

## ***My POV.....*** **by Sarah Heath**

*The Greenstones* is William D. Burt's fourth book in his *King of the Trees* series and is my favorite in the series so far. The series is an extended allegory much like the Chronicles of Narnia or the Lord of the Rings and is suitable for preteens, teens and adults. *The Greenstones* also includes a glossary in the back for those hard-to-pronounce words.

Merryn is an outsider in her town, even to those it seems she's known her entire life. Nicknamed Hoppy, or Scabby, by those who are less kind, Merryn doesn't fit in with the others. She is pockmarked and plagued by boils that make her stand out from the others. Teased for and ashamed of her scars, she tries to cover them with cloaks and hoods. Her adventure starts when she is betrayed, sold into slavery, and captured by a lively band of outlaws. *The Greenstones* includes all the makings of a thrilling adventure story: a lost princess, dragons, and the mysterious greenstones that release a toxic mist.

Having now read two of the titles in William D. Burt's *King of the Trees* series, I can safely say that they can be considered standalone novels. There isn't a need to read them in sequential order, though that being said, I'm sure reading them in order would only add to the enjoyment.

I've always been a fan of books about princesses (must be a girl thing!) so this installment in the series was right up my alley. Of course, I won't give away the fantastic surprise ending. I'll leave that up to you to read and find out for yourself.

William D. Burt keeps his readers guessing until the last minute and on the edge of their seats, wondering what's going to happen next! Highly recommended for fans of C.S. Lewis or J. R. R. Tolkien!