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From Reader Review Eye of the Hawk for online ebook

Wendy says

In "Eye of the Hawk" L. V. Barat combines mystery, the paranormal and adventure in an epic fantasy that begins when Hawk a shape-shifter and healer is sent by his oide Akrae through an elemental portal to the land of Corvasa to solve the enigma of a stolen ancient relic. With the help of Roscoe a burly farmer, a fae-like woman Lananell, and Sillismae an Apprentice Adept in the Crystal Place, Hawk must subdue the power of " the Fire Globe" before it's unleashed and destroys the kingdom. But to do that he has to rip out the heart of the Red Queen, a hate-filled goddess on the isle of Ebron where men have no power.

The plot opens in the northern land of Jaanar bounded by a "Golden Band" to stop people from entering or leaving. Here Hawk, trained by Jaanarian Druids is assigned a mission encoded in a cryptic verse and swept through a portal to Corvasa. Although little history is divulged about Hawk's past the reader is quickly entranced by the magic of a land filled with dragon-lore , goddesses, a sinister wizard and a forest of cannibalistic phantoms. As the story heats up Hawk begins to decode the lines of verse his oide recited, validating his assignment to retrieve one of four powerful elemental globes that's been stolen from the Crystal Palace.

The plot is fast-paced and action-packed as Hawk and his three friends clash with the powerful Corvasan wizard, fighting their way out of the city only to face an embittered Queen and to struggle against an army of dark clad giants determined to conquer the kingdom. Intensity and suspense slowly build as events reach an explosive climax that has Hawk confronting the fiery power of the "Fire Globe". Woven into an imaginative plot filled with violence, betrayal and death are also elements of camaraderie, self-sacrifice and even a dash of romance.

Cleverly L.V. Barat has crafted characters that bring realism and depth to a plot that grips the reader from the first page to the last. Hawk, son of Niall is the Knottian shape-shifter and healer who's very aware of his purpose and destiny. He's a skilled warrior who's perceptive, intuitive and brave. Of his companions Rosco a farmer from Martine is adaptable and loyal; Lananell trustworthy and incisive; and Sillisnae curious, resourceful and confident in her power.

Yet like all adventures it's the antagonists that instill chilling excitement in the story like the sinister power of Lord Korodale, a calculating and manipulative wizard who wants the "Fire Globe" for himself. The Red Queen a physical manifestation of an embittered goddess rules the island of Ebron with an iron-will, enslaving and torturing the men. The story vibrates with the passion, fire and energy of these characters as it moves smoothly and quickly to a fascinating ending that begs for a sequel.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading "Eye of the Hawk" and look forward to reading the next book in the "Tears of Gods and Dragons" series.

Marc Stern says

"Eye of the Hawk" is a Novel You Can't Put Down

In “Eye of the Hawk,” the first of a new science-fantasy series by author LV Barat creates a world that seems real. Although it is filled with dragons, goddesses and mysterious objects of power, the land where this tale takes place takes on an air of realism under Barat’s skilled hand.

An author of great skill, Barat makes the reader believe that the mysterious lands where Hawk and his companions reside are normal, even though they are filled with people who use magic for their own ends. From the start, the author pulls you into the novel and keeps you there as the pace starts to build.

A master of pacing, Barat keeps the story moving from point to point seamlessly. For example, in the “Eye,” we find Hawk, a true hero, who was born on the mysterious island of Janaar. Janaar has cut itself off from the world by the Golden Band that prevents Janaarians from leaving and others from entering the island, unless they use special portals. Hawk is allowed to leave because his task is too urgent to keep him behind the Golden Band. Hawk’s oide or guide Akrae has educated the hero, using cryptic verse and other hints, to set him on his path.

Hawk knows he has great things to do, though he really cannot explain how he knows. He also knows that the companions he meets on the way, Kuran and Roscoe, Lananel, Sillisnae are important to successfully completing his mission.

The mission created by Barat is central to the novel and the author wastes doesn’t stray far from the apparent plotline as the tension and excitement build. By the climactic scenes of the novel there is no way you can put it down. This, alone, is a testament to the skill of author Barat.

In fact, the entire novel is a demonstration of the author’s skill with words and her ability to create not only the inner tension that drives the novel forward, but also the other tensions within the story itself.

If you take the time to read “Eye of the Hawk,” you will be rewarded for the time you spend. It is the first of a series where I have to assume Hawk and the woman he loves, Sillisnae, of course, have further great adventures. I can hardly wait for the next release.

Michael Smith says

Eye of the Hawk by LV Barat was exactly what I needed to find when I started looking for a new supernatural series to get into. I think I found exactly what I was looking for. At the center of the story is a shape shifter named Hawk, who is an apt hero for this story, going through a spell cast long, long ago into a mysterious and foreign land. Barat is a great storyteller, and can weave her way through an extensive landscape of story and bring it all back together at the end. It was a fairly easy read that was exciting all the way through.

MzMonka says

Eye of the hawk drew me in from the first page. I like a little bit of a twist to my books and with Hawk’s memory being sketchy in the beginning started me off on the right foot. I like the way the author really painted a clear picture of not only the characters but the locations that surround this book. It is nice to read

something that you can actually immerse yourself in and feel like you are actually there. I will say the first encounter with the dragon did throw me off a bit, you know when you can see something that is unnatural, not that dragons are a natural occurrence but you have an idea in your head. The adventure that Hawk goes on is one that will keep you deeply involved with this book. I can say that this book is a page turner and at times keeps you wondering what is going to happen next. The characters are well written and the story line takes you on a journey that is worth reading. I will be adding the next book to my kindle so I can continue the story.

Leire says

Eye of the Hawk by LV Barat is the first book of a captivating supernatural series combining ancient myths and stories from around the world. Its protagonist, Hawk, is a shape-sifter and a healer trained by Jaanaarian Druids that goes on a typical fantasy quest. He will have to fight fiends and dragons at a haunted forest and solve a mysterious, yet very grave theft that has taken place at the Crystal Palace.

His new friends will help him all along the way with their different skills. One of them is Sillisnae, an Adept apprentice who was already trying to solve the theft of the Fire Globe on her own...Then, there is also Lananel, an escaped slave who has been cursed....

The characters are very interesting and mysterious and the story very easy to read and highly entertaining. I think it's the perfect book for teenagers or young adults that like epic fantasy novels. Barat is a great storyteller and knows how to keep the suspense going!

Dan Clarke says

Combining ancient myths and stories from around the world LV Barat has written a really good fantasy story.

Hawk, who is a shapeshifter, is given the typical fantasy quest, that he doesn't completely understand and must learn about as the story progresses. The first step in his journey is to deal with the theft of the Fire Globe, a magical device of great power and importance.

This is the typical cliched fantasy plot we know and love.

However there are enough elements with the setting and the characters, that the story develops its own character and leaves the common fantasy elements behind.

As we learn more about Hawk and Sillisnae an Adept Apprentice who tries to solve the theft on her own, they don't really fit into any neat categories. They are the main characters and the heroes, but the characterization, why they do what they do, and how they react to the problems and dangers they face, fit perfectly and nothing seems to be forced.

I can't really say this is a five star story, there are parts where cliches shine through a bit too well, but its definitely a 4 star, and LV Barat shows a lot of potential.

Douglas Meeks says

I can say that having to fight a dragon monster, mysterious archers and call on magical creatures in the first 10% of the book was a great way to grab my attention. This is book 1 of what appears to be an epic fantasy with the requisite journey that has marked epic fantasy since the publication of Lord of the Rings.

The book starts with a bit of introduction to Hawk although the reasons for him being there are a bit murky at the start, then after a bit of sword and sorcery the POV shifts to Sillisnae who is a magical apprentice. We get to her story just in time to find one of the main plots of the book which is that the Fire Globe has been stolen.

So after our group of adventurers are assembled we take off on the journey.

This has all the makings of a great fantasy epic, only time will tell us if the other books in this series will live up to this one. Highly recommended. 4 Stars

Grady says

‘You are a man now. You have gone through the initiation and have the tattoo to prove it’ (a hawk on his shoulder blades)

American author LV Barat discovers tales in the most unlikely of places: in the ancient spiritual literature of India, Greece, Scandinavia, Britain and Ireland. An extensive study of the occult in several different cultures led to an awakening of the power of myth in her mind. Myths are woven in the imaginations or collective unconscious of peoples worldwide and the connection to the archetypes can weave tales that inspire. As she states on her website, ‘Stimuli for the imagination can come from many sources, but in most cases, it comes from a place of questions and mysteries. Mysteries stimulate the mind but facts diminish it’. Barat has been writing fiction and non-fiction for twenty years. Epic fantasy is her genre of choice whilst some suspenseful mystery has managed to worm its way into her opus corpus. Jane Eyre was the first novel she read as a prepubescent. Its gray, mysterious moors and subdued emotions that raged under the surface of its characters called to her longingly, convincing something deep within her to become a writer. LV Barat lives in the Rocky Mountains, the spine of North America.

The essence of LV Barat’s novel is on shapeshifting and for those unfamiliar with shapeshifting, the following is offered: In mythology, folklore and fantasy fiction, shapeshifting, or metamorphosis is the ability of an entity to physically transform into another being or form. This is usually achieved through an inherent faculty of a mythological creature, divine intervention, or the use of magic spells or talismans. The idea of shapeshifting has been present since antiquity and may be common in all cultures. It is present in the oldest forms of totemism and shamanism and shapeshifting is usually induced by the act of a deity. The idea persisted through the Middle Ages, where the agency causing shapeshifting is usually a sorcerer or witch, and into the modern period. The most common form of shapeshifting myths is that of therianthropy, which is the transformation of a human being into an animal or conversely, of an animal into human form. Barat uses this concept extremely well and for those who are profoundly interested in the concept, this book will further instruct as well as satisfy.

The author’s own plot synopsis from an interview is the best: ‘An island exists in the far north surrounded by an astral golden band, inhabited by Jaanaarians, a people descended from gods who possess unrivaled magical talent. They cannot leave the island because some of their people became corrupted, bidding themselves out to the highest bidder of the royal houses of Perthia. A shapeshifter named Hawk is sent on a mission that is given to him in coded verses by a Jaanaarian druid. He must discover the meaning of these verses during the mission. He goes through an elemental portal to arrive at the correct destination. In the Crystal Palace of Corvasa, the Fire Globe has been stolen. It is an ancient relic that controls elemental Fire. Each country holds an elemental globe and changes the element every twelve years. They were gifts from the gods at the beginning of time. Sillisnae is an Adept’s Apprentice at the Crystal Palace who studies magic

under the tutelage of Lord Korodale, the Daimon Direttore and head sorcerer to the King. After hearing of the Fire Globe's disappearance, she decides to do a little investigating of her own.'

Barat understands her mythical world well and is able to bring that strange, near mirage-like place into focus. As with all books that deal with fantasy and myths the introduction of strange names and language require some mental adjustment on the part of the reader, but in Barat's case she brings her characters gradually and sensitively into the story and in doing so allows for enough time to adjust to the nomenclature and get on with enjoying the adventure. Her writing style is lyrical and melodic: this Book 1 provides promise of a successful series.

Veronica says

I am usually not a big fan of the Fantasy Genre, but LV Barat did an excellent job with Eye of the Hawk. Being Book 1 in the Tears of Gods and Dragons series, I was engrossed from beginning to end and can't wait for Book 2.

Hawk is a shape shifter, who turns into a hero type of figure throughout the story. I enjoyed the writing for his character, and felt like I actually knew him. Hawk is thrown into a spell cast, which takes him into a mysterious and foreign land far far away. Hawk's major journey involves the theft of the Fire Globe, and figuring out who took it. He has the help of Sillisnae, who is another main character in the book.

I found this book to be surprisingly easy to follow, and I was unable to put it down. I felt like I was thrown into fantasy land with both Hawk and Sillisnae. Like I said, I'm not usually a fan of fantasy, but this one is a definite must read.
