



Magic's Pawn (The Last Herald-Mage Series, Book 1)

By Mercedes Lackey

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Magic's Pawn (The Last Herald-Mage Series, Book 1) By Mercedes Lackey

Groundbreaking epic fantasy series in Mercedes Lackey's Valdemar universe • Lambda-Award winning novels with heartfelt high adventure and magic

Though Vanyel has been born with near-legendary abilities to work both Herald and Mage magic, he wasn't no part in such things. Nor does he seek a warrior's path, wishing instead to become a Bard.

Yet such talent as his, if left untrained, may prove a menace not only to Vanyel but to others as well. So he is sent to be fostered with his aunt, Savil, one of the fame Herald-Mages of Valdemar.

But, strong-willed and self-centered, Vanyel is a challenge which even Savil cannot master alone. For soon he will become the focus of frightening forces, lending his raw magic to a spell that unleashes terrifying wyr-hunters on the land.

And by the time Savil seeks the assistance of a Shin'a'in Adept, Vanyel's wild talent may have already grown beyond anyone's ability to contain, placing Vanyel, Savil, and Valdemar itself in desperate peril.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Vanyel's disdain for swordsmanship earns him an unexpected exile--at the High Court of Valdemar under the guardianship of his stern and implacable Aunt Savil, one of the legendary Herald-Mages. A young man's painful discovery of his own immense talents and his true nature form the core of this richly detailed fantasy, the first in a new series set in the same world as "The Heroes of Valdemar." Lackey's talent for characterization lends depth to this coming-of-age adventure that will appeal to most fantasy readers. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

Praise for series:

"Lackey has written another **intensely wrought, finely detailed** story of heroic victims struggling to do the best with their fate. Vanyel's magical strengths are countered by his very human insecurities." —VOYA

"Lackey's characterization, plotting, and wit are all of a high order. **A real page-turner for any fantasy collection.**" —*Booklist*

"Emotionally tense and full of **drama and magic.**" —*Locus*

"In Vanyel, [Lackey] has created **her most empathetic male character to date**, making our emotions run high as he meets his fate. And best of all, the very last plot twist is one of haunting beauty that will touch your heart." —*RT Reviews*

"In this trilogy, Lackey reaches an intensity she had only begun to achieve.... The story of Vanyel is **darker than her earlier books**, and the pace is unrelenting." —*American Fantasy Magazine*

About the Author

Mercedes Lackey is a full-time writer and has published numerous novels and works of short fiction, including the best-selling Heralds Of Valdemar series. She is also a professional lyricist and a licensed wild bird rehabilitator. She lives in Oklahoma with her husband, artist Larry Dixon, and their flock of parrots. She can be found at mercedeslackey.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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