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R. T Rolfe

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R. T Rolfe : The romance of the fungus world;: An account of fungus life in its numerous guises, both real and legendary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The romance of the fungus world;: An account of fungus life in its numerous guises, both real and legendary:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Unexpectedly entertaining and charmingBy Clovis SangrailThis book has, rather surprisingly, become one of my favorite books on nature. It was written in 1925 by two members of the British Mycological Society, and has that wonderful post-Edwardian academic tone. It's not a scientific treatise; rather, it is concerned primarily with the role fungi play (and have played) in human society. It's like a chat with a learned, slightly eccentric old uncle. There are chapters such as "The Fungi in Mythology and Folk-Lore," "The Damage Caused by Fungi and its Effect on Mankind," "The Curious Phenomena Exhibited by Fungi," and "The Derivation of Fungus Names." The book is liberally illustrated with black and white photographs and drawings. It's a fun, quaint, light read. I bought it just because I like old science books, but I ended up with a genuine interest in fungi.

Both real and legendary aspects: fairy rings, poisons, medicines; gastronomic properties, associations with devil, more.

Fascinatingly told. 85 illustrations.