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The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms: Inheritance Trilogy, Book 1



Synopsis

Yeine Darr is an outcast from the barbarian north. But when her mother dies under mysterious circumstances, she is summoned to the majestic city of Sky. There, to her shock, Yeine is named an heiress to the king. But the throne of the Hundred Thousand Kingdoms is not easily won, and Yeine is thrust into a vicious power struggle.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If I had to describe N. K. Jemisin's *The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms* in one word it would be epic. Yeine is a character that I was immediately drawn to. She comes from a matriarchal society (which I really wanted to know more about) and is pulled into this game of musical heirs by her grandfather. Dekarta Arameri disowned his daughter the moment she chose to marry a Darre and Yeine is a constant reminder of this betrayal. Either Yeine or one of her cousins, Scimina and Relad, will inherit the throne and death surely awaits those who aren't successful. Scimina is ferocious, she has no qualms about doing whatever it takes to be Dekarta's successor and neither her brother nor her newly arrived cousin will stand in her way. We don't learn much about Relad, but he isn't above making deals under the table to insure his survival. Just as important as the human players in this story are the mercurial gods who once ruled the world with astounding power, but who have now been imprisoned by one of their own. Caged in human form by day and forced to obey the whims of the ruling Arameri family, the Enefadeh can be either friend or foe to Yeine, but they are also keeping close a secret that will shake the very foundation of Yeine's world. Among these is the dangerous, yet intriguing Nahadoth, who Yeine cannot

help but be drawn to. The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms masterfully weaves issues of colonialism, racism, and political intrigue into a fantasy setting that excites the imagination with every page turned.

I just spent oodles of time reading this 400 + 400 + 600 page trilogy over the last week or so. I *really* loved book 1 (and had read it earlier). It is political (not in our world, but in theirs) which is an unusual element in the YA books I read and I liked what the author did with it. I didn't so much care for books 2 & 3 but I got really invested in the characters and besides, I'd already purchased all 3 and so I wanted to complete the set. Books 2 & 3 were OK, book 1 I really liked. The author has a way of not specifying exactly *who* is speaking for, sometimes, quite a long time. Which god is it? Which mortal is it? In book 1 I found that intriguing but it seemed to me less so in books 2 & 3.

I had wanted to check out this series for a while now and finally got around to it. Personally, I'm not a big fan of first-person narration in fantasy writing and almost put it down solely for that reason. I'm glad that I didn't. The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms was an enjoyable story told through the eyes of the main character, Yeine. It's not very long, but the story flows nicely, despite not having the depth of characters I typically expect in a series. The characters are interesting, though their motives for action are usually unknown until the narrator puzzles it out, using information the reader is not always privy to... which gets tiresome after a while, though Jemisin does a good job of not drawing out Yeine's rationalizations for an unnecessary length of time. I did enjoy the story, but it didn't end in a way that makes me want to read the rest of the series. It certainly wasn't a waste of my time, but nothing mind-blowing, hence only three stars. I'd still encourage anyone to give it a shot.

I loved N.K. Jemisin's "Dreampire" books—The Killing Moon and The Shadowed Sun. Ms. Jemisin builds fascinating world and cultures. Her characters are fully drawn, complex people. My affection for the Dreampire books lead me to The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms. This is another wonderful book. Artists sometimes struggle with not creating art that is similar to previous works. In the case of The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms Ms. Jemisin has forged a fresh and richly detailed story. The main character is Yeine, a young woman from a matriarchal warrior culture in one of the thousands of kingdoms. She served as a sort of prime minister in her small country but has been called to the city of Sky, the ruling capital of the world. Yeine is quickly immersed in the snakepit of warring factions, made up of both humans and shackled gods. As the story unfolds the reader encounters some details of Yeine's culture. Although it is not central to the plot, the structure of

Yeine's matriarchal culture was a fascinating thread in the larger plot. Ms. Jemisin books have attracted many readers and many reviews, so I'll make this short. Ms. Jemisin has become one of those writers where I will buy anything that she publishes. I look forward to reading the rest of The Inheritance series.

Wow. Tight story with a unique narrative structure. Such a great tale, by a master of language. Can't wait to read Jemisin's other novels.

Was well written but to me was very thin on the plot. Read 400 pages and nothing seemed to happen until the end. Reminded me of Neil Gaiman's American Gods and not because of the gods aspect but that book was also thin on plot to me. If you enjoyed American Gods then this book you'll probably enjoy also but its not enough for me.

A refreshing change from the classic fantasy tale. The journey is mostly intellectual and metaphysical, but with many satisfying and varied physical and temporal anchors. There is no less danger for the travel being internal. The changes in the main character and her world are profound, and at the end nothing is left as it was, although all have proceeded while holding true to the core of their identities. This is a first novel. I am looking forward to more, and this is a new author I will follow with interest.

I really enjoyed this. Can't believe Ms. Jemisin is a first timer, but if so, BRAVA! Even if not, ditto. Some of the reviews I read stated that it was difficult to follow, but I had no trouble at all. I enjoyed learning right along side the lead, and the flow of the story line was very easy to follow. I must now get the second one. Yay.

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