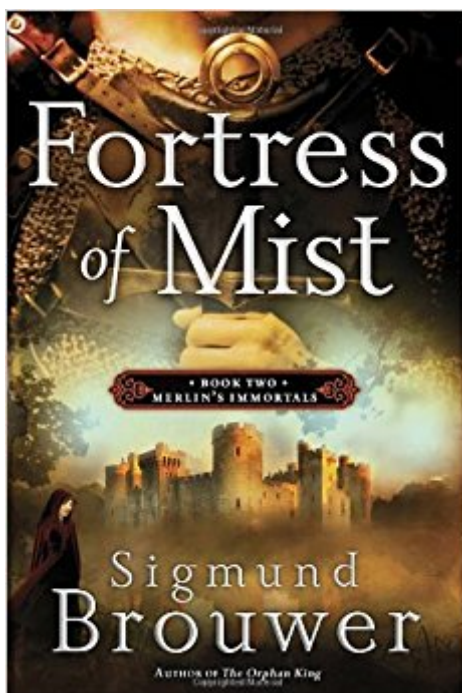


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# Fortress Of Mist: Book 2 In The Merlin's Immortals Series



## Synopsis

“Full of surprising twists, shocking betrays, and baffling mysteries. But at its heart, it’s about courage, wisdom, and hope.”—Robert Liparulo, author of *The 13th Tribe*, *The Judgment Stone*, and the *Dreamhouse Kings* series

The throne is redeemed, but the battle is just beginning. In the dark corners of an ancient land, evil lurks in the shadows. Powerful druids haunt the spaces of their lost territory. Double-minded noblemen fight for domain and influence. Invaders from the north threaten the kingdom of Magnus. This land of promise and redemption is mired in deceit and corruption. The Orphan King, once victorious in conquest, appears to be losing his grip on his seat of power. Thomas rules Magnus, but does not know whom he can trust. His enemies anticipate his every move, thwarting him at each turn. Something is not right. Under attack, both in the supernatural and natural worlds, Thomas must reach back into the secret layers of his past to find the strength and wisdom to fight his battles. When the mist clears, who will stand with him?

## Book Information

Series: Merlin’s Immortals (Book 2)

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Praise for *Fortress of Mist*—“Sigmund Brouwer’s masterful storytelling and eye for detail turn *Fortress of Mist* into a grand and harrowing adventure for every reader.”

You will feel the grime of castle dungeons, the sting of sword blades, and the elation of victory. It's a story full of surprising twists, shocking betrayals, and baffling mysteries. But at its heart, this book is about courage, wisdom, and hope and losing yourself in a fabulous story well told.

•Robert Liparulo, author of *The 13th Tribe*, *The Judgment Stone*, and the *Dreamhouse Kings* series

•“Sigmund Brouwer spins an exciting story with *Fortress of Mist*, full of classic elements and clever twists. His style is reminiscent of the wonderful Lloyd Alexander, and I felt both comfortably familiar with the unfolding story and pleasantly surprised by new plot developments. As the young orphan hero struggling to establish himself as ruler in a world of courtly intrigues and dangerous Druids, Thomas will appeal to boys and girls, young and old. Brouwer keeps us guessing, and I was particularly interested by his use of scientific “magic.”

•An engaging read that will leave readers eager to pick up the next volume.

•Anne Elisabeth Stengl, author of the award-winning *Tales of Goldstone Wood* series

•“From the first line, readers will be hooked into this page-turning adventure. An engaging and compelling read.”

•Debbie Viguié, author of *Kiss of Death*

With three million books in print, SIGMUND BROUWER is the bestselling author of dozens of popular books for children and adults. Over the last two decades, his *Rock and Roll Literacy* presentation has inspired students and teachers at schools all across North America. Sigmund is married to songwriter recording artist Cindy Morgan. The couple and their two young daughters divide their time between Red Deer, Alberta and Nashville, Tennessee.

*Fortress of Mist* Merlin's Immortals Book 2 By Sigmund Brouwer

Thomas of Magnus has reclaimed his kingdom, but he feels isolated and lonely. Sarah is dead, William has left, and Katherine has disappeared. But when Isabelle comes to him during the night, he is confused because he saw her die after being clubbed by Geoffrey. But Isabelle refuses to answer Thomas's questions until he pledges his allegiance to the symbol. But Thomas is unwilling to blindly pledge his allegiance to the unknown or to give up what has been left to his care. All too soon the Earl of York comes to Magnus and Thomas is again tested. Thomas agrees to ally himself with the Earl in battle against the Scots. But treachery follows Thomas as secret forces of opposition try to sway him to their side. But all Thomas knows is that those of the symbol are after his knowledge - the books left to his care and hidden away from Magnus. Following Thomas' suggestions the forces under the Earl prevail against the larger Scot army. But treachery awaits Thomas' return as the Druids try to force his hand or bring about his death at the hands of the Earl of York. Following the instructions of a message

Thomas is able to persuade his accusers of his innocence. But who can Thomas trust as those around him try to manipulate him to their ends? With no one willing to answer his questions Thomas must rely on the teachings he received as a child from Sarah. Can no one fill the need in Thomas' life? I found Katherine's struggles to be an intriguing part of the story. She has her allegiances, but she wants to help Thomas. I'll be interested to see how her story develops in book 3. I found *Fortress of Mist* to be an excellent sequel to *The Orphan King* and would highly recommend it. I received this book on the 19th the day it was released so I had to do some speed reading after I got home from work. To complicate this the new Celtic Thunder DVD *Mythology* & *Celtic Thunder: Mythology* was also released on the 19th so of course I had to listen to that as I read. Celtic music while reading about Druids in England is somewhat appropriate if I do say so myself and made for an enjoyable if long evening. If anyone has heard of the One Community, One Book program I have a suggestion to make this a family activity. For your One Family, Two Books event have teens and adults read *The Orphan King* & *The Orphan King: Book 1 in the Merlin's Immortals series* & *Fortress of Mist* and middle grade readers read *Wings of an Angel* & *Wings of an Angel: Book One - Winds of Light* & *Barbarians from the Isle* *Barbarians from the Isle: Book Two - Winds of Light*. You'll be able to read the same books in an age / length appropriate manner and you'll have fun sharing these books by Sigmund Brouwer!

This is a wonderful Book 2 in this series, and I can't wait for Book 3. The main character remains committed to doing the right things, even when he does not know whom to trust. This is such an important trait to be re-enforcing for our young people. The story is very easy to follow yet has lots of unexpected events. It moves very quickly and is very fun. The author has kept some important things a secret, which is intriguing and keeps the series alive. Perfect summer reading (adults too!), or for DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) time in school, because it grabs and holds your attention so easily.

Purchased this for my son's birthday. He loves the book and the series. Problem for him is that he has to wait for the next book to be published.

This is book two in the *Merlin's Immortals* series and I honestly thought it was much better than the first book. I will say, if you haven't read book one then don't pick this one up as it would be really hard to follow if you didn't know the back story. I thought there was a definite improvement in the excitement factor in this book. I'm not sure why but the first book seemed to drag at times for me. I

can't wait to see how the next book turns out!About the story:Thomas has reclaimed the throne of Magnus but a threat rises against his new leadership--the druids. Further, a neighboring kingdom is insisting that Thomas help in England's fight against invaders from the north and he's obligated to help--though he fears that the Earl of York may be working with the secret sect of druids that seek his throne.In this tale we were whisked away to a land of hidden secrets and hints of magic. Two beautiful women also crave Thomas' attention--one who hopes in secret and another who is brazen in her attempts to seduce him into the hands of the druids.I feel that these stories fall into the fantasy genre but they don't really read as such and I almost crave that and wish I saw more exploration of that element but they're still good quick reads. Also, unlike the last book I did see more of a Christian element with this book--mainly from the priest. Though this series doesn't necessarily make it to my "to keep and reread" shelf they're still worth the read!! I received Fortress of Mist (Merlin's Immortals #2) as a complimentary gift in exchange for an honest review from Waterbrook Multnomah Publishers. I was not required to write a positive review. My comments and opinions are my own.

Fortress of Mist by Sigmund Brouwer continues the story of Thomas that was started in The Orphan King. Now the ruler of Magnus, an impregnable fortress, Thomas still has more questions than answers about who he is and what the "secret of Magnus" is. Confusing matters even more, a friend turns out to be a foe, and another friend has disappeared. And Thomas is caught between two sides, two sides which refuse even to identify who they are. Will Thomas ever get answers to his growing number of questions?This story takes place during the Middle Ages and it pits the druids against the Christians. It seems that Thomas has to choose a side, but all of the information he needs to make a decision is kept from him.The reader wonders the same thing, "Will I ever get answers to all of my questions?" Thomas isn't the only one kept in the dark, and I had hoped that this novel would have answered more questions than it did. I find it frustrating to be ignorant of so much while reading a book. I don't know if I will continue this series because of the lack of information, but I also can't help but wonder who Hawkwood and Katherine are, and more so, who the Immortals are.I want to thank WaterBrook Multnomah for my review copy of this book, but my opinions are my own.

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