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How to Survive a Fantasy Adventure: Teen Edition

*Wizards and wannabes star in new novel geared toward gamers*

FOND DU LAC, Wis. – Fans of fantasy roleplaying games (RPGs) can learn what *not* to do when exploring a new world, thanks to David Michael Williams’ latest novel.

“The Lost Tale of Sir Larpsalot” features a handful of would-be heroes who find themselves woefully unprepared for the adventure they always hoped for.

“It’s what’s called a portal fantasy,” Williams said. “Five Midwestern teens are pulled into another world by a sorceress who confuses them for actual champions. They have to complete her perilous quest in order to get back home.”

“In some ways, it’s every gamer’s dream come true and nightmare rolled into one,” he added.

The Wisconsin author describes his new novel as “Galaxy Quest” meets Dungeons & Dragons. The characters are all live-action roleplaying gamers—aka LARPers—and include Sir Larpsalot, the party leader; musical storyteller Elvish Presley; Brutus the Bullheaded, a surly minotaur; know-it-all Master Prospero; and Tom Foolery, the team’s not-so-stealthy sneak.

While the coming-of-age tale is classified as YA fiction, the book was written to appeal to fantasy aficionados both young and old as well as anyone who enjoys fun-filled, action-heavy adventures—such as teen gamers who aren’t typically drawn to reading.

Unlike Williams’ earlier sword-and-sorcery novels, which all took place in the magical world of Altaerra, “The Lost Tale of Sir Larpsalot” straddles the real world, the fictional setting that the LARPers invented for their game and a brand-new realm filled with creatures they have never encountered, not even in their imaginations.

“The teens have to decide which fantasy clichés can help them overcome obstacles and which could get them killed,” Williams said. “Every chapter starts with a snippet of gaming slang, which somehow fits into the next segment of their crazy quest.”

“This book is my tongue-in-cheek love letter to the fantasy RPGs I grew up playing and continue playing to this day,” he said.

One Million Words, Williams’ indie publishing company, published “The Lost Tale of Sir Larpsalot” on Oct. 6. The paperback and e-book are available at Amazon.com. He plans to narrate and produce the audiobook edition in 2021.

Williams is also the author of four other fantasy novels, including “Magic’s Daughter,” which was released in paperback, e-book, and audiobook editions earlier this year, as well as The Soul Sleep Cycle, a dreampunk series that explores life, death and eternity. He is a 1999 graduate of UW-Fond du Lac and a 2001 graduate of UW-Milwaukee, where he studied creative writing. He has been a member of the Allied Authors of Wisconsin, one of the state’s oldest writing collectives, for the past 15 years.

Learn more about the author and his fiction at david-michael-williams.com.

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*For more information or to set up an interview with the author, contact David Williams at 920-904-5249 or* *author@david-michael-williams.com**. An online press kit featuring high-resolution author portraits and book covers, an extended bio, sample chapters, and a Q&A is available at* [*https://david-michael-williams.com/contact/press-kit*](https://david-michael-williams.com/contact/press-kit/)*.*