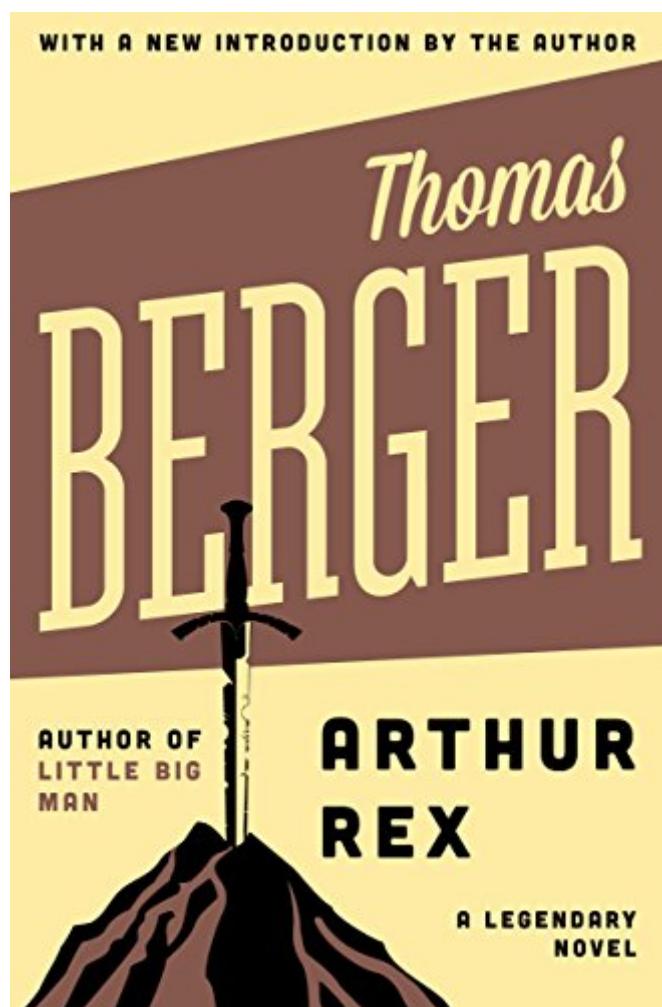


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# Arthur Rex: A Legendary Novel



## **Synopsis**

The Arthurian legend as it has never been told before . . . The myth of King Arthur has been told countless ways since the sixth century, always combining action, adventure, romance, and tragedy. In Arthur Rex, Thomas Berger updates the legend in irreverent fashion, forever changing King Arthur and his Round Table. In Berger's medieval England, the damsel in distress is never what she appears to be. Merlin is a wizard of a completely different stripe. Classic heroes and villains are vividly reimagined, breathing fresh life into a familiar story. Powerful, emotional, and at times laugh-out-loud funny, Arthur Rex is an unforgettable tribute to one of the most celebrated tales of all time. This ebook features an all-new introduction by Thomas Berger, as well as an illustrated biography of the author including rare images and never-before-seen documents from his personal collection.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I started reading "The Once and Future King," which another reviewer had preferred, but I found this book much more to my liking. It certainly strips a lot of the romance out of Arthurian legend,

beginning with swinish King Uther and continuing with Guinevere/Arthur/Lancelot. You'll never look at Guinevere the same way, especially her love/hate relationship with Lancelot and the maddeningly noncommittal answers she gives clueless Arthur as he starts asking questions that are too close for comfort. The book dragged a wee bit in places, and the Lady of the Lake showed up once or twice too often, but it was a page-turner (so to speak) and quite funny throughout. Although I'm surprised there were no "apricocks" served with the beeves.

An 'original' retelling of the classic Malory King Arthur, with hints to White and Bradley, and with a distinct sense of humor. Very enjoyable reading but a little dense in parts. Definitely recommended.

There are few American novelists of the 20th Century whom I would put in a class with the great Thomas Berger. He is about as good as it gets. I am so happy to see his less well known books coming back into print thanks to the Kindle. *Arthur Rex* is a masterpiece of imagination, wit, and pure great writing.

Inasmuch as Mr. Berger wrote this re-telling of the Arthurian legend between iterations of Little Big Man, it is an impressive demonstration of his range. He is an under-appreciated icon of twentieth century American literature.

This is from the writer of Little Big Man, this is one of Mr Berger's best works, I have read it at least twice. His wit and style are very distinctive and all his works are wonderful.

Takes some getting used to, but I really enjoyed this different style of writing and presentation of King Arthur's legend.

I first discovered Thomas Berger when I read Little Big Man years ago. While working my way through his opus, I stumbled across Arthur Rex. I was a little daunted by its length, but once I started I had trouble putting it down. (This was the hardcover version. The Kindle version is even harder to put down!) I am not an Arthurian scholar, but it certainly seems complete, telling every adventure of every Knight as well as Arthur and Merlin, and the various Ladies of the court. The narrator does not shrink from either the lust or the violence of the tales, but by using archaic terms and circumlocutions provides detailed descriptions of all the events without lapsing into pornography or gore. Neither does he avoid or minimize the many prejudices and magical beliefs of the times.

But the story moves relentlessly on from one lusty encounter to another, from one tale of betrayal and deception to another, with characters displaying all of the human frailties that make life so interesting. It is very moving to watch one character after another strive to rise above their flaws to live up to their ideals, sometime succeeding, sometimes failing. I repeat: This is the best retelling of the King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table stories I have ever read!

Decent re-telling of the story.

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