



Shall We Gather

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When one world brushes another, asking the right question can be magic...

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Shall We Gather Details

Date : Published May 14th 2013 by Tor Books

ISBN :

Author : Alex Bledsoe

Format : Kindle Edition 15 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Short Stories, Urban Fantasy, Fairies, Fae

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From Reader Review Shall We Gather for online ebook

Tadiana ☆Night Owl? says

This is a quiet, spiritually-minded short story, part of Alex Bledsoe's **Tufa** series. I'm not familiar with that series, but I still enjoyed this brief visit to the Appalachian countryside, where an enclave of Tufa live in isolation in Cloud County.

They had been in these mountains before even the first Indians, keeping to themselves, playing their music, and occasionally . . . well, doing things that he knew weren't possible for human beings. Fairy was the closest word for them; not the diminutive storybook kind but the ancient Celtic warrior gods ...

The young Reverend Craig Chess (who has a Tufa girlfriend) is asked to attend a man at his deathbed, one of the few humans who live in Cloud County. He's a little concerned about this visit, but his girlfriend gives it her blessing. When he arrives in Cloud County, his visit--and the story--turn in a direction he (and I) wouldn't have expected.

This was interesting and appealing enough to make me want to check out more of this series.

Free online at Tor.com.

Rashel says

DID NOT like it took it back quit reading after 5 pages. It diverged from the story of the fairies in the mountains and started a new tale about a gay guy explicit in his desires for men. Don't have any interest in that, not judging you just don't want to read a story about that. sorry.

Mark says

A comforting story.

Lottie-Alice says

An interesting little story, I'd love to know more about the Tufa. The quote in question was rather poignant also.

Trey Martin says

Short, even for a short story. Not sure its even really a short story but a fill-in chapter for the TUFAs books, but I liked it as such.

Ron says

A gentle-spirited fantasy. Well developed in less than a dozen pages. Short yet complete.

A very good read.

Jessica ❁ ⇒ Silverbow ⇒ ❁ Rabid Reads-no-more says

Meh. An illustration about how the true concept of the Christian God is bigger than culture or ethnicity or even humanity (and by "humanity," I mean species), but not a particularly compelling illustration.

Becky says

This was a lovely little story that brought me right back into the Tufa's world, despite having read *The Hum* and *The Shiver* well over a year ago. I love the simplicity of Bledsoe's writing - at least in his Tufa stories. (I haven't read any of his others. Yet.) There's a... I don't know how to describe it, really. A confidence, perhaps. It doesn't need to be loud and showy and boisterous, because it's good and it knows it. I like that. And I love the musicality of these stories. The way the characters live through music is one of my favorite aspects.

This story has a rather religious overtone, and most of the time, I just really can't stand that. But I love how Bledsoe walks with one foot on the "traditional" Christian side, and one foot on the "I just really don't know" side of the question. It never feels preachy.

I like the moral of this little story as well. In a way, it does give an answer to the "Does God exist" question... but in a "He works in mysterious ways" way, which is to say it's something of a non-answer... depending on your interpretation. But the theme of inclusivity and acceptance and love, despite huge differences, is a nice one, and I quite enjoyed this little story.

Kim says

A short story by Alex Bledsoe in the Tufa series, read on the Tor.com website.

Jon says

Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine I would one day read a short story promoted/published by Tor.com that juxtaposes my Methodist beliefs with fantasy. And so well written.

Give it a try via Tor's website: *Shall We Gather* by Alex Bledsoe

Mona says

An interesting short story focusing on Rev. Chess and Mandalay.

Stretch's Books says

I like to occasionally read a short story if it ties into a world that I have already been taken into. "Shall We Gather" is just that. A small glimpse into Alex Bledsoe's already wonderfully established world of Cloud County and the Tufa.

Having read "The Hum and the Shiver", and recently finishing "A Wisp of a Thing" I happened upon this little ebook at B&N.com and decided to give it a shot. I enjoyed all 32 pages of it and recommend that if one has enjoyed the Tufa novels already to spend the 99 cents on this lovely little story.

Adele says

Usually I don't like short story "extras" from series I read as much as the main books, but I like this series rather than love it and this little story works really well as a short story. It maintains a nice balance of working on its own and rewarding people who've read the series.

Rebecca says

Another short story set in the Tufa world. I enjoyed this little exploration of Rev. Chess and how he fits his faith into the Tufa/magical world of Cloud County.

Jeremy Cox says

Quiet, spiritual story. With fairies. Interesting.
