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THE FRAGILE LAND

SIMON MUNDY

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY KATE MILSOM

- From the pen of an acclaimed writer.
- · A retelling of the King Arthur legend, one of Britain's most loved tales.
- One of the relaunch titles under Hay Press, now an imprint of Renard Press.
- Features a beautifully illustrated map and cover illustrations by acclaimed artist Kate Milsom.

Stories surrounding the legendary King Arthur have been told since time immemorial, and every generation has a new take on the tale. The Fragile Land approaches the legend from a radical angle, setting it firmly in the post-Roman world of late fifth-century Europe, when the language of Britannia was still Brythonic and the Saxons had not yet superimposed their own place names.

The Fragile Land chronicles the crucial years of Arthur's life, from the age of fifteen into his early thirties, as he comes to the fore as elected Overlord, empowered to confront the Barbarian threat and to keep the factious leaders of the island's kingdoms in some sort of political alliance. Enhanced by a beautifully illustrated map by the artist Kate Milsom, Simon Mundy's cunningly woven tale of an island in unrest draws subtle parallels with contemporary cultural disputes and casts the legend in a whole new light.

'Mundy can be cheeky, he can be rueful, but he is always passionate.' (on By Fax to Alice Springs)

DALJIT NAGRA

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Simon Mundy studied drama at university, but soon veered towards writing poetry and reviews, and at 23 he found himself a music critic and arts journalist. A champion of the arts, he has served as Director of the National Campaign for the Arts and Vice-President of PEN International's Writers for Peace Committee, and he co-founded the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage; he remains an adviser to the European Festivals Association. His writing includes biographies, novels, non-fiction, playscripts and poetry.