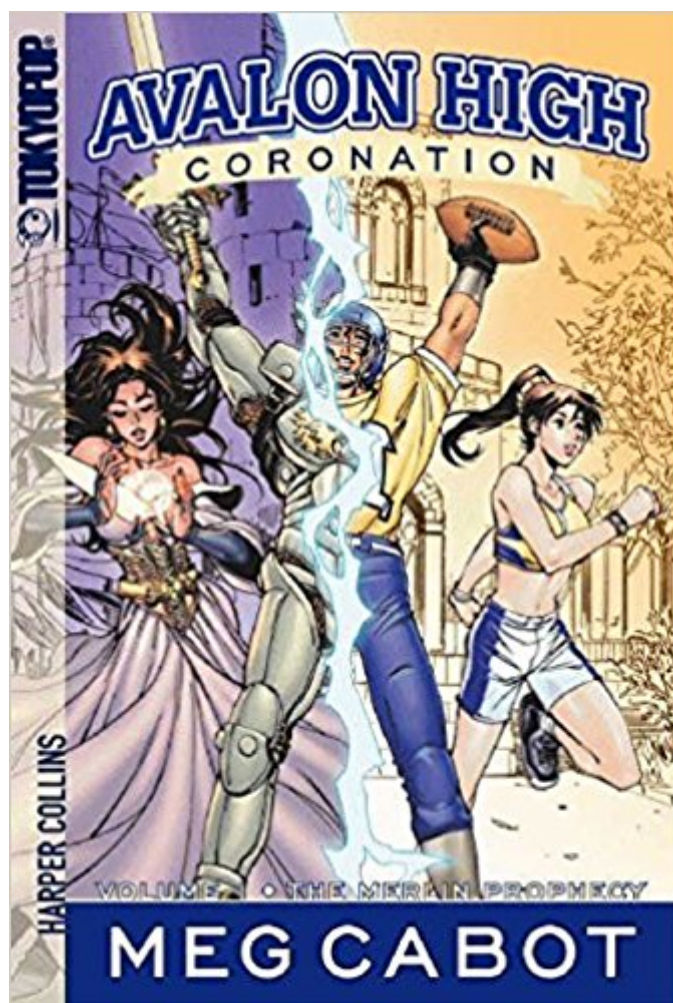


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# The Merlin Prophecy (Avalon High: Coronation, Volume 1)



## Synopsis

Being a new student at Avalon High has been exciting for Ellie, to say the least—she's an honor student, a star on the track team, and, oh yeah, dating the super-hot class president, Will. Who also happens to be the alleged reincarnation of King Arthur. Ellie couldn't be happier to have Will in her life, but she's also worried that his estrangement from his parents is tearing him apart. To make matters worse, Will's doubt that he really is King Arthur could prevent the Merlin Prophecy—an age of enlightenment—from occurring. Can Ellie convince Will to believe in something that even she isn't sure about? And more importantly, can she get him to give his parents another chance? With all the mythology and mysticism of Avalon High, Meg Cabot's very first manga is indeed a tale for the ages.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This manga adaptation of Cabot's 2005 novel tells the story of a perfectly ordinary high school girl—who happens to be dating the reincarnation of King Arthur. Ellie Harrison moves to a new town and a new school, and soon finds herself drawn to Will Wagner, the football star. Her history professor Mr. Morton—or is that Merlin?—believes that Will is the reincarnation of England's legendary king and Ellie is the newborn Lady of the Lake. He enlists her help to persuade Will to accept his duty and conquer evil. The rest of the Arthurian cast is here as well—Lance, Will's best friend; Jennifer, Will's ex-girlfriend; Morgan, the high school's queen bee and Marco, Will's half-brother—and they play out the classic story with a high school

twist. The vivid manga style brings the novel to life, with all the characters svelte and beautifully drawn. Unfortunately, a third of the volume is spent recapping the story so far, making this feel like a later book in a series, rather than the first. The story turns are predictable to anyone familiar with Arthurian myth, and the characters one-dimensional, but this adaptation should appeal to fans of the original work. (July) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Grade 6 Up • The Merlin Prophecy brings to illustrated life the first bit of Cabot's Avalon High (HarperCollins, 2006). When King Arthur fell, the Order of the Bear rose to track each generation's incarnation of him. Now Merlin, otherwise known as Mr. Morton, has found a modern Arthur in Will, the captain of the football team at Avalon High. And it's up to new girl Ellie, otherwise known as the Lady of the Lake, to make sure that he survives an attack by his half-brother Marco, otherwise known as Mordred. Throw in Lance, his girlfriend Jennifer, and mean Morgan, and the round table is nearly complete. Coronado uses more of a traditional black-and-white comic-book format than a true Japanese-style manga (think Archie, not Oh My Goddess!). Though covering just a small bit of the novel, this book is a must for libraries with the usual wealth of Cabot fans. • Sarah Krygier, Solano County Library, Fairfield, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

I picked this one up, hoping to read a story about reincarnated Arthurian heroes and heroines going to high school. This was the first book in the series. Honestly, I felt like the story was being told rather than shown. Half of the stuff covered is told in 'flashbacks' as, Ell's relationship with Will the reincarnated Arthur was already pretty developed. The characters are quite shallow. The plot skips around and never feels real... Like you are seeing small sections all clumsily pasted together. Arthur's half-brother Marco, (obviously Mordred), is insane. Morgan leFay, is a spoiled rich girl. Jennifer is a popular cheerleader etc. All the characters were well-drawn but look like they are drawn way too chesty to be teens. The character-style of Arthur looked far more like how I imagined Lancelot would look, as I just don't see Arthur as a brunette. I have to give the artist credit for nice pencils, even if he made the teen characters look a bit too mature to be high schoolers. Overall, while I liked the art, the plot was simply too silly to be entertaining.

This is just a comic it isn't even a real book. I wish it was a real book that would take you a couple of days. It is just a comic and not worth \$8.99

... that's how I felt after reading the trilogy. I love Meg Cabot's books, I love cartoons and mangas, I love King Arthur and I enjoyed Avalon High. So imagine how disappointed was to read three small cartoons that almost had nothing to add to the story. If you decided to buy don't have big expectations. The graphical isn't that great and all the potential left after the book was wasted.

Avalon High BY: Harper Collins In the beginning of Avalon High is. There was a normal girl and her boy friend. Well the girlfriend found out from this guy. That her boyfriend was the next King Arthur. Well the guy had told her to tell her boyfriend to believe that he was the King Arthur. That was going to be hard for her to tell him that. what I really liked about the book was that it was like regular school day and the other half was fighting. What I did not like was that it was not in color. Maybe my brother would like this book because he likes books like this.

The manga sequel to Avalon High has finally hit the shelves. Ellie's adventures continue (but not until after explaining everything that happened in Avalon High for a third of the book) as she meets our dear Morgana Le Fay, reincarnated as Morgan, Will's (Arthur's) bad half-brother Marco's (Mordred's) girlfriend. Really, what seems to be about all that happens is she sets up the intro of Morgan and at the very end (not really a spoiler because we all knew it had to happen), Marco breaks out of the institute where he was getting "help" after he tried to kill Will in the last book. I was really disappointed in the size of the book. It sits at just barely 110 pages, yet still cost me \$8 to buy. And it really didn't give a lot of new story or plot. I did feel that we got to know Jen and Lance better, and the visuals can be pretty nice. But I think Will's character design is lacking (he does not look like a king, or even a high school class president), and his haircut is horrid. Now, I like shaggy hair on guys, but Will just looks like nobody's bothered to give him a trim in the last few years. The art style is also this hybrid of American comics and Japanese manga style that I don't really like. As I read it, I'm very aware that this is not a Japanese manga, yet is trying to look like one. TokyoPop is trying to sell this as a manga, implying that it is Japanese in style, yet it doesn't really follow any of the standards. There are no silly places (like when the characters go chibi or you see humorous background images, elements that even "serious" manga tend to have), the lines are very dark, the panel set up is traditional American comic, and it just doesn't have a manga to feel to it. Granted it's hard to get American manga that turns out well, and many manga fans won't count anything that wasn't Japanese first. I think one American manga that worked was TokyoPop's Van Von Hunter, which follows the same conventions and tropes of a manga. I think maybe it's the faces in the case

of Avalon High. The artist is trying to follow traditional American comic style faces, with defined eyes and noses, but then again, maybe it's not that. All I know is that as I read it, I was very aware that it was not a manga and that disappointed me. I had much higher hopes for TokyoPop's new crossovers with HarperCollins. Overall, I kind of wish Meg Cabot had just written another book. It's nice to visually see the characters, and it does give more room for development for the minor characters, but it was just too short and didn't translate that well. I think an illustrated novel might actually be the best way to go for the Avalon High books. Let us get some visual pictures of the characters, but still let Meg write the text. Meg is good at engaging the reader in the story, though, unfortunately, her characters often fall flat and are stereotypical, and I think the manga version brings out these negative qualities even more. Still, I am buying the next one. Even at \$8 a pop, I'll get it and read it. But, I'll have to see after that if I want to buy it any more or not. I was excited about these books, and I still am, because I'm interested in modern interpretations of the Arthurian Legends, and the mixing in of high school drama is really intriguing to me.

This is the second graphic novel I've ever read. I'm starting to wonder why I went so long without reading them. This is a great one! King Author has been reincarnated as a high school boy. The problem is, he doesn't believe it. If he can't accept who he is, the prophecy will come true and the world will end. Can Ellie convince him of his true identity, or will she fail? Definitely a must read for all graphic novel readers and Meg Cabot fans. Loved it!

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