



# These Our Monsters and Other Stories

The English Heritage Book of New Folktale, Myth and Legend

Edited by Katherine Davey

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- Well-known contemporary authors, and the atmospheric historical sites chosen by them, are:
- Edward Carey - Bury St Edmunds Abbey
- Sarah Hall - Castlerigg and other stone circles
- Paul Kingsnorth - Stonehenge
- Alison MacLeod - Down House
- Graeme Macrae Burnet - Whitby Abbey
- Sarah Moss - Berwick Castle
- Fiona Mozley - Carlisle Castle
- Adam Thorpe - Tintagel Castle
- With original black-and-white illustrations by Clive Hicks-Jenkins and an essay on the 'truth' behind the many legends attached to our historical sites, by historian Charles Kightly

From the legends of King Arthur's origins embedded in the rocky splendour of Tintagel to the folklore and mysticism of Stonehenge, English Heritage sites are often closely linked to native English myths. Following on from the bestselling ghost story anthology *Eight Ghosts*, this collection of stories by contemporary authors is inspired by the legends that live on in eight ancient historical sites.

Including an essay by journalist James Kidd on the importance of myth to our landscape and our fiction, and an English Heritage discussion on the 'truth' behind the many legends attached to our historical sites by the historian Charles Kightly, ***These Our Monsters*** is an evocative collection that brings new voices and fresh creative alchemy to our story-telling heritage.

**Contributing authors:** **Edward Carey:** Writer and illustrator whose books include *Observatory Mansions* and *Alva and Irva: the Twins Who Saved a City*, and of the YA *Iremonger Trilogy*, which have all been translated into many different languages and all of which he illustrated. **Alison MacLeod:** Alison MacLeod's most recent book, *Tenderness*, was named *Sunday Times* Paperback of the Year 2022. **Paul Kingsnorth** is the author of three collections of poetry, four non-fiction books, which explore the nature of technological modernity, and three novels. **Sarah Hall**, twice nominated for the Booker Prize and two-time BBC Short Story Award winner, is the author of ten novels and a short story collections. **Graeme Macrae Burnet** is the author of six novels, including *Benbecula*, the Booker shortlisted *His Bloody Project*, Booker longlisted *Case Study* and the *Georges Gorski* trilogy. **Sarah Moss** is the author of ten novels, the latest of which, *A Winter Guest*, is due out in 2026, and two memoirs, including *My Good Bright Wolf*, which won the Saltire Non-fiction Book of the Year award in 2025. **Fiona Mozley** is the author of two novels, *Elmet* and *Hot Stew*, and several short stories, and a winner of a Somerset Maugham Award and The Polari Prize. **Adam Thorpe** is the author of 12 novels and various collections of poetry, short stories, non-fiction, a stage play, many radio plays and broadcasts, and numerous reviews. **Clive Hicks-Jenkins** (illustrator) is a Welsh artist celebrated for his narrative paintings and profound connection to folklore and fairytales. **James Kidd** is a freelance writer and his writing has appeared in *The Independent*, the *Literary Review*, the *Observer*, *Esquire*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *South China Morning Post*, *The National* and *Time Out*, among others. **Charles Kightly** lives in the East Riding of Yorkshire and in Radnorshire in the Welsh Marches. A professional historian, he has particular interests in the late medieval period (the period of his PhD) and the 17th century.

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