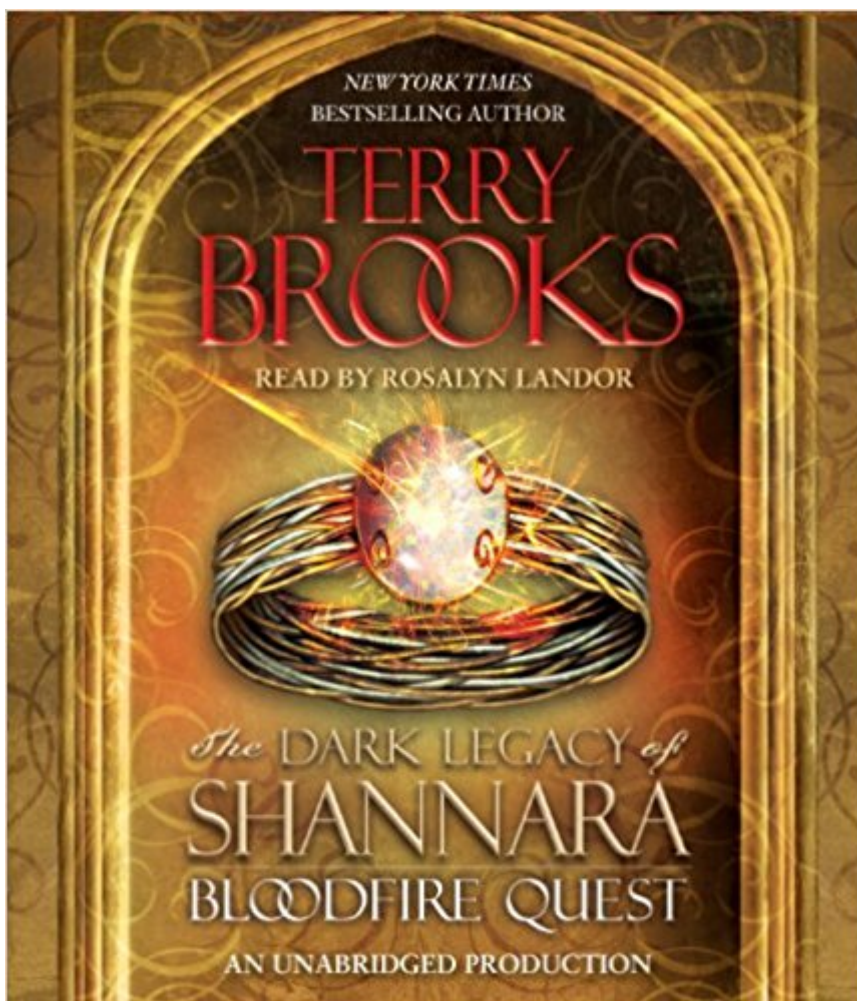


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Bloodfire Quest: The Dark Legacy Of Shannara



Synopsis

From New York Times bestselling author Terry Brooks comes the second thrilling novel in a brand-new trilogy—*The Dark Legacy of Shannara*. The quest for the missing Elfstones has gone badly awry. The Druid Order has been decimated, and its surviving leader and her followers are trapped inside the Forbidding—the hellish dimension that imprisons the most dangerous creatures banished from the Four Lands. But now the powerful magic barrier that surrounds the Forbidding is crumbling, and an evil horde is poised to break free . . . unless one young Druid is willing to make the ultimate sacrifice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review —“She selected Arling among all the Chosen to take the seedling to Bloodfire. However, in the face of this much-needed sacrifice, Arling ran away, turning her back on the peace and prosperity her land has known. For taking the seedling to Bloodfire will result in Arling’s death, a death that would come far too soon in such a young life. By running away, Arling guarantees the eventual fall of the Forbidding, the magical barriers that lock away dangerous and evil creatures. From the first pages to the harrowing ending, *Bloodfire Quest*, the second installment of Brooks’s newest trilogy, is a thrill ride that will leave readers wanting more. Librarians can only expect major demand from their sf fans, and this volume, paired with the first, might be just the right place to introduce new readers to this fine writer. High-Demand Backstory:

For the first time in Brooks career, he will publish a novel every six months until the end of this new series; librarians need to get on the bandwagon and hang on as every new one appears. --Alison Downs --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

“Terry Brooks has been my constant companion over a lifetime of exploring my beloved fantasy genre. I say with all honesty I would not be writing epic fantasy today if not for Shannara. If Tolkien is the grandfather of modern fantasy, Terry Brooks is its favorite uncle.”
•Peter V. Brett, New York Times bestselling author of The Daylight War
“The Shannara books were among the first to really capture my imagination. My daydreams and therefore my stories will always owe a debt to Terry Brooks.”
•Brandon Mull, #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Beyonders and Fablehaven series

This was another good book in this series. I'm re-reading the entire series and I've noted in other reviews I've made on the books that the author made a change from everything working out for the characters and it just being a matter of how they got from the beginning to the end, to a style where characters you're sure the author won't kill, end up dying. It's not quite George RR Martin levels, but they've gotten more grim and realistic than some of the past ones. There are two reasons that I gave it four stars instead of five. Reason one is that it doesn't have the oomph that some of his previous books have had for me. It's possible that it's just subjective, but I know that if you're reading this review of book number 26 in a 33 book series, you're most likely an avid reader. I'm also sure that at some point you've come across a passage in a book that has had a real emotional impact on you. Maybe you despaired for a character or laughed out loud. While some of his previous few books have had moments like that, the two books I've read in this current set haven't had that impact for me. Even things that I think should. The second reason, and there isn't as much of it in this book as the first one, is that he seems to be cheating on some things. For instance, in the last book, there was a random wall of rocks stopping the characters from going further in the airships the author created. Then later, when they need the airship to come, it miraculously finds its way around. The only reason it seems to have been there was to temporarily split up the characters and force them to face hardships they wouldn't have otherwise faced. There are a few things like that in this series and I feel like a writer of his skill could have done better. Mostly because I've seen him do better with similar situations. So this is a definite read for fans of the series and it's mostly well written. I'm looking forward to finishing the next one.

I found this volume a tad disappointing. It was shorter than previous book, and its Point Of View switches were abrupt to me. On top of that, the action seemed uneven, for me at least. But hey, it's a Shannara story by Brooks, so it's not all bad. We pick up soon after Wards of Faerie ended, with the principal characters in three groups. The part of the Druid expedition in the Forbidding, the part still in the Four Lands, and Aphen, Arling, Cymrian, along with Woostra, have fled to Arbolon, after fleeing Paranor. Things can't get worse, right? We quickly find out that the Ellcrys is dying and has picked Arling as its successor. Something the young girl refuses to accept. The Federation doesn't show up till half way through the book. Stoon is fleshed out, character wise, nicely. Edinja Orle, the new Prime Minister, is one scary woman. As a magic user with evil intent, I would not want to cross her. I wish I could say things go well for folks, but it's mostly downhill. Hopefully there is an upturn in the last of the trilogy.

Brooks never disappoints and once again he's returned to the Shannara series to give us an incredible reading experience. Terry is probably my favorite science-fiction fantasy authors after Tolkien. His characters are totally believable and the story lines never fails to sweep me up. I find it almost impossible to stop reading one of Brooks novels once I start one. Much like the Hobbit and the Lord of the Rings (which I read straight through). I've never been disappointed in a single Brooks effort.

Bloodfire Quest is the second installment in the Dark Legacy of Shannara trilogy. The plot follows the further adventures of Railing and Redden Olmsford in the quest of the Elfstones which had been lost many years before. In Bloodfire Quest the Olmsford brothers and many more minor characters are embroiled in deadly adventures that pushes the Elfstones quest to the back burner. Though this trilogy pales in comparison of Terry Brooks' first works in charm and plot development, the Shannara and Shannara Heritage, it is still a good read. Though the flavor of Tolkien is long gone, the plot and magic adventures continue and we meet several old friends along the way, such as the King of the Silver River. Brooks presents a good plot line and characters in a fast paced story. Some things like flying ships still cause me to hold my nose. I know why the author chose to do this. Still! I expect to see Captain Hook flying in upon the fluffy clouds in search of Peter Pan.

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