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*Multimillion-copy bestselling author Gregory Maguire unveils the first in a three-book series spun off the iconic *Wicked Years*, featuring Elphaba's granddaughter, the green-skinned Rain.*

THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

GREGORY MAGUIRE



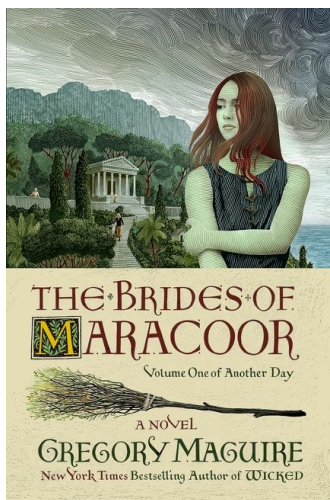
“An expertly crafted introduction to a new series of magic and adventure.”

—*Kirkus Reviews* ***Starred Review***

“*The Brides of Maracoor* once again shows Maguire’s rich, mesmerizing world building, full of small, frustrating human absurdities—from the silliness of government norms to the small betrayals within a family. It also shows off his gift for crafting compelling characters—Helia, the eldest bride, is a fascinating matriarch, and Lucikles is a relatable man just trying to do his job without alienating or losing his family. It’s an intriguing, witty start to a fantastical proposed trilogy.”

—*Booklist*

“Maguire cleverly teases out the characters’ motivations and desires, turning what at first appears to be a straightforward tale into a gripping page-turner. Fans will revel in this triumphant return to the world of *Wicked*.”—*Publishers Weekly*



William Morrow is thrilled to announce the return of a beloved, extraordinary global sensation this fall: **THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR**, the first book in a new *Wicked* spin-off sequel series by *New York Times* bestselling author Gregory Maguire (on sale October 12, 2021). Featuring the brilliant imagination that made *Wicked* into the multimillion-copy-bestselling novel, Tony Award-winning Broadway musical, and cultural phenomenon we know today, **THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR** welcomes Elphaba’s granddaughter and a few familiar faces from Oz—all in a fantastically new setting filled with a new and compelling cast of characters. Gregory’s storytelling consistently inspires raves from critics who have found his novels “mystical and filled with wonder” (*People Magazine*), “inventive” (*BuzzFeed*), and imbued with a “fresh perspective” (*Entertainment Weekly*). In **THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR**, he combines all these elements and more to produce this highly anticipated and supremely entertaining read.

Luminous, enchanting, and rendered in elegant prose, **THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR** finds Elphaba’s granddaughter, Rain, washing ashore on a foreign island, Maracoor Spot. Comatose from crashing into the sea, Rain is taken in by a community of seven “brides” committed to obscure devotional practices seemingly necessary to the existence of this universe. Like Elphaba, the young and vibrantly green-skinned Rain is a misunderstood born leader who instantly upends the lives and orderly ways of those around her. Meanwhile, as the mainland of Maracoor suffers an assault by a foreign navy, the island’s civil-servant overseer struggles to understand how an alien arriving on the shores of Maracoor Spot could threaten the stability and well-being of an entire nation. Is it myth or magic at work, for good or for ill?

The *Another Day* trilogy will follow this green-skinned girl from the island outpost into the unmapped badlands of Maracoor before she learns how, and becomes ready, to turn her broom homeward, back to her family and her lover, and back to the lands of Oz, which—in its beauty, suffering, mystery, injustice, and possibility—mirrors and reminds us all too clearly of the troubled yet sacred terrain of our own lives.



PRAISE FOR *WICKED*

“Maguire did something truly remarkable with this novel, in managing to inhabit, enlarge, deepen and find new dimensions in a world that had been invented by another writer, and in doing so make something entirely new. It’s an astonishing achievement.”—**Philip Pullman on *WICKED***

“At the heart of this remarkable, unforgettable novel is a wildly original premise—one that only a writer with Gregory Maguire’s intellect and daring could have dreamed up: that the Wicked Witch of the West was a real woman, with an actual name, and her own story to tell. It was radical when Gregory first wrote it, and remains radical. It has the power to reshape one’s view of the world.”
—**Winnie Holzman, cocreator of *Wicked: The Musical*, on *WICKED***

“It’s a staggering feat of wordcraft, made no less so by the fact that its boundaries were set decades ago by somebody else. Maguire’s larger triumph here is twofold: First, in *Elphaba*, he has created (re-created? renovated?) one of the great heroines in fantasy literature: a fiery, passionate, unforgettable and ultimately tragic figure. Second, *Wicked* is the best fantasy novel of ideas I’ve read since Mervyn Peake’s *Gormenghast* or Frank Herbert’s *Dune*. Would that all books with this much innate consumer appeal were also this good. And vice versa.”—***Los Angeles Times* on *WICKED***

“Gregory gets the complications and uniqueness of women very well.”
—**Kristen Chenoweth, Broadway’s original Glinda, on *WICKED***

“I knew that Gregory Maguire had come up with a genius idea the moment I heard about *Wicked*. It’s a book that has changed a lot of lives, including mine.”
—**Stephen Schwartz, composer and lyricist of *Wicked: The Musical*, on *WICKED***

“Long before there was any thought of a musical, I read *Wicked*. I felt a quiet joy that sisterhood had made its way to the Yellow Brick Road. What happens when a witch, green or otherwise, gets to tell her own story instead of being vilified and misrepresented by dominant cultural authority? We witches know how that turns out!”—**Holly Near, American singer-songwriter, on *WICKED***

“Amazing novel.”—**John Updike, *The New Yorker*, on *WICKED***

“I fell quickly and totally under the spell of this remarkable, wry, and fully realized story. Maguire’s adult fable examines some of literature’s major themes: moral ambiguity, the nature of evil, the bittersweet dividends of power, the high costs of love. *Elphaba*—the Wicked Witch of the West—is as scary as ever, but this time in a different way: She’s undeniably human. She’s us.”
—**Wally Lamb, author of *She’s Come Undone* and *I Know This Much is True*, on *WICKED***

“An outstanding work of imagination.”—***USA Today* on *WICKED***

About the Author

Gregory Maguire is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Wild Winter Swan*; *Hiddensee*; *After Alice*; *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*; *Lost*; *Mirror Mirror*; and the *Wicked Years*, a series that includes *Wicked*—the beloved classic that is the basis for the blockbuster Tony Award-winning Broadway musical of the same name—*Son of a Witch*, *A Lion Among Men*, and *Out of Oz*. Maguire has lectured on art, literature, and culture both at home and abroad. He lives with his family in New England and in France.

About the Book

THE BRIDES OF MARACCOOR: A Novel by Gregory Maguire

William Morrow | On Sale: 10/12/2021 | Hardcover | ISBN: 9780063093966 | \$28.99

Also available in E-Book | E-Book ISBN: 9780063093980 | \$14.99