



## The Sundering Flood

*William Morris , Lin Carter*

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## The Sundering Flood Details

Date : Published May 1973 by Ballentine Adult Fantasy (first published 1897)

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Author : William Morris , Lin Carter

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## From Reader Review The Sundering Flood for online ebook

### Mel says

I really enjoyed parts of this book but on the whole I didn't enjoy it as much as the other book by Morris I've read recently. I think the difference was this one was much more about knights and bandits and much less about magic. I did enjoy the romance, but found it rather hard going in places. Still quite enjoyable though and I definitely want to read the rest of the romance that Morris wrote.

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### Mike says

This has probably been my favorite of William Morris's books that I've read. I was thoroughly pleased with the plot, the characters, the sense of setting both geographically and within history, and was delighted by the way in which the mystical or supernatural was gently weaved into the story without being a central focus. I'm sure that I'll read this book again, and the next time I promise to write the review closer to when I actually read the book.

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### Derek says

At about the 2/3 mark I started to reconsider what this was about. It is clearly in the vein of a chivalrous romance, its events and adventures unspooling as though from a storyteller's tongue, all sort of strung together and barely contained by the basic frame of Osberne's courtly romance with Elfhild and his long and undirected quest to regain her.

But eventually the tale reaches the siege and battle for the City of the Sundering Flood, which despite the author's affectedly archaic language turns out to be a masterpiece of efficient storytelling: the battle actions, the factions, the politics, and its resolution. It is not medieval fantasy as I have (inexpertly) thought of it.

Further, soon afterward the perspective flips and Elfhild's story is told in flashback. Where Osberne had joined the forces of the Knight of Longshaw, Elfhild falls in with a member of the Barons' League, who are the other side in this conflict. This is never quite a full alternate viewpoint--the reader's sympathies are clearly with Longshaw--but is such an interesting device that one can only wonder what Morris could have wrought of this hurried and somewhat crash-landing ending if he had the proper time for it, rather than being forced to dictate the draft on his deathbed.

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### Fraser Sherman says

The last of Morris's fantasies is definitely the one I like best. It starts off on the banks of the eponymous mighty river, where a young girl and boy meet, but separated by the waters of the Sundering Flood. The boy becomes a mighty youth with the help of magic; the girl becomes pretty. Adventures follow. This worked for me, but it did bog down in some of the adventures--after the supernatural elements and the colorful setting of the beginning, we're back to standard knightly stuff.

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## **Karen says**

No, I'm not into romance books! But this tale by Morris is fitting for the Pre-Raphaelites who probably loved it while sitting by a stream with their lovlies...

A beautiful tale of love and separation and how things come around again. Most of all I loved the words, the use of words to create beautiful English sentences. It is rare today. I like modern lingo but this is refreshing to read.

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