

philip pullman the book of dust

philip pullman the book of dust is a captivating continuation of the acclaimed His Dark Materials trilogy, inviting readers into a richly imagined universe filled with adventure, philosophical pondering, and complex characters. This series, authored by the celebrated British writer Philip Pullman, has cemented itself as a cornerstone of modern fantasy literature. With "The Book of Dust," Pullman expands on the themes of innocence, knowledge, and the nature of consciousness, offering both longtime fans and newcomers a compelling exploration of a universe teeming with wonder and moral ambiguity.

Overview of Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust

The "Book of Dust" is a series of novels that serves as both prequel and sequel to the original His Dark Materials trilogy. It delves into the origins of key characters and the intricate universe Pullman has crafted, blending fantastical elements with philosophical questions about faith, free will, and the nature of the soul.

Publication History and Reception

- The first book in the series, *La Belle Sauvage*, was published in 2017 and received critical acclaim for its rich storytelling and depth.
- The second installment, *The Secret Commonwealth*, was released in 2019, further expanding the universe and exploring themes of modernity and spirituality.
- The series has been praised for its literary quality, imaginative scope, and its ability to provoke thought on complex issues.

The reception from both critics and readers highlights how Pullman's work continues to resonate, especially in an era increasingly concerned with questions of belief, technology, and human nature.

Key Themes in The Book of Dust

Pullman's "The Book of Dust" weaves a tapestry of themes that challenge and inspire readers:

1. The Nature of Consciousness and Free Will

Pullman explores how consciousness develops and the importance of free will in shaping identity. The series questions whether humans are truly autonomous or influenced by external forces like religion or society.

2. The Conflict Between Science and Religion

A recurring motif, Pullman examines the tension between scientific inquiry and religious dogma, encouraging readers to question authority and seek knowledge.

3. Childhood Innocence and Coming of Age

Much like the original trilogy, the series emphasizes the loss of innocence and the journey toward maturity, often juxtaposing adult themes with child protagonists.

4. Moral Ambiguity and Ethical Dilemmas

Characters frequently face complex choices that highlight the gray areas of morality, prompting reflection on justice, loyalty, and compassion.

5. The Power of Stories and Mythology

Pullman underscores the importance of storytelling as a means of understanding the world and ourselves, weaving mythic elements throughout the narrative.

Main Characters in The Book of Dust

The series introduces a host of memorable characters, each contributing uniquely to the narrative:

Lyra Belacqua

- The protagonist of the original trilogy, Lyra is now a young woman

navigating her identity amid new challenges.

- Her curiosity and rebellious spirit remain central to the story.

Malcolm Polstead

- A clever and resourceful boy whose adventures intersect with Lyra's.
- Represents innocence and bravery.

Dr. Lancelius

- A wise scholar and guardian figure who offers guidance and wisdom.

New Characters

- The series also introduces new characters, such as folk from the world of the book's universe, each adding depth and perspective.

Plot Summary of The Book of Dust

While avoiding spoilers, here's an overview of the overarching storyline:

La Belle Sauvage

- Set during Lyra's infancy, the novel follows the journey of Malcolm and the young Lyra as they navigate a dangerous world threatened by religious and political forces.
- Themes of loyalty, faith, and the fight for knowledge are central as Malcolm protects Lyra and uncovers secrets about the universe.

The Secret Commonwealth

- This sequel delves into Lyra's life as a young adult, confronting the complexities of modern society, technology, and spiritual beliefs.
- It explores her struggles with her identity and her role in the cosmic balance.

Symbolism and Literary Devices in The Book of Dust

Pullman's writing is rich with symbolism and sophisticated literary techniques:

- Alethiometer: The truth-telling device from the original trilogy reappears, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge and truth.
- Dust: A metaphysical substance representing consciousness and the soul, central to the series' philosophical questions.
- Mythic Elements: Incorporation of myth and allegory to deepen themes and character arcs.

Where to Read Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust

For fans eager to dive into the series, here are some tips:

- Start with *La Belle Sauvage* if you are new to the universe, as it provides essential background.
- Read in chronological order to follow character development and plot progression.
- Available Formats:
 - Hardcover and paperback editions
 - E-books for digital readers
 - Audiobooks narrated by engaging voice actors

Popular bookstores and online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and local independent shops stock the series.

Why Read Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust?

Pullman's series offers numerous benefits to readers of all ages:

- Stimulates Critical Thinking: Encourages questioning authority, religion, and societal norms.
- Expands Imagination: Features vividly detailed worlds and characters that ignite creativity.
- Provides Philosophical Insight: Explores profound questions about existence, morality, and spirituality.
- Engages in Timeless Themes: Deals with universal issues like innocence, knowledge, and the struggle between good and evil.

Comparison to the Original His Dark Materials Trilogy

While "The Book of Dust" stands on its own, it also complements the original trilogy:

- Continuity of Characters: Features familiar characters like Lyra, but also introduces new perspectives.
- Thematic Depth: Continues to challenge religious and philosophical beliefs.
- Expanded Universe: Offers a broader view of the universe, revealing its origins and inner workings.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of Philip Pullman's The Book of Dust

Philip Pullman's "The Book of Dust" continues to captivate audiences with its imaginative storytelling and profound exploration of human nature. Its rich symbolism, complex characters, and thought-provoking themes make it a must-read for fans of fantasy, philosophy, and literature. Whether you're revisiting Lyra's adventures or discovering new characters and worlds, Pullman's series invites readers to ponder the mysteries of consciousness, the importance of stories, and the eternal quest for truth.

Final Thoughts

- For Fans of Fantasy and Philosophy: The series offers a compelling blend of adventure and intellectual inquiry.
- For New Readers: It provides an accessible yet profound entry into a universe that challenges perceptions and encourages reflection.
- Overall: Philip Pullman's "The Book of Dust" stands as a testament to the power of storytelling to explore the deepest questions of existence and morality.

Embark on this journey today and discover why Philip Pullman's work remains a beacon of imaginative and philosophical excellence in contemporary literature.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main storyline of Philip Pullman's 'The Book of Dust'?

The Book of Dust follows the adventures of Lyra Belacqua and new characters as they navigate a universe filled with magic, daemons, and ancient mysteries, exploring themes of consciousness, authority, and innocence.

How does 'The Book of Dust' connect to Philip Pullman's 'His Dark Materials' trilogy?

'The Book of Dust' is a companion series that expands on the universe introduced in 'His Dark Materials,' featuring some familiar characters like Lyra and exploring events that occur before and after the original trilogy.

Who are the main characters in 'The Book of Dust'?

The series primarily follows Lyra Belacqua, her daemon Pantalaimon, and new characters such as Malcolm Polstead, as they encounter extraordinary adventures and challenges in a richly built universe.

When was 'The Book of Dust' published, and how many books are planned in the series?

The first book, 'La Belle Sauvage,' was published in 2017, and the subsequent book, 'The Secret Commonwealth,' was released in 2019. Philip Pullman has indicated plans for a trilogy, with a third book anticipated in the future.

What themes are explored in 'The Book of Dust'?

The series explores themes such as innocence versus experience, the nature of consciousness, authority and rebellion, the power of stories, and the conflict between science and religion.

Is 'The Book of Dust' suitable for new readers unfamiliar with 'His Dark Materials'?

While new readers can enjoy 'The Book of Dust' independently, familiarity with 'His Dark Materials' enhances understanding, as the series shares characters and universe elements. However, Pullman provides enough context for newcomers.

What has been the critical reception of 'The Book of

Dust'?

The series has received positive reviews for its imaginative world-building, complex characters, and thought-provoking themes, though some critics note it is more complex and mature compared to the original trilogy.

Are there any adaptations of 'The Book of Dust' in development?

As of now, there have been reports of adaptations, including a BBC Radio drama and discussions about a television series, but no official film or TV adaptation has been released yet.

Additional Resources

Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust* is a compelling addition to the universe of his acclaimed *His Dark Materials* series, offering readers a rich tapestry of adventure, philosophy, and intricate storytelling. As a long-awaited sequel and companion to the original trilogy, this book continues to explore the complex relationship between humanity, consciousness, and the mystical worlds that Pullman has masterfully crafted. With its vivid characters, layered narrative, and thought-provoking themes, *The Book of Dust* stands as a testament to Pullman's storytelling prowess and his ability to engage both new readers and longtime fans alike.

Overview of The Book of Dust

Background and Context

The Book of Dust is a trilogy that serves as both a prequel and a sequel to Pullman's beloved *His Dark Materials* series. The first volume, *La Belle Sauvage*, was published in 2017, and it takes place in the early years of Lyra Belacqua's life, exploring her origins and the world she inhabits. The second volume, *The Secret Commonwealth*, was released in 2019, delving into Lyra's adolescence and the complex moral dilemmas she faces.

Pullman's decision to expand this universe stems from his desire to explore deeper philosophical questions about innocence, experience, and the nature of consciousness. The third installment, which is anticipated to conclude the series, promises to further delve into these themes, tying together the threads from the previous books.

Plot Summary

While the complete narrative details are best experienced firsthand, the overarching plot of *The Book of Dust* revolves around a young boy named Malcolm Polstead and his dæmon, Asta. Malcolm is a curious and resourceful boy living in Oxford, and his life takes a dramatic turn when he becomes embroiled in a conflict involving mysterious artifacts, secret societies, and powerful forces seeking to control knowledge and truth.

The story weaves through themes of innocence lost, the power of storytelling, and the struggle between authoritarian regimes and individual freedom. Malcolm's journey is intertwined with Lyra's story, setting up a complex narrative that explores the interconnectedness of their worlds. As the plot unfolds, readers are introduced to new characters and worlds, each layered with Pullman's signature philosophical depth and vivid imagination.

Themes and Philosophical Underpinnings

Exploration of Consciousness and Identity

Pullman's work consistently grapples with questions about the nature of consciousness, the soul, and identity. In *The Book of Dust*, these themes are explored through Malcolm's relationship with his dæmon, Asta, and how their bond evolves amidst external chaos. The narrative questions what it means to be truly oneself and how external influences can shape or threaten individual identity.

Innocence vs. Experience

A recurring motif in Pullman's universe is the tension between innocence and experience. The story examines how innocence can be both a shield and a vulnerability, especially in a world rife with political and moral corruption. Malcolm's journey is one of awakening, where he must navigate the loss of innocence and confront uncomfortable truths.

Power, Authority, and Resistance

Pullman critiques authoritarian power structures that seek to suppress knowledge and manipulate truth. In *The Book of Dust*, characters confront oppressive regimes, secret societies, and the control of information. The

narrative champions resistance, curiosity, and the pursuit of truth as vital human (and non-human) endeavors.

Character Analysis

Malcolm Polstead

Malcolm is portrayed as a brave, curious, and morally upright child. His intelligence and moral compass make him a compelling protagonist, embodying the themes of innocence confronted with a complex world. His relationship with his dæmon, Asta, highlights the series' exploration of consciousness and self-awareness.

Pros:

- Well-developed character arc that resonates with young readers and adults alike.
- Embodies curiosity and moral integrity.
- Engages readers with his resourcefulness and bravery.

Cons:

- Some readers might find Malcolm's character somewhat idealized or less layered compared to Lyra.
- Young protagonist perspective may be less appealing to readers seeking darker, more mature themes.

Lyra Belacqua

While Lyra's role is more prominent in *The Secret Commonwealth*, her presence in *The Book of Dust* offers fans a glimpse into her continued development. She remains a symbol of resilience and curiosity, navigating her own challenges and moral questions.

Supporting Characters

Pullman introduces a host of intriguing characters, including scholars, villains, and mystical beings. Each adds depth to the narrative, enriching the universe with their unique perspectives and motives.

Writing Style and Narrative Technique

Pullman's prose is elegant, accessible, and richly descriptive. His mastery of language breathes life into his worlds, making Oxford and the other settings feel tangible and immersive. The narrative employs a third-person perspective, allowing insights into multiple characters' thoughts and motivations.

Pullman's storytelling balances action with philosophical reflection, encouraging readers to ponder profound questions without feeling overwhelmed by complexity. The pacing is dynamic, with moments of introspection punctuated by thrilling developments.

Strengths of The Book of Dust

- Rich World-Building: The detailed settings, from Oxford to fantastical worlds, create an immersive experience.
- Philosophical Depth: Engages readers with meaningful questions about consciousness, morality, and freedom.
- Strong Characterization: Complex characters with compelling arcs.
- Elegant Writing: Pullman's lyrical prose enhances the storytelling.
- Continuity with Series: Seamlessly connects with the original His Dark Materials universe, rewarding long-time fans.

Weaknesses and Challenges

- Complex Themes for Younger Readers: While accessible, some philosophical aspects may be challenging for younger audiences.
- Pacing Variability: Some readers might find certain sections slow or overly introspective.
- Expectations and Comparisons: Fans of the original series may have high expectations, leading to potential disappointment if the story diverges from their preferences.
- Series Development: As part of a trilogy, the book's full impact is best appreciated when read in conjunction with the other installments, which may require patience.

Conclusion: Is The Book of Dust Worth Reading?

Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust* stands as a worthy continuation and expansion of his masterful universe. It offers a blend of adventure, philosophical inquiry, and beautifully crafted storytelling that appeals to a broad audience. Whether you are a dedicated fan of *His Dark Materials* or a newcomer intrigued by Pullman's world, this book invites reflection on the nature of consciousness, morality, and the importance of curiosity.

While it may challenge some readers with its depth and pacing, the rewards are substantial—thought-provoking themes, memorable characters, and a richly imagined universe. Overall, *The Book of Dust* is a significant literary work that not only entertains but also encourages readers to question and explore the fundamental aspects of human existence.

Pros:

- Deep philosophical engagement
- Vivid storytelling and world-building
- Strong, relatable characters
- Complements and enriches the original series

Cons:

- May be complex for younger audiences
- Pacing issues for some readers
- High expectations from fans

In summary, Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust* is a compelling addition to modern fantasy literature, offering both entertainment and intellectual stimulation. It is a must-read for those who appreciate stories that challenge the mind while captivating the imagination.

[Philip Pullman The Book Of Dust](#)

philip pullman the book of dust: The Rose Field: The Book of Dust Volume Three Philip Pullman, 2025-10-23

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust: La Belle Sauvage Collector's Edition (Book of Dust, Volume 1)* Philip Pullman, 2018-09-18 The deluxe edition of Philip Pullman's bestselling return to the parallel world of *His Dark Materials*! Includes gorgeous full-page illustrations! Don't miss Volume II of *The Book of Dust: The Secret Commonwealth*! This first book in a new trilogy was hailed as an instant classic. In it we learn more about the origins of Lyra—one of fantasy's most indelible heroines (*The New York Times Magazine*)—meet a stalwart new hero with a pivotal role to play in keeping Lyra safe, and catch our first glimpse of the ever elusive substance known as Dust. This impeccably designed and produced collector's edition includes beautiful new illustrations from cover artist Chris Wormell and an exclusive interview with Philip Pullman about writing *La Belle Sauvage*. Don't miss the second volume, *The Secret Commonwealth*! PRAISE FOR THE BOOK OF DUST: LA BELLE SAUVAGE Too few things in our world are worth a seventeen-year wait: *The Book of Dust* is one of them. —*The Washington Post* The book is full of wonder. . . . Truly thrilling. —*The*

New York Times People will love the first volume of Philip Pullman's new trilogy with the same helpless vehemence that stole over them when *The Golden Compass* came out. —Slate

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust: La Belle Sauvage* (Book of Dust, Volume 1) Philip Pullman, 2017-10-19 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Philip Pullman returns to the parallel world of His Dark Materials to expand on the story of Lyra, “one of fantasy’s most indelible heroines” (*The New York Times Magazine*). Don’t miss Volume II of *The Book of Dust: The Secret Commonwealth!* Malcolm Polstead and his daemon, Asta, are used to overhearing news and the occasional scandal at the inn run by his family. But during a winter of unceasing rain, Malcolm finds a mysterious object—and finds himself in grave danger. Inside the object is a cryptic message about something called Dust; and it’s not long before Malcolm is approached by the spy for whom this message was actually intended. When she asks Malcolm to keep his eyes open, he begins to notice suspicious characters everywhere: the explorer Lord Asriel, clearly on the run; enforcement agents from the Magisterium; a gyptian named Coram with warnings just for Malcolm; and a beautiful woman with an evil monkey for a daemon. All are asking about the same thing: a girl—just a baby—named Lyra. Lyra is at the center of a storm, and Malcolm will brave any peril, and make shocking sacrifices, to bring her safely through it. “Too few things in our world are worth a seventeen-year wait: *The Book of Dust* is one of them.” —*The Washington Post* “The book is full of wonder. . . . Truly thrilling.” —*The New York Times* “People will love the first volume of Philip Pullman’s new trilogy with the same helpless vehemence that stole over them when *The Golden Compass* came out.” —Slate

philip pullman the book of dust: *La Belle Sauvage: The Book of Dust Volume One* Philip Pullman, 2017-10-19 WINNER- AUTHOR OF THE YEAR, BRITISH BOOK AWARDS SHORTLISTED- UK AUTHOR CATEGORY, NATIONAL BOOK AWARDS 2018 Philip Pullman's magnificent bestseller is now in paperback, with new additional illustrations. A coming of age story like no other . . . Malcolm Polstead's Oxford life has been one of routine, ordinary even. He is happiest playing with his daemon, Asta, in their canoe, *La Belle Sauvage*. But now as the rain builds, the world around Malcolm and Asta is, it seems, set to become increasingly far from ordinary. Finding himself linked to a baby by the name of Lyra Belacqua, Malcolm is forced to undertake the challenge of his life and to make a dangerous journey that will change him and Lyra for ever . . .

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust: La Belle Sauvage* (Book of Dust, Volume 1) Philip Pullman, 2017-10-19 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Philip Pullman returns to the parallel world of His Dark Materials to expand on the story of Lyra, “one of fantasy’s most indelible heroines” (*The New York Times Magazine*). Don’t miss Volume II of *The Book of Dust: The Secret Commonwealth!* Malcolm Polstead and his daemon, Asta, are used to overhearing news and the occasional scandal at the inn run by his family. But during a winter of unceasing rain, Malcolm finds a mysterious object—and finds himself in grave danger. Inside the object is a cryptic message about something called Dust; and it’s not long before Malcolm is approached by the spy for whom this message was actually intended. When she asks Malcolm to keep his eyes open, he begins to notice suspicious characters everywhere: the explorer Lord Asriel, clearly on the run; enforcement agents from the Magisterium; a gyptian named Coram with warnings just for Malcolm; and a beautiful woman with an evil monkey for a daemon. All are asking about the same thing: a girl—just a baby—named Lyra. Lyra is at the center of a storm, and Malcolm will brave any peril, and make shocking sacrifices, to bring her safely through it. “Too few things in our world are worth a seventeen-year wait: *The Book of Dust* is one of them.” —*The Washington Post* “The book is full of wonder. . . . Truly thrilling.” —*The New York Times* “People will love the first volume of Philip Pullman’s new trilogy with the same helpless vehemence that stole over them when *The Golden Compass* came out.” —Slate

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust (NHB Modern Plays)* Philip Pullman, 2021-12-09 Two young people and their dæmons, with everything at stake, find themselves at the centre of a terrifying manhunt. In their care is a tiny child called Lyra Belacqua, and in that child lies the fate of the future. As the waters rise around them, powerful adversaries conspire for mastery of

Dust: salvation to some, the source of infinite corruption to others. Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust - La Belle Sauvage* is set twelve years before the epic *His Dark Materials* trilogy. Bryony Lavery's stage adaptation was first performed at the Bridge Theatre, London, in December 2021, directed by Nicholas Hytner, whose groundbreaking production of *His Dark Materials* was a critical and commercial success at the National Theatre. 'Once in a lifetime a children's author emerges who is so extraordinary that the imagination of generations is altered' *New Statesman* on Philip Pullman 'High-octane adventure accompanies ingenious plotting during Lyra's extended journey in a canoe down a dangerously flooded Thames' *The Times* on Philip Pullman's novel 'An imaginative adaptation which keeps alive the wit and excitement of the book' *Guardian* on Bryony Lavery's version of *Treasure Island*

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust: The Rose Field (Book of Dust, Volume 3)* Philip Pullman, 2025-10-23 The breathtaking conclusion to Philip Pullman's *Book of Dust*! This landmark trilogy, set in the world readers first glimpsed in *The Golden Compass*, continues the story of Lyra: "one of fantasy's most indelible heroines" (*The New York Times Magazine*). "It's a stunning achievement, this universe Pullman has created and continues to build on." —*The New York Times* Picking up right where *The Secret Commonwealth* left off, this story finds Lyra alone in a city haunted by daemons, searching for her beloved Pan. Malcolm Polstead isn't far behind, searching for Lyra. And they are both racing toward the desert of Karamakan, following the trail of roses said to hold the secret of Dust. Their allies and enemies are converging on the mysterious red building at the heart of the desert: Marcel Delamare and the military might of the Magisterium; the radical Men from the Mountains; scientists, scholars and spies; troops of witches and other people of the air. And awaiting them all is a previously unseen and chilling new threat that will change everything. The intertwining odysseys of Malcolm and Lyra, their journeys both internal and external, will test their limits and challenge even their most dearly held beliefs. As ever, Philip Pullman is using the language of fantasy to illuminate our world and to explore the deepest questions of what it means to be alive and awake to all the splendors and horrors around us. The extraordinary novels of *The Book of Dust* speak powerfully to today's readers and will take their place alongside the forever-favorites of *His Dark Materials*.

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust 01. La Belle Sauvage* Philip Pullman, 2017 When Malcolm finds a secret message inquiring about a dangerous substance called Dust, he finds himself embroiled in a tale of intrigue featuring enforcement agents from the Magisterium, a woman with an evil monkey daemon, and a baby named Lyra.

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Book of Dust: The Secret Commonwealth (Book of Dust, Volume 2)* Philip Pullman, 2019-10-03 The #1 *New York Times* Bestseller! Return to the world of *His Dark Materials* in the second volume of Philip Pullman's new bestselling masterwork *The Book of Dust*. The windows between the many worlds have been sealed and the momentous adventures of Lyra Silvertongue's youth are long behind her—or so she thought. Lyra is now a twenty-year-old undergraduate at St. Sophia's College and intrigue is swirling around her once more. Her daemon Pantalaimon is witness to a brutal murder, and the dying man entrusts them with secrets that carry echoes from their past. The more Lyra is drawn into these mysteries, the less she is sure of. Even the events of her own past come into question when she learns of Malcolm Polstead's role in bringing her to Jordan College. Now Lyra and Malcolm will travel far beyond the confines of Oxford, across Europe and into the Levant, searching for a city haunted by daemons, and a desert said to hold the truth of Dust. The dangers they face will challenge everything they thought they knew about the world, and about themselves. Praise for *The Book of Dust* "It's a stunning achievement, this universe Pullman has created and continues to build on." —*The New York Times* "Pullman's writing is simple, unpretentious, beautiful, true. The conclusion to *The Book of Dust* can't come soon enough." —*The Washington Post*

philip pullman the book of dust: *The Secret Commonwealth: the Book of Dust Volume Two* Philip Pullman, 2020 Lyra Silvertongue is now studying at St Sophia's College, Oxford, with her daemon Pantalaimon. They are not getting on. Lyra is questioning everything she once held dear. Pan

misses the impulsiveness of their youth. When an act of terrible violence breaks the peace of the Oxford night, Lyra and Pan's relationship reaches a crisis and they are drawn, far from home, into the dangerous factions of a world they had no idea existed. [penguin.com].

philip pullman the book of dust: The Secret Commonwealth Philip Pullman, 2019-10-03 It is twenty years since the events of *La Belle Sauvage: The Book of Dust Volume One* unfolded and saw the baby Lyra Belacqua begin her life-changing journey. It is almost ten years since readers left Lyra and the love of her young life, Will Parry, on a park bench in Oxford's Botanic Gardens at the end of the ground-breaking, bestselling *His Dark Materials* sequence. Now, in *The Secret Commonwealth*, we meet Lyra Silvertongue. And she is no longer a child . . . The second volume of Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust* sees Lyra, now twenty years old, and her daemon Pantalaimon, forced to navigate their relationship in a way they could never have imagined, and drawn into the complex and dangerous factions of a world that they had no idea existed. Pulled along on his own journey too is Malcolm; once a boy with a boat and a mission to save a baby from the flood, now a man with a strong sense of duty and a desire to do what is right. Theirs is a world at once familiar and extraordinary, and they must travel far beyond the edges of Oxford, across Europe and into Asia, in search for what is lost - a city haunted by daemons, a secret at the heart of a desert, and the mystery of the elusive Dust. *The Secret Commonwealth* is truly a book for our times; a powerful adventure and a thought-provoking look at what it is to understand yourself, to grow up and make sense of the world around you. This is storytelling at its very best from one of our greatest writers. *The first book in *The Book of Dust* trilogy, *La Belle Sauvage*, is coming to the stage in the summer of this year. Performed at The Bridge Theatre from July 2020, it will be a theatrical spectacle not to be missed* _____ Reviews for *The Secret Commonwealth: The Book of Dust Volume Two*: [Pullman] has created a fantasy world, made yet more satisfying in rigour and stylistic elegance. This is a book for getting older with *Guardian*, *Book of the Week* *The Secret Commonwealth* is ablaze with light and life. The writing is exquisite; every sentence sings ... To read Pullman is to experience the world refreshed, aglow, in Technicolour i Pullman's story is still thought-provoking ... This book elegantly weaves in live issues, from Europe's refugee crisis to facts in the post-truth era. And Pullman's prose is rewarding as ever *The Times* A long, taxing, complex journey, laced with beauty, terror and philosophy *Metro* As ever, Pullman's story is complex and vast but home to some of the finest storytelling in the 21st century. Revel in whole new worlds and enjoy one of literature's most wonderful heroines before she comes to HBO and the BBC *Stylist.co.uk* Pullman is confronting readers with the horrors of our own world reflected back at us. In *The Secret Commonwealth* he creates a fearful symmetry *The Herald*

philip pullman the book of dust: His Dark Materials: The Collectors Philip Pullman, 2015-09-22 HIS DARK MATERIALS IS SOON TO BE AN HBO ORIGINAL SERIES STARRING DAFNE KEEN, RUTH WILSON, JAMES McAVOY, AND LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA! *The Collectors* is a brand-new e-short, set in the world of Philip Pullman's beloved and bestselling *His Dark Materials* In this darkly delicious sliver of a tale, Philip Pullman offers a glimpse of the enigmatic girl who will become the sinister Mrs. Coulter. On a cold winter's night, two art collectors are settled before a fire in the Senior Common Room of a college in Oxford, discussing the unusual pieces one has recently added to his collection. What the two men don't know is that the portrait of a striking young woman and the bronze sculpture of a fearsome monkey are connected in mysterious ways. How could they imagine that they are about to be caught in the cross-fire of a story which has traveled time . . . and worlds. Published in 40 countries with over 17 million copies sold, *The Golden Compass*, *The Subtle Knife*, and *The Amber Spyglass* are renowned for their engrossing storytelling and epic scope. This new short tale will delight the many fans eager for any new glimpse into the world of *His Dark Materials*. Don't miss Philip Pullman's epic new trilogy set in the world of *His Dark Materials*! ** THE BOOK OF DUST ** *La Belle Sauvage* *The Secret Commonwealth*

philip pullman the book of dust: Serpentine Philip Pullman, 2020-10-15 Lyra Silvertongue, you're very welcome... Yes, I know your new name. Serafina Pekkala told me everything about you exploits.

philip pullman the book of dust: Philip Pullman Catherine Butler, Tommy Halsdorf, 2017-09-16 Philip Pullman's His Dark Materials trilogy is a worldwide classic of modern literature for both children and adults. Challenging in its intellectual scope, ambitious scale and range of literary reference, it is also hugely controversial due to its critique of organised religion. This collection of original essays by an international team of distinguished scholars assesses Pullman's achievement and introduces readers to some of the key debates surrounding His Dark Materials. Covering topics such as religion, gender, childhood and scientific enquiry, the volume also discusses the Hollywood film of the first book and features a new interview with Pullman himself.

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