



## The Edge Chronicles Standalone: The Lost Barkscrolls

*Paul Stewart , Chris Riddell*

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These exciting tales are ideal for those new to the Edge, or as an addition to the collection of any fan. The Lost Barkscrolls include the stories CLOUD WOLF, THE SLAUGHTERER'S QUEST, THE BLOODING OF RUFUS FILATINE and THE STONE PILOT.

Unfortunately, this book is no longer in print. However, These four stories have now been included in the four most recent UK editions of the original books.

- Cloud Wolf is now the first five chapters of The Curse of the Gloamglozer.
- The Stone Pilot is at the end of Midnight over Sanctaphrax.
- The Slaughterer's Quest is at the end of The Last of the Sky Pirates.
- The Blooding of Rufus Filatine is at the end of Freeglader.

## The Edge Chronicles Standalone: The Lost Barkscrolls Details

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Author : Paul Stewart , Chris Riddell

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## From Reader Review The Edge Chronicles Standalone: The Lost Barkscrolls for online ebook

### Stephanie M. Allen says

Great addition to the Edge Chronicles. The first three stories fill in some of the gaps and the fourth story is a brand new adventure!

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### Steven Davis says

Good to see 4 stand-alone tales which add to the overall structure of the world-tale. Good, as well, to realise from these that the Edge World isn't frozen in time, unlike many fantasy novels, and that big changes happen. Well worth a read if you like Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell's work, or if you like original fantasy (not 1 single elf, dwarf or orc in sight!)

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### An Odd1 says

"The Lost Barkscrolls" by Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell <http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/edgesc...>  
Bones smash to dust to protect the peace-loving Free Glades; hot blood spilled to save soft warm glowing beauty. "He never tired of the view" p259, nor have I. The extraspecial individuals in the fantastical Edge world tell intricate histories in their powerfully personal portraits. There are no small roles; anyone can save everyone. A constant theme of lost souls, overcoming odds to find belonging, is inspiring. Four novellas: 1 Cloud Wolf, 2 Stone Pilot, 3 Slaughterer's Quest, 4 Bleeding of Rufus Filatine.

1 Cloud Wolf - is secret skypirate name Captain Sky Jackal bestows on son Quint, after twelve ship fleet, betrayed and ambushed (I was not surprised; premonitions and dreams are too important in this superstitious land of omens and amulets), battle the Leaguesmaster Marl Mankroyd's "Scourge of the Weak" for valuable black diamonds. If the words build swinging ladders between the ships, then tiny bodies climb them in the intricately detailed incomparably heart-tingling line drawings p27.

2 The Stone Pilot - At 88, termagant trog (like poetry, these perfectly descriptive invented names roll around my tongue) Maugin still looks twelve because she never took the maturing Bleeding Ceremony, and reminisces, about Captain Twig saving her from slavery, and in battle taking up the mantle of her trade. Three tiny hairs blowing ripples in the wind personify one dot into the tangled mane of the delicate girl aboard mighty tall "Galerider" p144. From other books come the real conclusion to this tale. Part of the fascination with these Chronicles is they never end, bottomless depth, past can follow present.

3 The Slaughterer's Quest - Keris (future mother of Rook Barkwater) with white skin and black hair looks not like the rest of the tribe with hair and skin red from smokesheds, but like skypirate father Captain Twig, gone ten years. Visiting short scaly webfoot goblins communicate by color-changing crests, and in their home lake, tend a ginormous clam as old as life itself p246, who will know whether Twig lives, so she returns, past dangerous crevasses infested with hungry blind tendrilled white goblins p209, bite healed by transparent spindlebug Tweezel, for the answer in a caterbird cocoon on Lullabee Isle.

4 The Bleeding of Rufus Filatine - Freeglader Lancer cadet and his troop find "death-cheaters", mindless

immortal survivors of the Twilight Woods, and phraxfire grenades in the Foundry Glades, after huge "nameless" monster they downed shows evidence of being enslaved and maltreated in the goblin weapon furnace ruins that were conquered by his father Xanth High Master of the Knight's Academy, and now-Commander Rook ("Freeglader" book).

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### **Sanja\_Sanjalica says**

A great addition to the series, exploring some characters and introducing new ones...a great read.

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### **Kayla Asher says**

this is a great book. it filled in alot of pieces i was yearning for, especially since i read the immortals first, and it told me things but never explained them. and we finally get to meet keris, twigs daughter. she was super neat. and rufus, xanths son was amazing! the stone pilot, maugins sotry was so sad, especially since i knew what would happen to her from the immortals. quints naming story was pretty epic as well! its like a prequel to the whole series. its fantastic.

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### **Lisa says**

I read the third book, 'The Slaughterer's Quest', since I'm rereading The Edge Chronicles chronologically. Lovely story!

UPDATE: Haven't finished the story yet, but planning to finish it this evening. Switching to another edition because my copy has 438 pages. Reading 'The Bleeding of Rufus Filatine'.

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### **Jennifer Rose says**

What can I say, further excellent books from this world!

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### **Rachel McKitterick says**

Ohh I LOVE this series so much it makes me feel like crying (in a good way!) This book of short stories from the series is PERFECT when im needing my "Edge Chronicle" fix. This is one of those, that even at the very end, makes me want to turn back to the beginning, and start reading all over again. I cant see myself getting sick of these books. They are just too good. 5 Stars for the first 3 stories and 3.5 for the last. Still, overall the whole book is still worth 5 stars.

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### **Kimber says**

Wonderful addition to the Edge Chronicles series. This short story edition provides background information and provides answers to questions that other novels in the series left open to imagination. If you are an Edge Chronicles fan this is a must read!

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### **Mona Moon says**

Companion books are great, even more when they include short stories! Being a huge fan of the series, it felt awesome to gain even more information about the world and lovely characters #teammaugin  
It says a lot that people (in particular children) are still not weary of The Edge Chronicles after 8 books (each one is huge compared to the average children's book). I don't think there is another series where I read that many books and still loved every single one.  
I felt that there was a lot of unknown additional information in the shortstories, which is not always a given. (I recently read the short-story-collection "Stars Above" and this was my main drawback)  
I finally bought the books following after The Lost Barkscrolls and am super excited for them!

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### **Duane says**

I'm a big fan of the Edge Chronicles so I was excited to get a chance to revisit their world. Following the characters, places, and creatures that make this series so interesting, we get to find out more information about the times and adventures Edge characters experience. A great series for young readers who are reluctant readers because the illustrations in this book are awesome. A great addition to a great series.

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### **Matthew Downes says**

The category that this book fits into on the bingo board is "3 short stories by the same author".

I decided to read this book because I have read other books by this author and have enjoyed them. It also fitted quite well into the bingo board, which was a bonus.

I liked how the short stories fitted into the main plot of all the other books, and how they explained in depth some of the interesting and sometimes ambiguous parts of the stories.

I thought that there could have been some stories about different things, but it was good overall.

I would recommend this book to people who have already read and enjoyed some other books by Paul Stewart, as it would be hard to understand or get the full picture of the stories without prior knowledge of the Edge Chronicles.

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### **Ariel says**

Plot: This is actually a collection of four short stories, but all four were beautifully written. They fill in a few gaps between the trilogies, so the crazy fans (like myself! haha) can be fulfilled in knowing what happened in between.

Characters: Maugin has ALWAYS been my favorite character, even when she was first introduced in book one. So her story was by far my favorite. I did like Keris though, despite my eternal disappointment in Twig not marrying Maugin instead of Keris's slaughterer mom. (For those who are wondering, these are not spoilers. The family tree is in a few of the books. The spoiler would be why Twig didn't marry Maugin, therefore I'm not telling you.)

Setting: I liked how they had all the different places from all four stories. It was refreshing to be reminded of how much I loved the world in these stories!

Overall: Of course, I loved these side books as much as the full series. I would advise if you are going to pursue this series however, to finish the ten books first, then these. Otherwise... there will be spoilers!

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## Ben says

A delightful addition to the *Edge Chronicles*, complete with the usual excellent illustrations from Chris Riddell and a very helpful timeline to help us place the stories.

One of the things I appreciated was having more female protagonists for a change. Another was the filling in of little gaps which seemed to be missing from the main *Chronicles*, giving the whole history a more full feeling as well as a chance to touch on some of the races or characters which had previously only had passing mentions.

I particularly liked the *The Stone Pilot* story, as Maugin is one of my favourite characters, but *The Bleeding of Rufus Filatine* is a great lead up to *The Immortals*. A lovely collection of exciting, poignant and entertaining stories. As ever, when reading one of these, I feel I want to go back and re-read some of the others to better re-acquaint myself with wider story.

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## Chris Whybrow says

'The Lost Barkscrolls' is a collection of four short stories set in the universe of 'The Edge' spanning across the timeline of the original three trilogies. I believe two of these stories had been previously published and the other two were written for this collection. As with previous short story collections, this will be more a collection of mini reviews, with a final conclusion summarising my thoughts on the collection as a whole.

'Cloud Wolf'

The stories are arranged in order from shortest to longest and this is the shortest. I think it was originally published as a world book day novella, possibly as one of those books that is two stories stuck together and you flip it upside down to read the other one. It tells the story of Quint earning his sky pirate captain name in a battle against a large league ship. It's a pretty enjoyable adventure story that doesn't outstay its welcome, and Quint seems to have more of a character than usual. My only issues are the twist with 'Pen' being heavily telegraphed and the part where they try to disguise themselves in goblin uniforms is pretty stupid as they clearly aren't goblins. Overall, I enjoyed this story. I'll give it three stars.

### 'The Stone Pilot'

The Stone Pilot tells the story of Maugin, one of the best characters in the series, telling the story of how she was separated from her people and ended up as a flight pilot. It's told in first person retrospective, and this style helps to bring across both the terror and confusion of Maugin's childhood and the sorrow of her old age. It's a great little story. My only complaint is one line a villain says. 'The tortures shall be exquisite'. This man is planning to experiment on a child. He doesn't need to be made any more evil. This one gets four stars.

Perhaps this is a good time to bring up that one criticism of this series is the lack of compelling female characters. I agree with this somewhat. The Fourthlings are basically humans and all female Fourthling characters apart from Maris in 'Clash of the Sky Galleons' are pretty underdeveloped and boring. And I wouldn't be surprised if half the women in the series are shrykes, who mostly have very similar personalities. That said, a lot of the male characters suffer from being too similar, Quint and Rook being the first example that comes to mind.

I bring this up because the next story also has a female protagonist, and a character that I feel was done a disservice by the Rook trilogy.

### 'The Slaughterer's Quest'

'The Slaughterer's Quest' is significantly longer than the previous two stories. It follows Keris, Twig's daughter, on her journey to find out what happened to him. It benefits greatly from having a protagonist with an actual personality and character traits. Keris is curious, anxious and determined to find out about her father. When she leaves her family, unlike Rook, she actually misses them. The brief description of her memories of Twig is genuinely heart wrenching and makes her easier to sympathise with. While the story is much slower paced than the others and lacks a sense of danger, it remains an enjoyable read. The Blueshell Clam was also pretty cool and I liked the ending. The only bit I didn't like was one chapter begins with a massive infodump about the founding of the Free Glades. It's information most readers will already know and it goes on far too long. Four stars. I like this one.

I would rather have had a trilogy about Keris than have to read about her boring son. Instead, she dies offscreen so that Rook can be lovingly raised by yet more banderbears. It's a waste of a pretty decent character and it doesn't even make sense in the context of the story. Why would slavers murder a couple and leave their child to die instead of just, well, enslaving them?

### 'The Bleeding of Rufus Filatine'

The Bleeding of Rufus Filatine tells the story of Rufus, a Freeglade Lancer cadet, as he uncovers a plot to rebuild the discount-Mordor Foundry Glades, hatched by a trio of unpleasant individuals who have built a grenade factory. Although it's a fairly standard cadet earning his stripes story, the inclusion of the sinister Death Cheaters and the hints at the new creatures and technology of 'The Immortals' make it a fun and entertaining read. I have only two complaints. Firstly, the villain is just a rehash of Hemuel Spume with a burned face. He has no redeeming qualities and villains with facial scarring are overdone. Secondly, an illustration of Rook implies he fought at Lufwood Mount. I only finished 'Freeglader' yesterday. He did not. He ran away with his banderbear friends. Overall, this is a pretty entertaining read and I'll give this one four stars as well.

Overall, this is a solid collection of decent stories and I would certainly recommend it to fans of the series.

And now there is only one more book for me left to read before I have finished this reread. Hopefully 'The Immortals' will hold up better than the Rook trilogy did.

