



## The Beast of Blackmoor Bog

*Kate Forsyth*

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After escaping the bog-men in the wilds of the Witchwood, Sebastian, Quinn, Eleanor and Tom journey south on their impossible quest. Sebastian and Eleanor seek help from Crowthorne Castle, but both allies and enemies will reveal themselves. Tom and Quinn venture into the mysterious moors...where a hideous beast lies waiting.

## **The Beast of Blackmoor Bog Details**

Date : Published February 1st 2015 by Scholastic Australia (first published January 1st 2015)

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Author : Kate Forsyth

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## **From Reader Review The Beast of Blackmoor Bog for online ebook**

### **Scott says**

Enjoyable entry in this series, with good character development (especially for Sebastian, Elanor, and secondary character Jack) and elements of adventure, humor, mystery and hints of romance. The plot was just fair, but it ended strongly with an exciting climax and conclusion. While this is perhaps not the best entry in it, this is growing into a real gem of a series that deserves more attention and acclaim.

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### **Crystal says**

A few more discoveries are made during "The Impossible Quest" as these four friends try to get the help they need to rescue those imprisoned in their home castle. This is a good series for tweens and more mature children. Some of the more intense scenes lack detail so their escapes seem to evoke a "how did that happen" moment for me more than anything else. Perhaps I just struggled to follow where all of the characters were actually placed in relation to one another and their enemies in order for them to pull off some of the things they do. That's my adult mind at work, I think the intended audience will find the book(s) fun to read.

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### **Christian West says**

This series is really keeping my attention. Sebastian and Elanor head to Crowthorne Castle to garner help, whilst Tom, Quinn and the animals investigate the moors. There are twists and turns in the plot that kept me enthralled until the end. Highly recommended.

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### **Alison Condliffe says**

This series is still keeping me involved and wanting to read more. It was good in this book that the four main characters were separated and had their own adventures. Also enjoying the magical creatures that are becoming part of the story.

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### **Angie Matthewson says**

While reading this, I kept thinking about the CS Lewis quote "A children's story that can only be enjoyed by children is not a good children's story in the slightest." Love how much my kiddo loves this and I'm having such fun reading it with her.

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### **Megan says**

I didn't find this one as entertaining as the last one but that's probably because they were doing lots of grand things in the last one and this one has a slower, boggy location (haha) but I like the ending and read the whole thing in one sitting so maybe I liked it more than I think.

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### **Cate Whittle says**

An exciting and fast paced story - great fun to read. I'm loving reading this series - full of great adventures for children to enjoy -- and looking forward to the next one.

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### **Stef Rozitis says**

She's hit some sort of point here where the characters and world are developed enough to get interesting. Some things that sound fantastical are revealed to be ordinary, some things foreshadowed in the previous books come into play (what I am saying is go back and read the first two because this book might be readable as a stand-alone but is MUCH better if you know the characters).

Jack Spry makes a comeback and gets some development as a character. And oh I like him!

It starts off with Sebastian and Elanor separated from Tom and Quin and it seems that Sebastian and Tom (but this time especially Tom) did their masculine face-off BS that had already annoyed me in the other books and I feel annoyed that the girls even though they like each other are drawn into that. BUT the book does not leave them there. Sebastian has to face his arrogance and his insecurity. Elanor has to think and act for herself. Tom now seems too arrogant, I know he is the "main character" in some ways but I want him to pull his head in a bit. Quin grows in a very interesting way!

There's a mixture of things that happen, following the now established formula of each book one of the children gets a fantastical creature. There is one cliche at the end but I LOVE IT!!! Won't say what it is but it is one that personally never gets old for me (and is handled extremely well). It's not a major plot point anyway just a bit of fun. Interestingly most of the "bad guys" are women in this book, or are servants of one of the women. Also interestingly despite Tom and Sebastian's belief that they are stronger than the girls and need to protect them the girls hold their own and have different powers and possibilities that in each book are also essential for success (Elanor perhaps still has some way to go with that).

This book mentioned a minor character (completely peripheral) called Gwydion. Along with Sebastian that is one of my three favourite names! So that was one more thing for me to love :)

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### **Brooke Starling says**

Book 3 of the series. Read to the kids. The characters are finding out their own strengths and what powers their gifts from the Grand Teller have. More magical happenings and multiple villains. Quick read, good pacing.

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## **James Lindsay says**

Loved the new instalment of Kate Forsyth's The Impossible Quest.

A couple of twists I didn't see coming, great action and huge character development has me very keen for book 4.

Well done Kate!!

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## **Sean Harding says**

Third and "hump" book in the five book series sees more of the same really, with a little more action perhaps but basically a very similar structure and idea as the other two. During the book it mentions that it is two weeks since the series began so this is now book three and there has been a space of only two weeks. I still wonder if fantasy series are padded out to get more sales or if they do play out better when structured like this? Anyway entertaining enough but it does feel like you know the formula of what will happen in each book and can begin to time the page number by the event.

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## **Sally906 says**

THE WOLVES OF THE WITCHWOOD and THE BEAST OF BLACKMOOR BOG are books 2 & 3 in The Impossible Quest series by Kate Forsyth; a fabulous adventure set in the faraway fantasy land of Wolfhaven. Four young teens band together to save their world. Tom, the son of the Wolfhaven Castle cook; Lady Elanor, the daughter of the Lord of Wolfhaven; Sebastian, a young squire who dreams of being a knight and thinks he is superior to Tom; and Quinn, who is an orphan, an apprenticed witch, and thinks she knows everything. Wolfhaven Castle is captured by Lord Mortlake who uses evil magic to achieve his goal, taking over the world. The 4 mismatched teens manage to escape with the help of the castle witch – who gives each of them a magical gift. With no time to tell them what their gift will do for them, part of the quest is also to unlock the mystery of their gifts. Now they need to try and awaken some legendary sleeping warriors from the past and overthrow Lord Mortlake and his evil plans for taking over the world.

Before they can bring the warriors to life the group need to stop squabbling and work together to find a Unicorn, a Griffin, a Dragon and a Sea Serpent. By the end of these two books they have found 3 of their mythical animals with one more to go. In Witchwood they meet Tom's mysterious father and a blind witch, Wilda. On Blackmoor the team splits up (always a mistake) and reach one of the castles they are seeking military assistance from. As you would expect when only half way through a series all is not as it seems and the story races along to a life or death climax in the middle of a spooky bog in the middle of the moor.

Overall the books are a fast read as the group lurches from one crisis to another and the plot twists and turns. However, there is real growth in each of the main characters as they get further along in the adventure; they are learning about themselves and their gift, and become a team rather than being just thrown together due to circumstances.

I love the land of Wolfhaven – as with many fantasy novels the setting is medieval, with castles, bows and arrows, knights and a strict social hierarchy. Throw in magical creatures – both good and evil, witches, a

talking pendant and tame wolves and you have a wonderful adventure. THE WOLVES OF THE WITCHWOOD really had just the one task to do with all the gang involved as they worked out their own social hierarchy, then THE BEAST OF BLACKMOOR BOG had a few story lines going with the group splitting up into different task threads and heading off in different directions to do what needed to be done. Kate Forsyth cleverly pulled the threads back into line by the end of the book and the teens moved off as one to start their quest for the final creature that they need.

I know I am not the age of the intended audience – but I am really enjoying the adventure. I like how each of the main characters are becoming aware of their weaknesses and finding their strengths. How they are losing sight of their differences and becoming unified in their similarities. The 4th book in the series - THE DROWNED KINGDOM – has now been released, with one more to go, BATTLE OF THE HEROES, being released in a couple of months.

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### **Daryl Everett says**

My son says, "it's scary and exciting at the same time!" He read it in an afternoon so it must be captivating.

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### **Chantelle Griffin says**

A wonderful fairytale and quest with four young characters in search of a dragon.

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### **Kat Mais says**

This book takes a different approach than the first two. Divide and Conquer

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