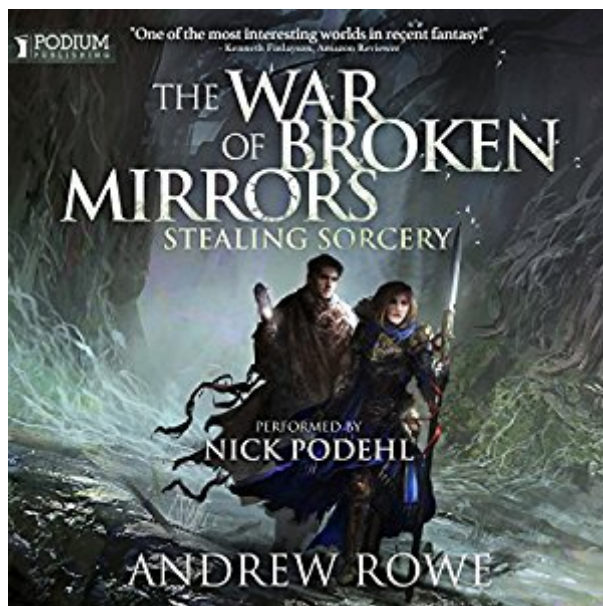


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Stealing Sorcery: The War Of Broken Mirrors, Book 2



Synopsis

The immortal sorcerers - three legendary figures that toppled the empire of Xixis. Each has lived for over a hundred years, leaving a powerful legacy in their wake. But their children do not share their renowned immortality, and when the firstborn son of Edrick Theas is killed, sorceress Lydia Hastings is called to investigate the murder. When she discovers a sorcerous trail left by a creature of unfathomable power, she quickly realizes she needs outside help. And while Jonan Kestrian - a spy for a rival military power - might not be Lydia's first choice for an ally, she knows that he has the knowledge and skills that she needs. While Lydia and Jonan trace the assassin's trail, Taelien undergoes the Trials of Unyielding Steel, a series of tests to ensure his entry into the Paladins of Tae'os. As he trains for his trials, Taelien faces his fiercest rival yet: Velas Jaldin, a former member of Orlyn's Queensguard with the power to manipulate motion at her whim. With skills far beyond those of an ordinary soldier, the former Queensguard might be the killer that Lydia seeks - or the assassin's next victim.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Now, I'm going to state that I really enjoyed this book, but.... too many jokes. While I did find the vast majority of the humor funny, it detracts from the seriousness of the story, ultimately. I am tired with "gloom and doom" fantasy like RR Martin, but I feel like this went too far in the other direction. The story is quite good, and I like all the characters. I just feel like all of them practically are made out to be super comedic, and that just doesn't let them seem that differentiated, because they

almost all are telling jokes all the time. I can see having a few characters like that, as in, 1-2, but not the majority. I hope that the next in the series will be a little more "serious", and that the character development will go a bit deeper.

Great book. Very descriptive magic system, with good character interaction. If there was one negative for some people it would be that it's a bit wordy. There is a lot of talking among characters, rather than constant action. I definitely recommend it to people who enjoy detailed magic systems.

excellent read

Thanks

I enjoyed the storyline very much. However, the persistent use of the f word was completely unnecessary for the story. My grandson loves stories like this comma but because of the profanity I will not recommend the series to him.

A thoroughly enjoyable read. A second book that can stand alone but gains much from the first book. Greatly enjoyed the magic system and the expansion / discovery of more depth to the magic system. A wider array of characters utilizing skills in rather unique ways also lends a richness to a story when done well, and Mr. Rowe does it well. The general plot of the book is one that could easily become trite or tropey and yet, in *Stealing Sorcery*, it was handled well and becomes intriguing, captivating. I enjoyed watching the characters grow both maturing as adults and expanding their skill sets. A good mix of interplay among characters without becoming politics for politics' sake. I think he did an excellent job of balancing the parts of the story and presenting a well crafted tale. For an escapist reader as I tend to be, it was pure enjoyment. The only thing I didn't care for about the book was when it ended. Now, I'm impatiently waiting for book 3.

Andrew Rowe has given us another masterful S & S fantasy novel, no surprise there. Every one of his fantasy stories has demonstrated his mastery of this form. As usual within the constraints of the form of classic S & S, he pushes at the boundaries with rich, colorful detail, loading his writing with sparkling and definite descriptions. This installment continues the mystery of an orphan with a fabled sword, raised in an almost-human community. Our protagonist assumes the name of the sword, but knows nothing of his own antecedents. He does not know his family or parents. However, the sword

is well known: it is the sword of the god of swords in a commonly accepted religious pantheon. As the young man grows into his sword, questions and enemies (of whom he knows nothing either) swarm about him. Along the way, our egocentric and violent protagonist, despite himself, is joined by numerous friends and allies -- any of which would be a rich character in a story of him/her own. **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: AS A RICH, DETAILED SWORDS AND SORCERY FANTASY TALE.**

The most impressive part of Forging Divinity (the first book in the series) is the care the author takes to plot out every detail with meticulous care. Every one of the character considers their actions carefully and takes the most prudent course of action available to them. None of them are witless for the sake of plot convenience, or forget to act in their own best interests. That tendency continues here, and I'm pleased to say that it's to the story's benefit. Though the first book plodded a bit while characters explained facets of the world to one another, this second entry benefits from a clear conflict (a mystery to solve) and more immediate stakes. The cast is still analytical and careful, but they are also passionate and motivated, and the plot benefits.

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