



The Emerald Storm

Michael J. Sullivan

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A MESSAGE IS INTERCEPTED. A SINISTER PLAN LAUNCHED. TWO THIEVES STAND IN THE WAY.

Ex-mercenary Hadrian Blackwater sets course on a high seas adventure to find the lost Heir of Novron. His only hope lies in confronting the ruthless and cunning Merrick Marius. Fearing Hadrian is not up to the challenge, Royce Melborn joins his ex-partner for one last mission. Their journey finds them adrift amid treachery and betrayals forcing Hadrian to face a past he had hoped to never see again.

The Emerald Storm Details

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From Reader Review The Emerald Storm for online ebook

Kathleen says

3.5 stars. Another good installment, but the church is just too evil, and far too stupid. Invite the Gahzul goblins onto your continent, in ranks of 50,000???

Sydney Chapters says

I'm so happy that I enjoyed this way more than book 3 :) Also, I can finally say that I am starting to like Arista.

Jarek "the Mistborn" D?browski says

Another 5 * read. The series has to be one of my favorites of all time

C.P. Cabaniss says

"Ghosts did not get hungry, at least not for food."

There were points in this fourth installment in the Riyria Revelations that had me liking it less than the other books thus far. However, there were so many amazing character moments that I really can't say this is my least favorite of the series. I just love these characters so much. Particularly Royce, but I think I make that pretty clear on a regular basis.

This novel picks up right where *Nyphron Rising* left off, without the time jumps that happen between the other books. And everything is amped up a notch as the New Empire fights to take control.

Rocye and Hadrian find themselves aboard the *Emerald Storm*, sailing the seas as they try to determine the plans of a new adversary. A lot of the time on the ship felt a little off to me, lacking the usual shine of the rest of the stories, but as the journey progressed I found myself really drawn into this new adventure. We were given more glimpses into Royce and Hadrian's pasts, got to see these two play off each other again (which was something I missed for a portion of the previous novel), and there were some amazing moments with them as individuals that made me love them even more. These were subtle things, but they made the characters that much more real.

There are a lot of characters introduced this time around that I'm really curious about. There are definitely a lot of questions broached here that I am looking forward to seeing answered.

"It's what you do with life that gives it worth."

As Royce and Hadrian are out at sea, we also follow Arista as she tries to find the Heir of Novron. Her character has probably grown on me the most out of all of them. She was rather frustrating through the first two books, but she has really grown and started to shine since then. Now she puts herself at risk to find the heir and save her kingdom from destruction at the hands of those she used to call friend.

We also get to see more of Modina and Amilia. While I like these two, I still can't say that I really love their characters all that much. Modina breaks my heart and fascinates me, though, so that's something. And their story *is* important to the overall plot of the series. With how things ended, I really wonder what these two will be up to next. And Nimbus, the tutor/assistant, really has me intrigued. Who is he?

"Life becomes more precious when you have less of it to spare."

This installment is definitely darker in tone than the previous installments and ends on a sad note. There are some deaths in here that really broke my heart and then the very end just pushed it over the edge. I don't know what Royce and Hadrian will do next and I'm worried about going into the last volume and finding out what happens to these two. I want them to be happy, they both deserve it. But these things rarely end up working out the way they should.

I will be moving on to the final volume (books five and six) very soon. I highly recommend this series to anyone who loves great characters and subtly built plots. The friendship between Royce and Hadrian is one of the best I've ever read.

Kristjan says

Another fine addition to the series; highly recommended. Although the series continues to be a good 'light' read, I can't help wishing the author had done a little more research on the naval engagement portion of the storyline. IMHO the mistakes here are even harder to ignore than the structural engineering problems encountered at the end of book one. When you put that much detail about something, you really need to make sure that the detail is correct; as such it reinforces a general perception that the story arc is rushed and too formulaic to ever be a classic.

TS Chan says

Wow, I love how this series takes off to greater heights with each and every instalment so far. We get to see more of the world of Elan as our favourite duo travels to southern regions of Delgos and Calis on a ship for which the book is named after.

I typically do not enjoy naval settings and sailing jargons often just fly right over my head. However, as Hadrian and Royce are both portrayed as sailing noobs, the reader gets the benefit of some form of

‘education’ such that it’s a lot easier for me to breeze through these sections of the book.

We got to see Hadrian’s shadier past when we reached Calis, where he had once gained fame with his fighting skills. I have to say that since Book 1, I was literally dying to see Hadrian use the 2-handed sword on this back (which we later learnt is called a spadone, a knight’s weapon). I am still swooning over the notion that he carries 3 swords and the covers of these books didn’t help because they are awesome!

There is a really amazing secondary character introduced in this book, which I won’t elaborate too much about save for this quote from said character:

”My father used to say, ‘A knight draws his sword for three reasons: to defend himself, to defend the weak, and to defend his lord,’ but he always added, ‘Never defend yourself against the truth, never defend the weakness in others, and never defend a lord without honor.’ --> RESPECT!

The other set of POV came from the female characters, Arista, Modina and Amilia. I have to say that I liked every single one of them (which is very rare) – all strong characters in their own right, yet never overly so. A sense of vulnerability or insecurity still pervades and this makes them believable. Modina is getting back on her feet and Arista, oh my, this princess has truly come to her own.

As the plot progresses and the world expands, the overall tone also gets darker. While there are still some pockets of humour, there are more deaths and brutality, and of course, the omnipresent theme in most fantasy books, betrayal. In conclusion, thoroughly enjoyable and addictive, and needless to say, I’ve started on the next book already.

John says

Bloody damn love Royce and Hadrian adventures! Can't wait to continue on with the series.

?Ruth? says

It's the sign of an excellent fantasy series when you reach the end of book four and are still enthralled and anxious to delve into book five :).

Lindsey Rey says

[4.5 Stars]

David Sven says

Another fun entry in the Riyria Revelations Series. At book four (or book two if you only count the

Omnibuses) the world building is still expanding. We go outside Averyn as ~~Locke and Jean~~ Royce and Hadrian pretend to be sailors and hit the open water.

Royce's nemesis, Merrick Marius, is working for the Imperials and it's up to our two thieves to find out what he's up to and stop him. So there will be pirates, there will be ship to ship battles –and there will be goblins...Goblins! Wha...?! Well this is sword and sorcery after all and Sullivan doesn't shy away from the stock standard races of gnarly Goblin, Dwarves and pointy ear Elves. But this book the goblins get showcased. It kinda made me want to dust of my LOTR DVD set with a plate of manflesh on the side and maybe some sour ale to wash it down.

The characters continue to develop as well and there's more than a hint of past jobs Royce and Hadrian have carried out in the places they end up. Hadrian also has a notorious past that is remembered in some corners of the world. Arista's magical skill continues to level up as well as she continues the search for the Heir of Novron.

There's a lot more going on now than when we first started the series. I would really like to see Mordena's character develop more. Even though the puppet Empress features a lot in the book she's still coming out of her shell.

Again, Tim Gerard Reynolds does an excellent job with the audio narration. He's very easy to listen to. I give him 4.5 stars. The book itself I'm giving...

4 stars

Pavle says

E ovo je ve? druga pri?a. Fokusirano, brzo i zabavno, uz možda malkice antiklimaks na kraju, ali svakako dobar pokazatelj da ?e poslednje dve knjige biti dovoljno vredne da iskupe slabije delove serijala. A ovo je ipak laka zabava.

4-

Elwen says

This series gets better and better. I need more stars to spread ... 5 is not enough! :-)

Zoe Targaryen says

I am deeply in love now. I admit that it's boring as hell from beginning up to the last quarter of the book. But last chapters made up to it fantastically. The ending was predictable, once again, but executed awesomely. Setting off to the next book.

Lazybee says

I am falling in love with these series. Humor, adventure, plot twists, romance, interesting characters and many more. I can't get enough of this series. Good thing he did a prequel to the series. A lot of mystery will be uncovered after reading that.

Loved it.

Jess Owens says

HADRIAN BLACKWATER

ROYCE MELBORN

AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH

I'm in love

I'm stressed

What's going to happen

Will my ship sail?

Will my love make it?

Two more books until the end and I am NOT ready

ally ʘ(?)ʘ says

I find myself less interested with Royce and Hadrian, but absolutely smitten with Arista and Thrace.

I wish I was more interested in the events surrounding Royce and Hadrian... Maybe in book 3!

William says

I have read all of the Riyria Chronicles, Riyria Revelations, and Legends of the First Empire released so far. I started re-reading the whole series this year (2018) in preparation for the release of Age of War in July. Having read all of the books, The Emerald Storm remains to be my favorite book in all of the books set in Elan. If you like *Aubrey-Maturin*, or Naomi Novik His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire then this book may be a standout in the Riyria series, although I am not sure if the novel is self-contained enough to read it on its own out of context of the rest of the series.

(view spoiler)

I can not recommend The Emerald Storm more highly and would recommend the entire series as well.

Emma says

Not quite as good as the previous books. I found Royce and Hadrian's part in the story took a long time to come to fruition and the section when they were on board ship did not keep my attention completely. However it all worked out in the end :)

Amar says

Ovo je jedna od onih knjiga kojoj je stvarno potrebno onih pola zvjezdice , jer se zadnjih pola sata ve?mu?im koju bi ocjenu dao. Mnogo, mnogo bolji dio od prošlog , pri?a ide u onom shit just got serious smjeru i koja vas doslovno tjera da uzmete sljede?i nastavak , da saznam sta ce se desiti.

Na po?etku pri?e kada se ONO desilo , iskreno nisam ni pomislio da to Sullivan ozbiljno misli. Na kraju sam ipak ostao šokiran...

Royce i Hardian su opet u punoj snazi ovdje , harmonija i komedija su na nivou i ni sekund nije bilo dosadno . I Arista mi sve vise prirasta srcu , pa me baš zanima šta ?e sa njom biti.

Mnogo sam se zabavio s ovim dijelom i iako je bio duže od mjesec ipo na mom šelfu, ?itao sam je samo dva do tri dana zbog ispitnih obaveza. Sino? sam doslaovno progutao više od 80% knjige onako da odmorim :)

Prava ocjena je 4,5* , ali pošto to ne može, dajem joj 4+ , kao i really liked it . Nije mi još za It was amazing , jer upravo to o?ekujem od finalnih knjiga , pa si još ?uvam tu ocjenu.

Sullivan , bolje ti je da ne uprskáš!

José says

Comentario en español más abajo.

HOLY SHIT! This book was really good, definitely my favourite of the Riyria series so far. It was an extremely fun read, highly recommended (review soon)

Tremendo libro, fue una de las lecturas más entretenidas de este año. Ahora no me siento emocionalmente capacitado (?) para escribir nada acerca de este libro, solo voy a decir que lo recomiendo a todo el mundo, incluso si jamás has leído fantasía épica. Esta saga es una de las mejores que he leído y la estoy pasando genial con cada libro. *The Emerald Storm* es perfecto en todo sentido y ya lo sumo a mi lista de libros favoritos (reseña pendiente)
