



## Rose Point

*M.C.A. Hogarth*

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## **Rose Point** M.C.A. Hogarth

Reese is only just getting used to running the Earthrise in the black—and with an Eldritch in her crew—when a trip to a colony world gives rise to a whole new problem: Hiriathial is showing powers that even the Eldritch rarely have, and that only in legend. He badly needs training, support and advice, and the only place he can find them is... at home.

To see the world of the Eldritch is a once in a lifetime opportunity, a thing of fantasies and rumor. And to finally meet the Eldritch Queen, the author of so many of Reese's windfalls! You'd have to twist her arm to get her to admit it, but Reese can't wait to go. But a court out of fantasy and a breathtaking land aren't enough compensation when they come packaged with a rabidly xenophobic species whose world is falling apart. The last thing they want any part of is some mortal interloper.

Is Reese ready for the Eldritch world? Better to ask: are they ready for her?

Book 2 of the Her Instruments trilogy, which begins with Book 1, Earthrise.

## **Rose Point Details**

Date : Published October 7th 2013 by Studio MCAH

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Author : M.C.A. Hogarth

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## From Reader Review Rose Point for online ebook

**XX Sarah XX** (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

● **Bloody Shrimping Hell this Series is So Bloody Shrimping Awesome We Just Cannot Stop Reading Buddy Read** (BSHtSiSBSAWJCSRBR™) with my Dearest of Wives and our Favorite Stalker, over at the MacHalo Mansion ●

Okay, so I wasn't even going to write a crappy non review for this **slightly glorious book**, because as soon as I turned the last page, I was hit by the pernicious **Gimme the Next Instalment NOW or Else I Will Start Severing Fluffy Bunnies Heads to Use Them as Living Room Ornaments Virus** (GtNINoEIWSSFBHtUTsLROV™). I was feeling kinda like this:

Which is pretty close to my usual mental state, but still. I wasn't quite fit to write one of my fascinatingly fascinating non reviews when I put the book down, so I didn't. And now I'm still not fit to write it, but will anyway. Because I'm adventurous like that. You won't get more than a **Crappy Non Check List**, though. Because I'm almost done reading book 3 in this series right now (view spoiler) , and ever so slightly excited about it (view spoiler), and not feeling quite right in the head and experiencing weird feelings of cuteness and sweetness and swooning over first kisses and oh bloody shrimping hell what the fish is wrong with me HALP my Comely Branchiopoda! HALP! ← *that last sentence here? I never wrote it. You have to stop drinking, my Lovely Arthropods. You keep imagining things when you're inebriated. It's not good for your mental health, you know.*

Okay, I'm not sure what the point of the previous paragraph was supposed to be, but you're probably **just as clueless** to its purpose as I am, so all is good. Now let's do the **Crappy Non Check List Thing** (CNCLT™), shall we?

Sooooo, to get an idea of what Rose point is like, take the slightly glorious **world-building**, wondrous **characterization**, scrumptious **diversity** and **Generally Luscious Everything** (GLE™) from the previous instalment in this series and add:

✓ **Positively marvelous character growth**. Damn it all to shrimpy hell, this series really is going to be the death of nefarious little me. I mean, I **loved Reese** when she was slightly standoffish and a ~~huge~~ pain in the ass and it turns out I'm **lurving her even more** now that she's becoming friendlier and sometimes good-humored \*shudders\* and seems to be growing an amicable, **potentially cordial heart** \*shuddering intensifies\* I am slightly dismayed by this **appalling display of humanity** on my part. And a little outraged, too. And quite put out.

✓ **Antiquated space elves customs and politics**, complete with ancient feudal system, rejection of all technology and xenophobia. Such a delightful world to live in.

✓ **Hahaha dialogues**. Okay so those were featured in book 1 as well, but you know my motto: ~~slaughtering~~ rehashing never hurts.

✓ **Hair dangles** (don't ask. Just know that they always save the day.)

✓ **Genetically engineered stuff.**

✓ **Asshole horses.** Because yes, all horses are assholes (just ask Shanti.) Besides, their fur clog ducts. And they can't help with ship maintenance. So QED and stuff.

✓ **Polyamorous cat twins with liberal sexual practices.** Da bomb they are. Definitely doing the **Poof! Gone Harem!** (PGH™) on the whole Harat-Shar species.

✓ **Rapist bastards and treacherous assholes** you want to skewer and chop and slice and cut and torture and lynch and behead and feed to the crustaceans. And then hold a party to celebrate how **deliciously slow, horrible, painful, agonizing and excruciating their horrendously unpleasant deaths were.**

✓ **A Flitzbe with a sense of humor.** What? Don't know what a Flitzbe is? That's so sad, my Little Barnacles. Your life really has no meaning.

✓ **Hair cutting à la Samson.** Didn't quite work out the way it was supposed to, did it now, you vile @\$%&\$@ (view spoiler)?! HA.

✓ **Humans** as one of the lowliest species in the universe. Quite deliciously refreshing that is.

✓ **Telepathic mass murder, YAY!**

So you add all of this slightly awesome stuff together, and you get your little self a **slightly glorious little book.** And you know what makes it even more gloriously, my Lovely Arthropods? ? rehashing alert ? The underlying themes in the story: **overcoming prejudice, learning tolerance, accepting cultural, racial and social differences...** They kinda sorta resonate with what's happening in some parts of our lovely world today, do they not, my **Pulchritudinous Barnacled Bunch?**

**Oh, and before I forget:** this book is bloody shrimping **enjoyable.** This book is bloody shrimping **entertaining.** And this book is bloody shrimping **fun.** Ergo, **I thank thee kindly,** M.C.A. Hogarth.

» And the moral of this **Why Can't this World Be Real I Want to Move There and Build a Harat-Shar Harem Crappy Non Review** (WCtWBRIWtMTaBaHSHCNr™) is: multifariousness is the mostest coolest thing there is. You are most welcome.

» And the **other moral of this WCtWBRIWtMTaBaHSHCNr™** is: I shall slightly unfriend those of you Tiny Decapods who haven't yet started reading this series in 3, 2, 1...**But hey, no pressure.**

∩ **Book 1: Earthrise ★★★★★**

∩ **Book 3: Laisrathera ★★★★★**

∩ **Book 4: A Rose Point Holiday ★★★★★**

[March 30, 2017]

**Not enough bloody shrimping time to review right now, gotta read the next one!!!**

### **Maria Dimitrova says**

[kidnapped again (hide spoiler)]

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### **Deena says**

I don't love cliff-hanger endings, but the rest was good. I can't have the last one, however, until I finish the thing I've been putting off for about 5 weeks. I don't even trust myself enough to buy it and have it waiting for me!

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### **Simply Sam ? says**

Great follow-up to book one! Review to come at some point in time :)

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### **Antoinette Houston says**

I really enjoyed this title. The creativity was wonderful and unique. It did get a little wordy in some instances but it still had a good pace and plot. I'm glad I stumbled across these books.

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### **Pamela(AllHoney) says**

The second book in the *Her Instruments* series by M.C.A. Hogarth. The story picks up about a year after the first book. Reese goes to a remote colony in hopes of doing some business but gets caught up in their troubles and Hiriathial is kidnapped once again. During this he discovers he has some powers he didn't know about and needs to seek counsel from his people. Reese realizes this and contacts her benefactor.

I liked it for the most part but hated that it ended in a cliffhanger. The good news is that the next book has already been published and I did not have to wait for it.

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### **Sh3llraiser (grumpybookgrrrl) says**

This story picks up about a year after Earthrise. Reese and the crew are hoping for a little less space pirates this time around and some peace and quiet. Well, we know that's not going to happen. This time, they end up on a "mission" to help their space elf friend, Hiriathial, who reminds me of this guy:

The crew ends up on the sexy space elf's home world because he has some issues he needs to work out with his mind mage mojo stuff. The Eldritch planet is like a regency novel, with a ton and lords and ladies and no electricity. They be riding horses like:

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Except instead of the cute little doggy, they have these:

Because you know, aliens and sci-fi and stuff. Although these books feel a lot like high fantasy mixed with sci-fi. Sci-fi fantasy?

But no electricity. No indoor plumbing. And they hate outsiders.

But the Queen is a forward thinker and has a special plan to bring her people into the "modern" world and it includes Reese. Our slightly grumpy and people-hating captain (ok just *most* people, a woman after my own heart) gets caught up in all the DRAMA. There is a good spattering of it too. So, anyway, here are the pros and cons:

Pros

- 1) Reese has growth. She was slightly irritating in the first book, but she realizes her flaws and begins to work on them. So - GOOD!
- 2) Great world-building.
- 3) The author uses many words I had to look up. Smart words. Ohhhh. I like.

So smart.

- 4) Supporting cast which makes up the Earthrise crew are just so darn lovable. The tiger brother and sister are funny and loyal - and let me just say I find it cool how the author chose to make them horny for each other since it's part of their culture and natural instincts to bang like bunnies, but it's also a little...

And the phoenix is cool. He's aloof, but a badass. And then there's the one I can't quite picture... a cross between a centaur but with paws and has both feathers and fur? She's cool.

- 5) I liked the queen and the other cousin or sister or whoever she was (the pregnant one).

Cons:

- 1) Pacing issues.
- 2) Drama.
- 3) The Eldritch are boring and act like this all the time:
- 4) There was a LOT of talking talking talking and I just wanted a \*bit\* more something, like, to happen....?
- 5) Then, it finally exploded and the villain was so villainy and predictable... eh.
- 6) Cliffhanger. Not the worst one, but still.

So, okay. To wrap this up, not a bad book at all by any means. I actually liked it! I just didn't love it. What can I say? I'll still read the next one.

The MacHalos made me read it.

## Chyina says

Wonderful second book to the series and I loved it. With a number of twists and turns I couldn't put it down. The characters become even more lovable and the action keeps you guessing. Smooth transitions and a brilliantly constructed universe that makes you want to dive in head first. Can't wait to read the next book. Highly recommend this to anyone who loves adventure, humour, sci-fi and fantasy!

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## S says

Reese's crew now includes an Eldritch supercargo, because a healer role would have resulted in a conflict of interest between the need to defend the ship and healer vows taken. The beginning of the book takes place among nomads and horsebreeders on Harat Shar, and Hiriathial finally seems less of a drippy liability - at least until he discovers new powers that nearly destroy him (again) and require he learn to control them on his home planet. I was beginning to get a bit tired of watching him totter from one mishap after another. Fortunately on his home planet he is very much more in charge.

The Eldritch world has very few inhabitants and is run by women. Men are, at best, a kind of body guard. At worst they are reduced to sperm donors. Why a male would want to live there I cannot work out. Also, what is it with the love for feudal societies in fantasy - there is no way I would set foot on a planet like the Eldritch home planet. I wonder whether it is easier to make unusual or rebel characters stand out when the imagined society is rule bound, excessively formal/rigid and technology is scarce - technology can be a great equaliser and empower people. Who would care much about someone bringing an outsider into the country in our current world - it just wouldn't be a story against a current background. Perhaps feudal backdrops are necessary for contrast, to facilitate a plot and to enable growth.

I struggled a bit with my suspension of disbelief - how would a planetary economy work with such a huge trade deficit (just about everything needs to be imported)? Where does the feudal lord's 'wealth' come from? How would evolution produce an elf like creature from a human gene pool (even with extreme genetic drift), when life spans are thousands of years, and offspring exceedingly rare? There just isn't enough time. And these questions don't even touch on esp, 'well drives', and so on. No effort is made to explain (or even pseudo explain) any of this.

On the upside, there is plenty of action on different planets, and continued character development means Reese is becoming more likeable. Then again, the good brother - evil brother theme could have been done more subtly - I thought this was very cliched. It was good to have expanding roles for some of the quieter crew members (the phoenix). I would have preferred platonic friendship over romance, because it leaves options open for future adventures. With Reese being accepted as a vassal and given a ruined castle as her own, this all looks too much like an apple pie ending for my taste. Still I will read the next book.

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## Julie Davis says

This begins and finishes with big action sequences. In fact, the final action ends much like The Empire Strikes back with our heroes dispersed in all directions to strive in their diverse ways for the common good. In the middle we're introduced to a planet-bound adventure, in fact to the Eldritch planet and their society.

One of the things that made me snicker is the way Hogarth keeps edging space opera into romance novel territory only to jerk us away from it again. Very mild spoiler: (view spoiler)

I was fascinated by the way Hogarth also reversed roles in several key ways, including sexual victimization and the aftermath. It all works in this space opera but Hogarth is a smart cookie and gives us more to think about than we realize on a cursory glance.

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## **Quartzen says**

Overall, I think this was a much stronger book than Earthrise- there's a stronger throughline for the story when a speculative trade trip to an out of the way planet lands the crew in the middle of a civil war, and then they go from the frying pan into the fire when they journey to the Eldritch home world to get Hirianthial some desperately needed tuition for his esper abilities and get caught up in politics that might just be another civil war on a far worse scale. Big political changes near the end nicely set up for the next book.

Besides the plot feeling less like a fixup of unrelated stories, the characterization feels more solid (though most of the crew still doesn't feel more than sketched out to me). I liked the slow changes in Reese's character, though I would have liked them better if there wasn't a neon sign pointing at look!! how much she's changed!! every fifty pages or so- Hirianthial changed as well, but he didn't get that as much, and I'm not sure how much was the book and how much was reviewers that seem to really dislike Reese for some reason but sometimes I felt like Reese's character was a problem to be solved in a way Hirianthial wasn't, despite their changes often mirroring each other.

Big trigger warning for sexual assault about halfway through the first section (the book isn't split into chapters)- to spoiler with a little more detail for those who need it, this is a male aggressor assaulting Hirianthial. Also content note for incest between the Harat-Shar siblings on the crew which is still present and normalized as well, and characters talk about their expected future children.

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## **The FountainPenDiva, Old school geek chick and lover of teddy bears says**

Still doing happy dances!

Okay, now I can craft a fairly coherent review.

Intrepid if sometimes unlucky space captain Reese Eddings is now operating her ship, The Earthrise, in the free and clear thanks to the generosity of the mysterious Eldritch queen. But adventure and danger are never far behind. Moreover, her personal Eldritch Hirianthial (I so heart him) is starting to exhibit psi powers that were once thought of as legend, and he's not ready for them.

What's a freebooting trader crew comprised of two tigraines, a killer phoenix, a centaur-like sapien who likes baking apple pies and an empathetic furball to do? Head to the mysterious Eldritch homeworld of course? Are the tradition-bound Eldritch ready for Reese and her "mortal" crew?

There's something intriguing about the heroine having to rescue the hero, and I like it. Hirianthial is far from weak, though he definitely gets wounded a lot. It's just there are so many layers to his strength and he realizes over his people's very long lifespan that his powers must be tempered and honed carefully. Not to mention the amount of guilt and strong sense of duty he carries. Yet, being around Reese and her

wonderfully motley crew is beginning to change him.

And the romantic tension between Reese and Hirianthial is definitely palpable, but like a slow burn. These two unlikely people have a lot of personal growth to do and scars to heal, but their relationship feels organic. It's not the *raison d'être*.

Again, love the covers. Love all the diversity and love how the characters and story are just as important as the space-operatics. Off to read *Laisrathera*.

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### **Rosalind M says**

4.75 stars. There were scenes that could have used more sensory detail. I won't reveal which ones due to spoiler content, but at the very times when I wanted to know more about what was going on, the information I was looking for was only alluded to. Otherwise, I continue to enjoy this series and have already started the next book.

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### **Cathy (cathepsut) says**

Could be a bit spoilery, beware.

Kickass heroine falls in love with one of Tolkien's elves, rescues and follows him home, when he needs some help after horrible things happen to him during a kidnapping (tentative non-con warning in a very non-graphic way).

No, not really. But in stretches it felt a bit like that. Although my elf looks a bit more Benedict Cumberbatch than Orlando Bloom.

Actually, despite this being Sci-Fi, it does have more of a classic fantasy feel to it than anything else, being mostly set "dirtside" on a planet with a feudal society and low technology level.

You definitely should read *Earthrise* first, before delving into this. It will make the team dynamics of our intrepid crew more plausible and enjoyable. They don't get as much time on the page as in the first book. Here the story mostly revolves around Hirianthial, life and politics on the Eldritch planet and then around Reese. The UST between those two amps up some more and I really hope it will get resolved in the third book of this trilogy, otherwise I will pull my hair out. The really, really bad guys finally show their face in this installment as well and I am biting my nails to find out what happens next.

Great adventure yarn, great characters, good plot. It has been a while since an author sucked me into her world this hard and fast. Great stuff, M.C.A. Hogarth, keep going!

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### **Choko says**

\*\*\* 4 \*\*\*

**A buddy read with the wonderful MacHalo Freaks! We love Elves in space:-)**

This was different. I am not even sure what category I should shelve it under, so I went with Sci-fi Fantasy, since it is a space Opera with genetically engineered creatures, most of them derivative of Humans and Animals, and few from Humans and Fae folks from the fairytales. One of those legendary races are the elusive and mysterious Eldridge. They are so rare and their mythology so vague, that they have become a primary target for the Dragon Slavers who want to find, enslave and subjugate their world. And they have targeted a specific Eldridge, the one who travels with the human Captain Reese and her crew of cat people, a Phenix and a centaur-like feline scientist. Let's not forget the pet sized plant like entity who switches color depending on mood and can act as a calming influence on everyone around... I want a Flitzby so bad!!!!

So, after visiting a horse-raising Humans on a Faraway planet, a bad experience brings on some unexpected and unwanted telepathic abilities for the Eldridge and the whole crew heads up for the hidden Eldridge Planet. Little do they know about the political machinations and powerplay going on in court and how they will be used as a spark to start a planetary revolution in which the planet and our crew will have to make alliances and embark on a flight for their lives...

This series is very imaginative and the creatures absolutely stunning! This being the second book, it reads much better and more cohesively, the story building in layers and ending on a cliffhanger which is forcing me to start the next book right away!!! Speaking of, what am I doing still writing??? I have volume 3 to read!!!

Now I wish you all Happy Reading and many more wonderful books to come!!!

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