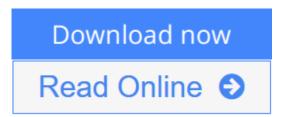


Magic's Pawn (The Last Herald-Mage Series, Book 1)

By Mercedes Lackey



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

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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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