, *The Hero and the Crown* predates and arguably paves the way for later feminist fantasy novels like Tamora Pierce's *Alanna* series, which also centers on young women defying gender norms in

medieval-inspired settings. McKinley's influence is evident in the way subsequent authors depict heroines who are not merely side characters but central agents of change.

## Strengths and Limitations

Analyzing the strengths of *The Hero and the Crown* reveals several compelling features:

- **Rich World-Building:** McKinley crafts a believable and immersive world, complete with varied cultures, languages, and mythologies.
- **Complex Protagonist:** Aerin's multifaceted personality adds depth and relatability.
- **Blend of Action and Reflection:** The narrative balances thrilling sequences with thoughtful character moments.

However, some critiques highlight certain limitations:

- **Pacing Issues:** Some readers find the early parts of the novel slow, with extensive exposition before the main conflict escalates.
- **Supporting Characters:** While Aerin is well-developed, secondary characters occasionally lack similar depth.

Despite these minor drawbacks, the novel's overall impact and quality remain strong, securing its status as a classic.

## Legacy and Cultural Impact

Decades after its initial release, *The Hero and the Crown* continues to influence the fantasy genre and its readership. It has garnered awards such as the Newbery Honor, underscoring its literary merit and appeal. The novel's portrayal of a female hero in a richly constructed fantasy world helped broaden the scope of young adult fantasy, encouraging diversity in character representation and storytelling styles.

In contemporary discourse, the book is frequently cited in academic and fan discussions on feminist literature and fantasy narratives. Its themes of overcoming adversity and redefining heroism resonate with

new generations, making it a valuable subject for literary analysis and adaptation considerations.

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In exploring *The Hero and the Crown*, one uncovers a layered narrative that transcends its fantasy trappings to address universal themes of courage, self-acceptance, and transformation. Robin McKinley's work remains a touchstone in the evolution of fantasy literature, inviting readers to reconsider what it means to be a hero — and to wear the crown.

## [The Hero And The Crown](#)

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Crown** Robin McKinley, 2014-11-18 An outcast princess must earn her birthright as a hero of the realm—in this “utterly engrossing” Newbery Medal-winning fantasy (The New York Times). Aerin is an outcast in her own father's court, daughter of the foreign woman who, it was rumored, was a witch, and enchanted the king to marry her. She makes friends with her father's lame, retired warhorse, Talat, and discovers an old, overlooked, and dangerously imprecise recipe for dragon-fire-proof ointment in a dusty corner of her father's library. Two years, many canter circles to the left to strengthen Talat's weak leg, and many burnt twigs (and a few fingers) secretly experimenting with the ointment recipe later, Aerin is present when someone comes from an outlying village to report a marauding dragon to the king. Aerin slips off alone to fetch her horse, her sword, and her fireproof ointment . . . But modern dragons, while formidable opponents fully capable of killing a human being, are small and accounted vermin. There is no honor in killing dragons. The great dragons are a tale out of ancient history. That is, until the day that the king is riding out at the head of an army. A weary man on an exhausted horse staggers into the courtyard where the king's troop is assembled: “The Black Dragon has come . . . Maur, who has not been seen for generations, the last of the great dragons, great as a mountain. Maur has awakened.”

**the hero and the crown: Hero and the Crown** Robin McKinley, 1985 Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian King and a witchwoman of the mysterious, demon-haunted North.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Crown** Robin McKinley, Ed Sala, Roslyn Alexander, 2006-04-18 Scared Money

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Crown** Robin McKinley, 1998-02-01 Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of the Damarian king and a witchwoman of the mysterious, demon-haunted North.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero's Quest** Wendi Birkhead, 1995

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Goddess** Jean Houston, 2014-05-29 All great stories can change our lives, and practically none is more transformational than Homer's *The Odyssey*, which had a power so great that it launched Greek civilization and has influenced the West ever since. In this fresh approach to self-realization, human potentials leader Jean Houston provides empowering experiential exercises at every key stage of Homer's epic to make *The Odyssey* our own journey. As we set sail with Odysseus, together we endure loss and suffering, the search for the divine Beloved, and the joy of finally arriving home. Tapping the power of these archetypes, says Houston, helps us effect healing in areas that have kept us immobilized and anguished. By raising our own tragic dimension to a mythic level, we awaken to a larger, nobler life.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Historians** Alan Gordon, 2010-07 This unique

exploration of commemoration and memory traces Jacques Cartier's evolving image over five centuries to show how changing notions of the past have shaped identity formation and nationalism in English- and French-speaking Canada.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Sage, Reincarnated and Engaged: Volume 6** Washiro Fujiki, 2025-12-01 Taking down an evil empire and establishing a new world is where most tales would mark their happily ever after, but for Raid and Eluria, this was no more than the first step in their painstaking journey to save the ravaged timeline. The true key to the world's salvation lay somewhere deep in the infested continent, but there's only so much they can do when they've got nothing but a war-torn empire on their side. The solution? A quick trip back home to fetch some supplies and personnel, of course! But therein lies a new problem: Raid has to lead the trip back home, while Eluria has to stay behind to protect the world. Splitting up for the first time since their reincarnation, the strongest couple brave their time apart with a tender promise to fulfill upon their reunion. And awaiting them after that...is the truth that was left to the world two millennia ago by a certain all-seeing sage!

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Misfit** Albert Rosenberg, 2020-01-29 The future of man and society rests with man himself. Just as our technological future depends on our understanding of the working of nature, so our social future depends largely on our scientific understanding of the future of the workings of society. If we are to control and direct social life toward ends we believe to be worthwhile, we must first be able to explain and understand the mechanism of society in general, and for our own society in particular. This study, called social science, is obviously of vital importance today, and for this reason, it has been selected as the subject of this book.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Whore** Camille Hernandez, 2023-10-31 Of all the things modern people of faith overlook or choose to ignore in the Bible, stories of sexual exploitation are near the top of the list. This isn't so different from our world today, when victims of trafficking, rape, and harassment are dismissed and disbelieved, their stories twisted and erased. Trauma-informed educator and minister Camille Hernandez dives deep into the Bible's stories of exploitation and abuse to name the difficult truths buried in Scripture, address the forms such violence takes in modern society, and illuminate a path of healing and hope. With a blend of storytelling, cultural analysis, and trauma-informed care, *The Hero and the Whore* invites readers to reconsider their assumptions about victims of sexual exploitation and respond with compassionate understanding that will bring us all to the wholeness God desires.

**the hero and the crown: Robin McKinley** Evelyn M. Perry, 2010-11-16 Since her first book, *Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast*, was published in 1978, Robin McKinley has enchanted young adult readers for more than thirty years. This study is the first in-depth analysis of McKinley's works, including her award-winning books *The Blue Sword* (Newbery Honor, 1983) and *The Hero and the Crown* (Newberry Medal, 1985). In *Robin McKinley: Girl Reader, Woman Writer*, Evelyn Perry examines McKinley's novels and short stories as grouped into three categories: those set in Damar, which introduce and develop the rich geographic, social, political, and linguistic history of McKinley's secondary world; the retellings of folk and fairy tales, which reveal not only McKinley's encyclopedic knowledge of source stories but her respectful and highly literate approach to their contemporary adaptation; and her other works, less easily categorized but generally most recent, written for more mature readers, and featuring a diverse set of influences from vampires to homeopathy. Perry also explores the feminist articulation of character and social settings that are dominant themes running through McKinley's works. Anyone interested in Robin McKinley and her work, including secondary and post-secondary students, faculty, and librarians, will find *Robin McKinley: Girl Reader, Woman Writer* a valuable resource.

**the hero and the crown: The Hero and the Fiend (Harbinger of Doom)** Glenn G. Thater, 2013-12-26 *THE HERO AND THE FIEND* When two immortal demons of frightening power rampage across Lomion City on an insatiable quest for blood and souls, most of the city watch flee for their lives. Who could blame them? No mortal can stand against such creatures and live. But Sergeant

Thork would not flee. Not when innocent lives were at risk. Thork would stand and fight to protect his family, his city, his people, no matter the odds, for he was bound by duty and girded with courage and cold steel. But he was no great warrior, no famous hero, no knight in battle armor. He was just an ordinary man. A watchman. Must he sacrifice all that he has, all that he ever will have, to bar the demons' path? The Hero and the Fiend is a twelve-thousand word novelette set in the same world, and featuring some of the same characters, as Glenn G. Thater's Harbinger of Doom series of fantasy novels and novellas. Hero, however, is a stand-alone story that requires no familiarity with his other books to enjoy. Praise for Thater's Writing: Glenn Thater's, The Gateway, is a masterfully crafted epic fantasy about the ages old struggle between good and evil. --- Carol Marrs Phipps, author of Elf Killers ...as good as any fantasy tale you will read, it honors the tradition, and adds to our lore a story so good, so well told, I hope it will be remembered forever. ---- Rai Aren, co-author of Secret of the Sands. ...The author paints each scene and battle so clearly that I felt I was in the middle of the action. ---- Mike Monahan, author of Barracuda. ...a must read for all fans of classic sword and sorcery. A blend of howard, moorcock, wagner, with a twist of lovecraft. Well written and hugely entertaining. --- Jimmyonly (an Amazon reviewer) BOOKS BY GLENN G. THATER THE HARBINGER OF DOOM SAGA HAMMER OF DOOM LORD OF LIES KNIGHT ETERNAL HARBINGER OF DOOM - VOLUMES 4-6 OMNIBUS HARBINGER OF DOOM - VOLUMES 7-8 OMNIBUS HARBINGER OF DOOM - VOLUMES 9-10 OMNIBUS HARBINGER OF DOOM - VOLUMES 11-12 OMNIBUS VOLUME 13+ forthcoming THE HERO AND THE FIEND (A novelette set in the Harbinger of Doom universe) THE DEMON KING OF BERGHER (A short story set in the Harbinger of Doom universe) THE KEBLEAR HORROR (A short story set in the Harbinger of Doom universe) keywords: fantasy; epic fantasy; sword and sorcery free epic fantasy fiction books best top novels series kindle, free metaphysical & visionary dark fantasy gods demons wizards adult top best novels books series kindle, free horror thriller action & adventure top best novels fantasy books series kindle cheap teen ebooks, free myths & legends norse & Viking urban paranormal sword & sorcery fantasy top best novels books series kindle free epic fantasy, epic fantasy, free, free book, free ebook, free fantasy, fiction books, best novels, top novels, best series, free metaphysical & visionary, dark fantasy, gods, demons, wizards, top novels, free horror, free thriller, free action & adventure, action, adventure, teen ebooks, free myths & legends, free norse, free viking, urban fantasy, paranormal fantasy, free sword & sorcery, best books, google play Similar to books by: George R.R. Martin, J.R.R. Tolkien, Robert E. Howard, David Gemmell, Steven Erikson, Michael Moorcock, David Eddings, Glen Cook, Joe Abercrombie. bella forest; fiction; fantasy book; game of thrones; science fiction; mystery; fantasy; george r.r. martin; a shade of vampire; harry potter; stephen king; dungeons and dragons; horror books; game of thrones' books; fantasy books; vampire; fiction books; dragons; paranormal; brandon sanderson; zombie; wheel of time; lord of the rings; j.k. rowling; bella forrest; diana gabaldon; jack thorne; john tiffany; jeff wheeler; george r.r. martin; d.k. holmberg; charlene hartnady; charlie n. holmberg; shannon mayer; patricia briggs; k.f. breene; g.l. breedon; neil gaiman; emma l. adams; jasmine walt; brandon sanderson; jaymin eve; black crouch; bernhard hennen; james sullivan; jonathan moeller; melissa f. olson; terry brooks; linsey hall; j.r. rain; dima zales; james maxwell; rebecca hamilton; jim butcher; j.r.r. tolkien; tim pratt; robert jordan; David Dalglish, Terry Goodkind, Robert J. Crane, Lindsay Buroker, Phil Tucker, Michael J. Sullivan, Glen Cook, Brian McClellan, B.T. Narro, George R. R. Martin, Jonathan Moeller, James Maxwell, Miles Cameron, C. Greenwood, R.A. Salvatore, Roger Zelazny, Michael James Ploof, Duncan M. Hamilton, Robin Hobb, J.R.R. Tolkien, Brandon Sanderson, Brent Weeks, Raymond E. Feist, Terry Brooks, Robert Jordan, James Islington, Patrick Rothfuss, A.G. Riddle, Peter V. Brett, Andrzej Sapkowski, Fritz Leiber, Michael Moorcock, Michael Manning, Joe Abercrombie, Margaret Weis, Steven Erikson, M. R. Mathias, James A. Moore, Robert E. Howard, Kristian Alva, Toby Neighbors, Mark Lawrence, Brian Staveley, Jeff Wheeler, Will Wight, Craig Halloran, Luke Scull, D.K. Holmberg, Daniel Arenson, Duncan Hamilton, Anthony Ryan, Justin Sloan, Jonathan Renshaw, Michael Anderle, Aleron Kong, Michael-Scott Earle, Justin DePaoli, CM Raymond, AC Cobble, Michael J Ploof, Loren K. Jones

**the hero and the crown:** The Demon, the Hero, and the Secret of the Stones A.E. Kincaid, 2022-07-28 Morally gray is the new black. Our duo is back, and their continuing quest to fix the Stone of Eno and close the Underworld portal has brought them to the doorstep of a dragon. With the help of a sempiternal barkeep and a fire-breathing ally, they may finally have a working plan to solve both problems. After a detour to the city of Slopecastle, a prissy, headstrong princess helps them find a way to bind the stone! Once they get it to the Forest of Arden, their quest will be at an end. Probably. However, with Mal and Reg, things rarely go according to plan. Mal's evil demon brother is still on the loose, it's impossible to know who to trust, and, unbeknownst to them, there's a bounty on their heads. When an unavoidable trial brings them back to Reg's hometown of Beadledom, their journey hits an all-time low. Will their remarkably poor track record with the people of Widdershins prevent them from completing their quest? Will a stunning secret about the stones set them free? Or will the arrival of Tannith doom them all? In this new adult twist on the classic humorous fantasy adventure novel, Kincaid continues to pit her ill-suited main characters against one another to hilarious effect.

**the hero and the crown:** The Narrative Symbol in Childhood Literature Joanne M. Golden, 2013-02-06 No detailed description available for The Narrative Symbol in Childhood Literature.

**the hero and the crown:** The Door in the Hedge Robin McKinley, 2014-11-18 From ensorcelled princesses to a frog that speaks, an enchanting collection of fairy tales from the Newbery Medal-winning author. The last mortal kingdom before the unmeasured sweep of Faerieland begins has at best held an uneasy truce with its unpredictable neighbor. There is nothing to show a boundary, at least on the mortal side of it; and if any ordinary human creature ever saw a faerie—or at any rate recognized one—it was never mentioned; but the existence of the boundary and of faeries beyond it is never in doubt either. So begins “The Stolen Princess,” the first story of this collection, about the meeting between the human princess Linadel and the faerie prince Donathor. “The Princess and the Frog” concerns Rana and her unexpected alliance with a small, green, flipper-footed denizen of a pond in the palace gardens. “The Hunting of the Hind” tells of a princess who has bewitched her beloved brother, hoping to beg some magic of cure, for her brother is dying, and the last tale is a retelling of the Twelve Dancing Princesses in which an old soldier discovers, with a little help from a lavender-eyed witch, the surprising truth about where the princesses dance their shoes to tatters every night.

**the hero and the crown:** The Twentieth Century Magazine Benjamin Orange Flower, 1910

**the hero and the crown:** Sunshine Robin McKinley, 2014-11-18 A small-town baker uses her magic to confront a post-vampire apocalypse world in this award-winning fantasy Neil Gaiman called “pretty much perfect.” Although it had been mostly deserted since the Voodoo Wars, there hadn't been any trouble out at the lake for years. Rae Seddon, nicknamed Sunshine, head baker at her family's busy and popular café in downtown New Arcadia, needed a place to get away from all the noise and confusion—of the clientele and her family. Just for a few hours. Just to be able to hear herself think. She knew about the Others, of course. Everyone did. And several of her family's best regular customers were from SOF—Special Other Forces—which had been created to deal with the threat and the danger of the Others. She drove out to her family's old lakeside cabin and sat on the porch, swinging her feet and enjoying the silence and the silver moonlight on the water. She never heard them coming. Of course, you don't when they're vampires. Fans of Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Sookie Stackhouse will cheer for this tough and quirky heroine. In *Sunshine*, which won the Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature, McKinley has a vampire novel that is “a smart, funny tale of suspense and romance” (San Francisco Chronicle).

**the hero and the crown:** Rose Daughter Robin McKinley, 2014-11-18 Award-winning author Robin McKinley tells an enthralling story of magic, love, and redemption, based on the classic tale of Beauty and the Beast. Once upon a time, a wealthy merchant had three daughters. When his business failed, he moved his daughters to the countryside. The youngest daughter, Beauty, is fascinated by the thorny stems of a mysterious plant that overwhelms their neglected cottage. She tends the plant until it blossoms with the most beautiful flowers the sisters have ever seen—roses.

Admiring the roses, an old woman tells Beauty, "Roses are for love." And she speaks of a sorcerers' battle many years ago that left a beast in an enchanted palace, and a curse concerning a family of three sisters . . . The Newbery Medal-winning author's charming retelling of the classic fairy tale weaves a tangled story of sorcery, loyalty, and love that is sure to cast a spell on readers.

**the hero and the crown: Prizing Children's Literature** Kenneth B. Kidd, Joseph T. Thomas Jr., 2016-11-10 Children's book awards have mushroomed since the early twentieth-century and especially since the 1960s, when literary prizing became a favored strategy for both commercial promotion and canon-making. There are over 300 awards for English-language titles alone, but despite the profound impact of children's book awards, scholars have paid relatively little attention to them. This book is the first scholarly volume devoted to the analysis of Anglophone children's book awards in historical and cultural context. With attention to both political and aesthetic concerns, the book offers original and diverse scholarship on prizing practices and their consequences in Australia, Canada, and especially the United States. Contributors offer both case studies of particular awards and analysis of broader trends in literary evaluation and elevation, drawing on theoretical work on canonization and cultural capital. Sections interrogate the complex and often unconscious ideological work of prizing, the ongoing tension between formalist awards and so-called identity-based awards — all the more urgent in light of the We Need Diverse Books campaign — the ever-morphing forms and parameters of prizing, and scholarly practices of prizing. Among the many awards discussed are the Pura Belpré Medal, the Inky Awards, the Canada Governor General Literary Award, the Printz Award, the Best Animated Feature Oscar, the Phoenix Award, and the John Newbery Medal, giving due attention to prizes for fiction as well as for non-fiction, poetry, and film. This volume will interest scholars in literary and cultural studies, social history, book history, sociology, education, library and information science, and anyone concerned with children's literature.

**the hero and the crown: The Cultural Gutter** Carol Borden, Chris Szego, Ian Driscoll, 2011 Science fiction, fantasy, comics, romance, genre movies, games all drain into the Cultural Gutter, a website dedicated to thoughtful articles about disreputable art-media and genres that are a little embarrassing. Irredeemable. Worthy of Note, but rolling like errant pennies back into the gutter. The Cultural Gutter is dangerous because we have a philosophy. We try to balance enthusiasm with clear-eyed, honest engagement with the material and with our readers. This book expands on our mission with 10 articles each from science fiction/fantasy editor James Schellenberg, comics editor and publisher Carol Borden, romance editor Chris Szego, screen editor Ian Driscoll and founding editor and former games editor Jim Munroe.

## Related to the hero and the crown

**The Hero and the Crown - Wikipedia** The Hero and the Crown is a fantasy novel written by Robin McKinley and published by Greenwillow Books in 1984. [1] It is the winner of the 1985 Newbery Medal award

**The Hero and the Crown: McKinley, Robin: 9780441328093:** For over a decade, Robin McKinley's richly woven saga has gripped the imagination of readers and caused critics to hail her as a master of fantasy

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