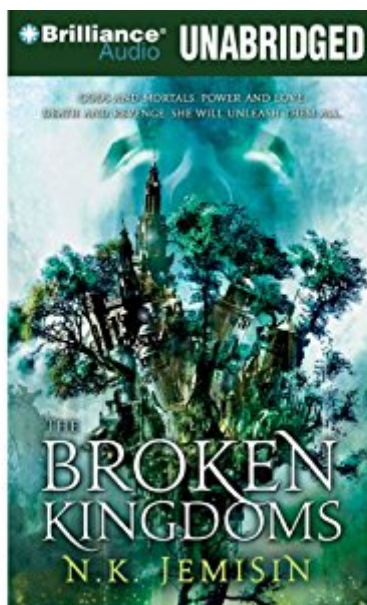


The book was found

The Broken Kingdoms



Synopsis

The gods have broken free after centuries of slavery, and the world holds its breath, fearing their vengeance. The saga of mortals and immortals continues in *The Broken Kingdoms*. In the city of Shadow, beneath the World Tree, alleyways shimmer with magic and godlings live hidden among mortalkind. Oree Shoth, a blind artist, takes in a homeless man who glows like a living sun to her strange sight. This act of kindness engulfs Oree in a nightmarish conspiracy. Someone, somehow, is murdering godlings, leaving their desecrated bodies all over the city. Oree's peculiar guest is at the heart of it, his presence putting her in mortal danger - but is it him the killers want, or Oree? And is the earthly power of the Arameri king their ultimate goal, or have they set their sights on the Lord of Night himself?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I begin this review with a criticism I had withheld from the last: This series needs a map/floorplan/some type of diagram that let's me know where we are in relation to other places. It's interesting, really; nobody cares about maps in your run-of-the-mill action, horror, or drama stories. However, the minute you start talking magic, we have to break out maps because there is guaranteed to be some type of traveling going on. I don't know if this is also a science fiction thing, but I would assume it would be helpful if the story only took place on one planet. That being said, a map of the world or a diagram of Sky (the palace or the city) could only help this story. The story is not crippled by a lack of it, but it would be amazingly helpful. When I first ordered this book in particular, I read some of the comments

on . Someone had an issue with the predictability of the romance. Personally, I didn't predict it. It's a teensy bit off-putting when you really consider everything that goes on within the novel, but you don't really expect the outcome. I really applaud Jemisin on that part, because it's obvious how it's going to go, but you still don't expect it. Or, I didn't expect it. This story broke my heart a bit. I like that we revisit a lot of the things talked about in the first book. We catch up with quite a few characters that were introduced to us, as well as one who has started a new life entirely. A lot of the "facts" laid out for us in The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms are now called into question. I especially like that we get to look at Sky the city, or Shadow, as it's called in the book. I like that the Inheritance trilogy isn't just about the nobility, and The Broken Kingdoms let us see everything from a commoner's perspective. For the full review, please click here: <http://eurydicehowell.com/2015/04/27/review-n-k-jemisins-the-broken-kingdoms/>

I liked book #1 a LOT LOT LOT and the remaining two books just enough to keep reading. The author makes the reader keep guessing for, in some cases, quite a long time before revealing who we're imagining (which god is this? which mortal is this?) which got a bit old for me. But, you know how it goes, I bought all 3 of the trilogy early on and I got invested in the characters. I felt like book 1 was super rewarding (and I read it twice) but I sorta miss the time I spent reading the 400 and 600 pages of books 2 and 3. They weren't bad, they just weren't anywhere near as compelling for me.

****This review has no spoilers and addresses all three books in this trilogy as a story arch**** Great read! I had never read NK Jemisin before but I thoroughly enjoyed this series, which I read on my Kindle. Inventive, not your usual "high fantasy," and each book has a slightly different feel. Four stars because rather than choosing between Among Other's insightfully described "writing style vs. plot," Jamisin's Inheritance Trilogy has both: entertaining, accessible writing and creative, interesting plots that kept me reading through the night. Well, several nights. The subtle (sometimes not so subtle, but never offensively so) commentaries on race, culture, class, religion, and the question of nature vs. nurture were thought provoking, but never interrupted the flow of the story or digressed into preaching/ sermon. Four stars, vice five, because I was disappointed that there wasn't an overarching focus on the main three characters development across the three books despite the above-noted common themes (each book feels like the same universe and is internally consistent

all the way through). Maybe I'm just too used to the six episode Star Wars movies (ohhhhhhhh.... it really is ALL about Darth Vader....) or the feeling of LOTR (how Aragorn grows! Sam is actually a more interesting character than Frodo!), but I found myself waiting for that sort of bridging between novels, and it never really happened. The characters are all there, you see them from different perspectives (in a wonderfully skillful presentation of the complexity of humans, and the gods that act like them, and the lenses through which we all see the world), but each of the three/four main gods have their "moments" in each of the books. As a result, the character development/arch of the gods with more substance in the first two books felt incomplete when I finished book three. That said --- don't let this relatively small comment stop you from reading these wonderful, hard-to-put-down fantasies.

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