If a Tree Falls

Written by John Howley



ISBN	9781923172340
Publication Date	25 SEPT 2024
Genre	Fantasy
Format	Paperback
Audience	General
Author Location	NSW

Price available on our website

WHEN THE WORLD SPEAKS, WHO WILL LISTEN...?

At the edge of a forest, in the shadow of a mountain, a sentient tree grows.

As Sap thrives, she observes her new world – the beauty and the destruction. Formed from her trunk, powerful tools are milled and wielded by humans.

Sally Pringle picks up a violin, made from the dark wood of Sap, and a string of mystical manipulations occur.

Rebecca Pringle and her true love, Simon, are guided by a wooden figure, carved from Sap's own branches, in their dream of joining Medicines Sans Frontiers.

Susan Daily, a friend to the Pringles, documents their stories at Sap's desk, with Sap's pencil, on Sap's paper.

As the threads of their lives intertwine, Sap leads them, and humanity at large, towards salvation and away from self-destruction.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



John Howley has been an author, writer, poet and musician since his formative days through the 1960s and beyond. Since graduation he has worked a plethora of "real jobs": electrician, engineer, builder, professional musician (not a real job), nurse, carer. Whatever he undertook, he was always observing nature and humanity, and taking notes, often turning those notes into songs.

He always believed in fairies, trees and angels, because his father told him so.

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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE *IF A TREE FALLS*? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

I wrote this book in response to Paulo Coelho's book *The Alchemist*. Simple, yet inspirational, with a little mystery and some magic. Recognising that the inequities of the world were a result of a power struggle between the 'haves' and the 'have nots'. Resources are claimed, protected, and drained by the few, at the expense of the many. The big loser in this struggle is the earth herself, and in the end it will be humanity that pays the cost. I wrote *If a Tree Falls* attempting to prompt some empathy and respect for Gaia and the nature of the planet.

DOES WRITING ENERGISE OR EXHAUST YOU?

Writing energises me, especially when the muse flows through me, when I am lost amongst the imaginary worlds, meeting imaginary people, doing fantastic stuff.

HOW DID THE TITLE COME TO YOU?

It comes from the phrase, 'If a tree falls in the forest, does anybody hear?'

