

**What If?**  
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**Author:** Rae Bridgman

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In a fantastical world where magic is commonplace, where boulders philosophize, crystal balls tell secrets, and a covert society called the Serpent's Chain wreaks havoc, cousins Wil and Sophie go on a rollicking adventure. With organized chaos taking over MiddleGate, from a falsely accused murder to a stolen manuscript, a prize trip to Iceland seems like a much needed vacation. The land of myth and mystery holds perils (and trolls!) galore, however, and Wil and Sophie encounter '*galdur*' (magic) at every turn.

This novel is the fourth in the MiddleGate series, the other books being *The Serpent's Spell*, *Amber Ambrosia*, and *Fish & Sphinx*. I would recommend reading them in chronological order, as some plotlines are continued between books. *Kingdom of Trolls* features eccentric characters, fantastical places, and magical action with bits of humour and danger thrown in for good measure.

While I appreciate the imagination of the author, I found the writing style to be occasionally confusing and difficult to follow, and I couldn't get emotionally invested in the novel or its characters. If I had read the first three books, it's likely that would have changed my perspective. However, younger readers of fantasy, particularly those who have followed the series, would enjoy this light, mythical tale of comedy and adventure.