



The War Of The Flowers

By Tad Williams

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Theo Vilmos' life is about to take a real turn for the worse.

He is drawn from his home in Northern California into the parallel world of Faerie, for, unknown to him, he is a pivotal figure in a war between certain of Faerie's powerful lords and the rest of the strange creatures who live in this exotic realm.

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The War Of The Flowers By Tad Williams Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Travel into another dimension is a popular fantasy ploy, but rarely accomplished with such humor, terror and even logic as in this stand-alone by bestseller Williams (Tailchaser's Song, etc.). After losing his girlfriend, Theo Vilmos, a singer in a humdrum northern California rock band, finds in his late mother's remote cabin an amazing if incomplete manuscript left by his eccentric great-uncle, Eamonn Dowd, about a fairy world purportedly visited by its author. Unsurprisingly, Faerie turns out to be a real place. Applecore, a short-tempered, red-haired sprite, abruptly appears before Theo just as a horrifying monster starts banging on the door. At Applecore's command, Theo swoops her up and pops through "the Gate" into a magical realm that proves initially beguiling, later strange and finally deadly. Ironically, Faerie is a distorted image of our own world, ruled by cruel fairy tyrants. The powerful classes, each named for a flower, wage war against each other, using colossal dragons as the equivalents of nuclear bombs. Theo discovers love as well as unsuspected secrets of his own birth and family. Williams's imagination is boundless, and if this big book could have been shorter, it could just as easily have been longer. The incorrigible Applecore continually delights, as in her comment on a famous J.M. Barrie character: "If you believe in fairies, clap your hands'? If you believe in fairies, kiss my rosy pink arse is more like it."

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From [Booklist](#)

Williams' latest is unsurprisingly large but is billed as a single-volume work, which is pretty flabbergasting coming from a writer addicted to series of massive tomes. The story begins with the fairly conventional device of a mundane (i.e., a person from our world) stumbling into Faerie. Marginal California rocker Theo Vilmos has just lost his pregnant girlfriend when he discovers an old, handwritten book in a rural cottage. The gritty and even rather grim faerie world to which it leads him is hardly a refuge from reality; indeed, it is so full of depressing details that those who are already somewhat down should consider reading the book only in bite-size chunks. The war of the title is one of numerous factions fighting among themselves, and with it, Williams darkly satirizes every sort and condition of politics, ideology, religion, and other human foibles, much as he did in the Otherland saga. Reader and hero alike remain in some confusion for some while, because Theo's Faerie guide, an obnoxious entity named Applecore, seems to have an agenda of his own and certainly has a stevedore's tongue. Williams has a supremely powerful, if not altogether disciplined, imagination, so that, like Theo, readers may feel they are encountering much that is dreary and dull on the way to the good parts. *Roland Green*

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Review

Praise for *The War of the Flowers*:

"Rock musician Theo Vilmost plummets headlong into the land of Faerie and finds himself thrust into the middle of a political and social maelstrom with only a foul-mouthed sprite as his ally. Williams's **unforgettable cross-world fantasy** turns faerie lore on its ear and is his best work to date." —Library Journal

"*The War of the Flowers* is an intense urban fantasy of fairies, changelings, and the end of the world.... A **richly detailed, fully developed world** of mortal vs. fairy."—*Romantic Times* (top pick!)

"Travel into another dimension is a popular fantasy ploy, but rarely accomplished with **such humor, terror,**

and even logic as this standalone by bestseller Williams.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Williams’s latest standalone fantasy epic is **a masterpiece of fantasy worldbuilding**, with a Faerie land that eerily mirrors the real world.... The tone is often dark, but rich, building a wondrous tale set in a fascinating world, with a classic reluctant hero and a cause worth cheering for.” —*Locus*

“**Swift action and strong characterization** make *War of the Flowers* an excellent and original fantasy novel.” —*Library Bookwatch*

“For readers who adore de Lint’s contemporary fantasy, **this is a must-read**; for people who have appreciated anything else that Williams has done, this is also highly recommended. I’m not sure what Williams will try next...but it’s clear that wherever he’s going, it’s worth following.” —*Musing on Books*

“I was caught up in the complexity of Mr. Williams’s imagination, and in the marvelous details of this fay world. This story of war and revolution is **one of those perfect tales**.” —*Center City’s Weekly Press*

“A very **elaborate and fully realized setting** for adventure, intrigue, and more than an occasional chill.” —*SF Chronicle*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Clarence Riley:

Here thing why this particular The War Of The Flowers are different and reliable to be yours. First of all examining a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content of computer which is the content is as delightful as food or not. The War Of The Flowers giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any publication out there but there is no reserve that similar with The War Of The Flowers. It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing that will happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your technique home by train. In case you are having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of The War Of The Flowers in e-book can be your choice.

Della Bailey:

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Sharon Novick:

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Tabitha Devore:

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