



# The Ivory and the Horn

*Charles de Lint*

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## **The Ivory and the Horn** Charles de Lint

In the city of Newford, when the stars and the vibes are right, you can touch magic. Mermaids sing in the murky harbor, desert spirits crowd the night, and dreams are more real than waking.

Charles de Lint began his chronicles of the extraordinary city of Newford in "Memory & Dream" and the short-story collection "Dreams Underfoot." In "The Ivory and the Horn, " this uncommonly gifted craftsman weaves a new tapestry of stark realism and fond hope, mean streets and boulevards of dreams, where you will rediscover the power of love and longing, of wishes and desires, and of the magic that hovers at the edge of everyday life.

## **The Ivory and the Horn Details**

Date : Published March 15th 1996 by Tor Books (first published 1995)

ISBN : 9780812534085

Author : Charles de Lint

Format : Paperback 338 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Short Stories, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review The Ivory and the Horn for online ebook**

### **Aurora Deshauteurs says**

The Newford collections seem to have different themes, #6 is a bit heavy on the tragedy but it combines the faerie and urban reality very well. The stories feel very individual and fresh.

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### **Juli says**

This was a good ole first wave of Urban Fantasy collection of stories.... "Pal O' Mine" was just way too disturbing for me, though but it has stuck with me. Nonetheless, I did enjoy de Lint's style--particularly the Native American story "Coyote's Stories". Enough to warrant picking up Someplace to Be Flying for ye ole TBR list.

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### **JeniReadABook says**

I'm not going to lie, as much as I love Charles de Lint, I loathe short stories. I've never been a big fan of them. I'm not sure why I dislike them so much, but they just aren't my cup of tea. That being said, aside from the automatic negative points every book of short stories gets from me (just for being short stories and not being novel length) I must admit that de Lint does write better short stories than anyone else, in my humble opinion. So I honestly liked this book as much as I could possibly like a book of short stories. If it hadn't been the third book in the Newford series which I'm trying to read, I wouldn't have ever read it. However, because de Lint's full-length novels often are prefaced by his short stories, I was afraid that if I didn't read them I might miss some important detail about a character or setting if I skipped them. So I read them and enjoyed them as much as I was capable of enjoying short stories. There were a few that stood out as better than others, unsurprisingly it was the longer ones. LOL :-D Luckily the next book in the series, Trader, is a full-length novel.

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### **Maggie K says**

Another Newford short story collection....this is my third travel to Newford, and I had a great time!

I always seem to find it hard to think of how to describe deLint. The writing is excellent, and conjures a strong sense of place. After a bit, you feel like you would know how to navigate Newford should you ever land there in a timeslip or in a dream. But there are a few other quirks that make it a bit annoying as well. Almost all the central character women in Newford are thin, waiflike creatures with curly hair and a horrific past that lends them the wisdom and sensitivity to deal with the magic that imbues Newford. Almost everyone is some type of artist or musician or writer. They all make it very clear how very opposed to child abuse they are. Now, I am glad they're against child abuse, but sometimes it seems the stories are beating the reader over the head to make sure we know that.

I saw some familiar faces; Jilly, her friends Sophie and Wendy, Geordie the Fiddler, Angel of Grasso, Maisie

and her little family...and a few new people; Chris the social worker, and Jaimie the vigilante seem like they will stick around.

The theme that ran through these stories seemed to be about dreams, and how much a part of reality they can be. But in de Lint's hands, that statement becomes a magical thing itself.

Sometimes, the magical realism of Newford is the perfect escapism

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## **Susan says**

Included in *The Newford Stories*

◆ "Waifs & Strays" re-read Oct 11, 2000 Re-read 8/7/2015

◆ "Mr. Truepenny's Book Emporium and Gallery" Re-read 7/31/2015

The Forest Is Crying

The Wishing Well

Dead Man's Shoes

Bird Bones and Wood Ash

A Tempest in Her Eyes

Saxophone Joe and the Woman in Black

◆ "The Bone Woman" re-read 11/8/2001 Re-read 7/30/2015

◆ "Pal o' Mine" from *Christmas Forever* (also reprinted in *Season of Wonder* and ) re-read 9/27/2015

Where Desert Spirits Crowd the Night

Dream Harder, Dream True

The Pochade Box

"Coyote Stories" re-read 11/12/2001

The Forever Trees

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## **Todd R says**

Ivory and the Horn continues DeLint's Newford chronicles.

Short stories filled with mythic characters and cityscapes that are at once modern but remind us of the ancient forgotten wonder of the inner landscape

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## **Chris says**

This is the second book of Newford short stories from de Lint. They're good, but not quite as consistently so as *Dreams Underfoot*, alas. But I'll still leave my original rating. :)

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## **Cupcakencorset says**

This fine collection of short stories is part of de Lint's Newford series. The characters are a mix of familiar and new, with explorations of the mythos of this world. The stories vary widely in length and give the reader

glimpses of Newford that will, I hope, be explored in depth in later books in the series.

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## George K. says

Απ? τα τρ?α βιβλ?α του Τσαρλς Ντε Λιντ που ?χουν μεταφραστε? στα ελληνικ?, στην βιβλιοθ?κη μου αν?κει μ?νο η συλλογ? διηγημ?των Οι π?λες των ονε?ρων, που μ?λις τελε?ωσα. Δεν ε?ναι καν στα δ?κα πιο πολυδιαβασμ?να ?ργα του και κατ? κ?ποιο τρ?πο ε?ναι το ?κτο βιβλ?ο της γνωστ?ς σειρ?ς Newford, η οπο?α αποτελε?ται απ? 23 βιβλ?α μ?χρι στιγμ?ς, δεν καταλαβα?νω λοιπ?ν γιατ? επιλ?χτηκε αυτ? το ?ργο προς μετ?φραση. Καλ?ς μεταφρ?στηκε β?βαια, γιατ? οι περισσ?τερες ιστορ?ες μου ?ρεσαν και γενικ? π?ρασα καλ?, απλ?ς αναρωτι?μαι.

Δεκαπ?ντε ιστορ?ες συγκροτο?ν την συλλογ? αυτ?, κ?ποιες λ?γες ε?ναι γ?ρω στις δεκαπ?ντε σελ?δες, κ?ποιες ?λλες αρκετ? παραπ?νω, μια μ?λιστα ε?ναι κοντ? στις εκατ? σελ?δες. Πρ?κειται ξεκ?θαρα για συλλογ? ιστορι?ν αστικ?ς φαντασ?ας, με το στοιχε?ο του fantasy σε αρκετ?ς περιπτ?σεις να ε?ναι ιδια?τερα δευτερε?ον ? ακ?μα και δυσδι?κριτο. Δηλαδ? ?νας σκληροπυρηνικ?ς φαντασ?κιας πιθαν?τατα δεν θα καλοπερ?σει, αν περιμ?νει μαγε?α, ξωτικ? και δεν ξ?ρω εγ? τι ?λλο. Οι ιστορ?ες επικεντρ?νονται περισσ?τερο στους ανθρ?πους και το περιβ?λλον τους, παρ? στο fantasy κομμ?τι. Π?ντως φαντασ?α υπ?ρχει, δεν το συζητ?με. Και πνε?ματα και περ?εργα ?νειρα και ?σως ακ?μα και φανταστικο? κ?σμοι παρ?λληλοι με την σκληρ? πραγματικ?τητα της π?λης Νιο?φορντ.

Κ?ποιοι απ? τους χαρακτ?ρες συμμετε?χαν σε περισσ?τερες απ? μια ιστορ?ες και απ'?σο ?χω καταλ?βει ?χουν συμμετοχ? και σε ?λλα βιβλ?α της σειρ?ς, ε?τε αυτ? ε?ναι μυθιστορ?ματα ε?τε συλλογ?ς διηγημ?των. Και, β?βαια, τα σκηρικ? ε?ναι παρ?μοια, μιας και οι ιστορ?ες της σειρ?ς διαδραματ?ζονται στο Νιο?φορντ και π?ριξ αυτο?. Κ?τι που σημα?νει ?τι πιθαν?τατα θα μου ?ρεσε περισσ?τερο το βιβλ?ο, θα ?πιανα περισσ?τερες αναφορ?ς, αν ε?χα διαβ?σει κ?ποια απ? τα προηγ?μενα. Και π?λι ?μως, ?πως ε?πα προηγουμ?νως, π?ρασα καλ?. Οι π?ντε ιστορ?ες που ξεχ?ρισα ε?ναι αυτ?ς: ?στεγοι και αδ?σποτα, Το πηγ?δι των ευχ?ν, Τα παπο?τσια του νεκρο? ?ντρα, Το δ?σος κλα?ει και Το εμπορικ? κ?ντρο βιβλ?ου και η πινακοθ?κη του κυρ?ου Τρο?πενι. Τρεις ιστορ?ες που μου ?ρεσαν λιγ?τερο ? με ?φησαν κ?πως αδι?φορο, ε?ναι αυτ?ς: Το κουτ? ζωγραφικ?ς, Η θ?ελλα στα μ?τια της και Η φ?λη μου.

Σ?γουρα δεν ε?ναι ?να βιβλ?ο που θα σε ξετρελ?νει, γενικ? ?μως αξ?ζει να διαβαστε?. Πιστε?ω ?τι τα ?λλα δυο βιβλ?α που κυκλοφορο?ν στα ελληνικ? θα ε?ναι αν?τερα (ειδικ? το Η Καρδι? του Φεγγαρι?), το θ?μα ε?ναι να τα βρω.

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## Rebecca says

If I had to pick one favorite author, it would be Charles de Lint. His books have kept me company and kept me sane through some of my darkest days. I come back to them, and back to them. Although I have been gone from them for a few decades (house fire, library wiped out), I am coming home again, and LOVING IT!

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## **Sas astro says**

I rarely enjoy short stories but Charles de Lint always captures my imagination with his stories, he is the exception to my rule. The same characters are threaded through these stories but from different aspects. It fills them out and populates Newford with many characters that we feel as if we know. An excellent collection.

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## **Isabel (kittiwake) says**

I was quickly drawn into this book when I found that the first two stories followed on from stories in "Dreams Underfoot", which I read a while ago. There's always something magical just around the corner in Newford, and characters you've met before keep reappearing. I think that if you read too many of Charles de Lint's stories too close together you could find them slightly cloying, and the amount of repetition can be a little annoying, but if you spread them out they are wonderful reads for anyone who wishes that they had a little more magic in their life.

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## **Wing Kee says**

So good!

World: The world building is amazing, the world that De Lint creates is fully formed, familiar yet magical. It's the feeling you get when you read really good Neil Gaiman. De Lint's world is about the spaces and cracks in the pavement, the people we turn and don't at in our society and it's there where all the magic and wonder is and it's a wonderful world indeed. The tone is simply amazing and the characters...just read it.

Story: There are a lot of stories in this collection and each of them feels different but also weaves together in a beautiful tapestry that is Newford. Highlights for me are Waifs and Strays, Mr. Truepenny, The Forest is Crying and Dream Harder Dream True. They are all wonderfully paced and so full of melancholy and wonder that...I can't explain it. I just love De Lint's books I feel transported.

Characters: Jilly is in it!!! A cast of real and flawed characters that makes for wonderful stories and drama. Great dialog, small silences, beautiful inner landscapes. Perfect.

I am biased so just read it.

Onward to the next book!

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## **Kirsten says**

I had this series somewhere on a to-read list, reason for recommendation long forgotten. When this book came into my hands I thought it would be a good chance to check out the writing before I commit to a series. That turned out to be a great idea. The short stories in this book stand alone, but are tied together by some common elements that I think must continue in the series. The language and world-building were interesting. I guess I'll have to bump the rest of the books up my list a bit.

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## **Rachel says**

Another collection of Newford short stories, and they are as powerful as ever. More of the backstory on some characters we know and like, and the introduction of all sorts of characters we haven't met before, and may never again. De Lint recently announced that he's done with Newford -- I can only hope he changes his mind! These are wonderful stories, and very inspiring.

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## **Mikela says**

I was first introduced to deLint's world of urban fantasy with his book, Dingo, and it was love at first word. He has the ability to look beyond the day to day struggles and show the magic of the world around us, a dream world where all is possible and the inhabitants take on a life of their own, blending mythology, the spirit world, fantasy and reality together and inviting his readers to join him.

I must confess though that I truly lack an appreciation of short stories. I've always preferred a full length novel that has the time to develop the characters as well as building a well executed plot line, things not available in short stories. That being said, I also have so great an appreciation for the tales told by Charles deLint that I thought I'd give it a shot. In true deLint style he presented 15 short stories that introduced us to fairies, wood spirits, desert spirits and other magical beings we've seen in folklore from around the world. Each story was well crafted, some of which I loved, others less so, but when taken as a whole seemed to lack a cohesive flow leaving the tales to blend together in what I felt was a bit muddled fashion.

Not being a veteran short story reader I fear that I approached and read the book in the wrong way. I read it as though it was a regular length novel without leaving enough time between stories, time to digest what I had read and to savor each tale on its own merits. I wish I had used a different method and read one short story per night so that I could have appreciated the book more, the way it deserved. I started out loving it but for the reasons given lost much of my enthusiasm. Still, deLint remains one of my favourite authors and I'm eagerly anticipating reading some of his other works that rest on my nightstand.

Rating: 3.5

Originally published on [www.chapterofdreams.com](http://www.chapterofdreams.com)

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## **Karen says**

Wonderful short stories about different citizens of Newford, dancing around and with each other. I would visit Newford or Mabon in a heartbeat.

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## **Erin says**

Charles de Lint is one of my guilty pleasures - he can be pretty cliched in his descriptions and his characters can get a little preachy. I generally don't mind the preachy tendencies because I tend to agree and there are

usually other qualities in his writing that make up for it.

I read this story collection over a number of months when I just needed something quick and different for my nightly reading. By the end of it I was wondering why I read de Lint in the first place. This is a very weak book, and because of that the stories all kind of blended together for me in a non-descript mass. The things that sort of irk me about his writing were only magnified. Many of the stories in this book are also structured in a manner in which there are voices interjected in between the plot and it's not quite clear if it's someone different or if it's an internal monologue by one of the characters already introduced. I don't think this is a bad thing - it can be great for suspense and keeping one involved in the story to puzzle it out - but I found I just wasn't invested enough in the stories to do anything but skim past.

This is most definitely no *Dreams Underfoot* - his first Newford book and a collection that I can still reminisce about, loving all the haunting, creepy twists and turns he took with each story, successfully keeping me in suspense until the end. I believe this book had a different theme centering on artists, and perhaps that's why the stories feel like they have such a different mood to me. But while *Dreams Underfoot* presented a many layered world full of all sorts of creepy and odd wonders, this book made Newford seem quite one dimensional and lackluster.

Out of any of them I thought the last story was the best and presented a pretty fascinating, unresolved question to ponder in the end.

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### **June says**

A collection of short stories where the characters are more concerned with people than money, and can see the magic in the world, how people overcome evil and problems. More literary fantasy.

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### **Michelle Morrell says**

de Lint is always a reliable good read. This novel takes place in his urban fantasy setting of Newford, a huge city where the edges shimmer and the touch of the fae is always in the air. The second of the Newford books, this is a set of short stories that cycles around a handful of characters that pop in and out of each other's tales. It reminded me a lot of the *Bordertown* novels, though that is a shared universe and Newford is de Lint's alone (so far!). I shall definitely read more.

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