



Western Shore

Juliet E. McKenna

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The third volume in this epic fantasy adventure. Warlord Daish Kheda has been building political alliances, working to consolidate power over his new realm. Although he has saved his people from the twin evils of wizardry and dragons, he feels tainted by association with forbidden magic.

Western Shore Details

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From Reader Review Western Shore for online ebook

Susanne says

It was worth struggling through the first 2 books to get to this book.

I consumed this book in 3 days. Could not put it down.

Suddenly I care for the characters and want them to do well. Suddenly they seem human and have feelings and are fighting for what they WANT, not fighting because they feel they should. Suddenly there is passion and excitement in them, not just some well oiled machine running through the pages.

Michele says

Really excellent. I love Kheda and Risala and Naldeth, but I especially love Velindre. Spiky, aloof, occasionally arrogant, yet wholly human and totally 3D. This is epic fantasy with dragons at its best.

Steven Poore says

In my review of the previous book, Northern Storm, I pointed out the similarities in that book's structure to the first volume, Southern Fire. Kheda's life is disturbed by magic, and he enlists the reluctant help of mages to defeat the threat to his domain and the Archipelago. Western Shore does start out in much the same way - but it quickly departs from that format, leaving Kheda, Risala and Velindre in unknown lands, facing unknown foes and dangerous wildlife, along with magic, dragons, and natural disasters.

That departure mirrors Kheda's mounting doubts over the reliability of the omens he sees in the stars. If he can no longer trust his own interpretations, what can he trust? There's far less of the Aldabreshin islands in this third volume of the series, but the land our heroes travel to is as wildly different to the Archipelago as the Archipelago is to Einarrin. If you thought Australia was dangerous... well, this land, a sort of Oz-analogue, is even more so. And once again, every action Kheda takes has a knock-on effect, setting up plenty to do in the concluding book of the series. Kheda may not be able to read the omens, but it's easy to see trouble coming over the horizon....

Geoff Battle says

Western Shore is definitely not a stand-alone entry in to the Aldabreshin Compass sequence. The first hundred and fifty pages have remarkably little to do with the next four hundred. The political wrangling within the first third of the book are assumedly setting up the final book, however it feels remarkably disjointed when the Western Shore plot embarks. The story of this entry offers nothing new, whereas the first books were fresh and exciting and the content is largely similar to that of the first two books. That all said, the character building is excellent and the action of the finale of the highest standard. There is enough here to ensure you read the final chapter, although this book will merely seem a stepping stone to get there.

