Book Review: "The King of the Trees—Discovering the Secrets of the Woods" Oregon author provides a down-to-Earth, action-packed series

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A beekeeper's son whose grandmother was known as the "toadstool woman" and whose father was left to raise him after his mother died, Rolin, the son of Gannon, discovers that the life he always knew will be changed forever when he finds himself being chased out of the local market by green-cloaked strangers. To escape his pursuers, Rolin dashes into the woods, encounters an old man who leads him up a tree and, upon climbing down the other side, finds himself in a different world. Rolin soon discovers the magic and wonder of these tree portals known as "torsils," and his personal role in helping to save all torsil worlds.

Book One of Oregon author William "Bill" Burt's septology, *The King Of The Trees* is the starting point of an adventure in which readers will be taken to long-forgotten lands, discover ancient secrets and watch as prophecies of old come to fulfillment. Readers will learn the meaning behind the universe's unanswered questions as the characters themselves change and grow along their journey to accomplish the task set before them. Inspired by the allegorical richness of C.S. Lewis and the cosmological depth of J.R.R. Tolkien, Burt was determined to create a story combining these two themes with the goal of writing a book for the sheer joy of writing. After his first book and the request by many readers for a sequel, Burt remarked that he "wanted to find out what would happen to my characters."

Burt noted that he would like his readers to "come away with a desire to read more about the worlds I have created [Thalmos and Lucambra, particularly] and to find love, joy and inspiration in what they read." Using an assortment of literary genres, *The King of the Trees* provides readers with a story that will have them lost within the pages of the book seeking to find the answers and leaving them anxious to know what will happen and how it will happen. With yegs out to kill, trees tougher than steel, a sorcerer set smite all things good, and friends from other worlds to help in the fight, both characters and readers will embark on a journey that will forever alter how they see the world, taking them to places which will challenge them and test their faith and trust in Gaelathane.

While still in high school, Burt began his writing career editing his father's popular identification guides. He also served as a successful grant-writer and program coordinator as an assistant professor in the Special Education Department here at Western. Alongside a B.S. in English from Lewis and Clark College and an M.S. in Deaf Education from Western, Burt also has over thirty years' experience as an RID-certified sign language interpreter. After a decade and his first set of seven novels, Burt is currently working on the first title in a new series unrelated to the first.

For more information on William Burt and his series, visit: www.greencloaks.com.