



Chaos Awakens

Megg Jensen

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From USA Today bestselling author, Megg Jensen...

For hundreds of years, the orcs and humans of Doros have shared an uneasy peace. It shatters in an instant with the botched assassination of a human priest in the orc capital. Hell bent on revenge, the humans take up arms as the orc monarchy crumbles from outside interference.

Now Tace, the unlucky assassin, is on the run. It's soon clear, however, that her mistake hasn't only precipitated a war. It's unleashed ancient powers, the stuff of legends and fireside tales—and not the cozy kind.

Tace has always worked solo, but to save Doros, she'll need to assemble the unlikeliest allies. Together, they'll unravel the mysteries of the orcs' cult of death, and in the process, Tace will come to question everything she's ever believed. Only one thing is certain: a great destiny awaits her—if she can live long enough to meet it.

Chaos Awakens is an epic fantasy spanning multiple continents. Orcs, humans, elves, fauns, dwarves, and dragons fight for dominance in a new fantasy world sure to spark the imagination of fans George R. R. Martin's Song of Fire and Ice series and Robert Jordan's Wheel of Time series. Written by USA Today bestselling author Megg Jensen, Chaos Awakens is the first novel in the new series Dragons of the Nether.

Chaos Awakens Details

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From Reader Review Chaos Awakens for online ebook

Danielle says

Wonderful

Megg Jensen's new series is off to a wonderful start. I really enjoyed the use of other mythical creatures as main protagonists. Also orcs not necessarily being any worse or better than any other species. The world building was good and came to life in my imagination. My only complaint is I now have to wait for book two.

Stephen says

This was one of those books that you really dislike at the beginning, but after a few chapters it grows on you and then you start loving the story and characters. You will be glad you stuck with it. Great Reading Everyone!

Jason Hubbard says

"Chaos Awakens" is said to appeal to fans of "Game of Thrones" (or, to all you book nerds out there, "A Song of Ice and Fire"). With its cast of morally-gray characters and a narrative that darts back and forth between great distances, it very well might. Of course, what "Song" fans love about those books is their depiction of people in power and people's very perception of power, as well as the deep philosophy within their pages. "Chaos" has only a little of that, focusing more on the might of magic and the allure of sex.

Although I liked this book well enough, I'm disappointed at how it's yet another fantasy story that's partially dependent on the overused fantasy troupe of "prophecy and vision." A few key characters make important decisions because they hear about some prophecy or receive some vision from an otherworldly being. I shall forever maintain that prophecy and visions are rather cheap and easy narrative devices. Just think, what if Frodo had decided to bear the One Ring not because he saw that no one else could be trusted with it but because he was told he was the Chosen One foretold by ancient texts written by soothsayers? It would rob him of the power of choice and ruin the suspense.

Still, "Chaos Awakens" is worth reading for its flawed heroes, pitiable villains, and a conflict of religions that eerily reflect real life ones.

Fiona Andrew says

As always Megg Jensen delivers, a great start to a brand new series. The death of a human in an Orc town turns out to be the catalyst to a powerful enemy. Orcs, humans, elves, a faun, a unicorn and a dragon all come together to fight and defeat the first Xarlug who rises from beneath the Orc city. What will the future

hold for all the races?

Aurora says

An enjoyable read. The take on orc culture was great and I also appreciated the varied cast of characters. However, near the end characters had too many premonitions out of nowhere for my taste, and the final battle was resolved by way of deus ex machina. Still, I'm curious to see what the next book in the series will hold.

Pippa DaCosta says

A new series by Meg?! With dragons and orcs?! Why yes, I think I will be reading this.

A.M. says

I'm going to have write this down as I go - there are rather a lot of characters.

Tace, a female orc assassin, misses her target. He's dead but the gods will know it wasn't by her hand. Hugh, a human priest working in the orc lands, was her target but he's also the father of the queen, and his death sparks an invasion by her armies who have trained for ten years. [how is a celibate priest the father of the queen without being the king? It does say she married a nothing male so she's not ruler through marriage. Oh, and he's not celibate either... news to his acolyte.]

Ademar, his human acolyte, knows that Hugh's suicide is a mortal sin, and a betrayal of their god but he is unable to speak the truth.

Nemia is an orc girl with magic gifts and a spiral birthmark on her face. She's the true princess but they swapped her out with a prettier girl. [surely orcs don't like pretty girls?] When she kills that girl in a fit of jealousy, the king abdicates, leaving the orc crown as a prize to be fought over at a time when orcs should be fighting together against their common enemy. [what? Why would he do that?]

Alyna, faun and forest spirit, leaps on her magic unicorn and goes to warn the orcs that she sees an army coming.

Her old orc lover, Vron is a deputy to General Dalgron, but he doesn't believe her and only sends a small force. [but everyone knows there's a war coming from the crows up...]

Human Queen Lissa of the golden hair, follower of the light, wants revenge for the death of her father. And she's willing to use the priests led by Eldir, and a wizened dark evil magician, Damor.

Brax, her army leader is distracted as he tries to hide his half-orc brother, Ghrol, in the forest but he escapes. Kindara, old orc seer, brings together Tace and Ademar, and tells them the future is in their hands. [why would they believe her?]

When Nemia sees a vision of the odd pair together, she decides to make amends by helping them. [or, I dunno... stay and fight for the throne?]

MAN. A whole heap of people have visions in this thing. Like, everybody does. And they don't match up, and half of them aren't even accurate.

But the dark elf, Kazrack steals the orc throne, and forces the queen to sit next to him and there is nothing

General Dalgron can do about it. [who is this elf?]

Female elf hunter, Maysant, finds Grohl in the forest and thinks he's human. [what a coincidence that she doesn't know what an orc looks like!] He saves her from a panther.

Damor sends a small girl, Sally, as a disease bomb to meet Alyna. [how close are these armies? A child can walk between them alone through wilderness?]

Sally walks alone through more wilderness and right into the orc camp to get Vron. Vron leaves the army to look for the faun, after they accuse him of cowardice. Sally then leads him to the sick faun, and they all head off together.

Tace rescues a baby dragon from a pit fight. [and nobody tries to stop her?]

The orcs go to battle with an untried leader... and lose.

Queen Lissa wins her first battle and decides to keep going as she'd like the orc queen as a lover. [the WHAT now? She couldn't start with an orc girl of slightly lower rank? Rather than start a WHOLE WAR to get laid?]

Kindara is shot just as Nemia shows up. [they stand around yanking arrows out of her body and wondering what her last words meant. Run you fools... no, those basically WERE her last words. And besides, HOW did Nemia get there so fast and find them?]

whispers: I am getting rather annoyed with the convenient plot devices

The dragon fishes for them and lights fires helpfully. [facepalms]

Orc seer Hacun and husband Crotus look for visions in the fire. [oh COME ON... it's chapter 31 ffs stop introducing new vision seeing characters!] Crotus leads the village away leaving Hacun behind.

When Vron etc show up, the magic unicorn heals Alyna. [it couldn't have done that BEFORE Vron left the orcs to die?? Were it's magic unicorn batteries low? And what are the odds that they show up at this one cabin? Sighs... plus, Sally is riding the untouchable unicorn]

Alyna and Hacun join forces and set Damor on fire from a distance even though Hacun says she doesn't like to kill people.

But he doesn't die. The queen tosses out her unkillable dark mage like the trash, because she doesn't believe he's actually done anything, and Maysant and Grohl find him. He swears revenge.

headdesk

Oh, that's it. I'm out.

Chaos is right.

I'm up to chapter 34 of 58.

Did not finish at 58%

Matt aka says

Chaos Awakens by Megg Jensen is a great epic fantasy novel that I very much enjoyed. There are plenty of interesting characters with the main characters being a female orc assassin, a human male priest, and a female orc princess. They form an unusual team as humans and orcs head towards a war at a time they need to team-up against a godly enemy. There are plenty of intimate moments and character development mixed in with action and epic threats to the world.

This book is everything that a good fantasy novel should be and reminded me of the great dark elf stories about Drizzt Do'urden by R.A. Salvatore that ended up becoming a massive 23 books series due to the popularity of Drizzt, his companions, and their epic adventures. I can't guarantee that this series will be anywhere near as popular but I recommend it with five out of five stars for any fantasy genre fans.

Tre Talbot says

This is a great fantasy read that incorporates both humans and Orcs together as they head into a battle. We're taken on the journey with the main characters for an unbelievable ride but the side characters are wonderful as well. The storyline flowed smoothly and at a consistent pace that kept me interested and wanting to know what will happen next. Although this is book one only, I feel as though we're provided with a good amount of closure on these characters. I will definitely be looking into the next book in this series in the near future.

Rob Baker says

Inventive, exciting, witty fantasy! Megg Jensen knows how to spin a tale that keeps the reader engrossed, surprised, laughing, and wanting more!
