



Blade of Tyshalle (Acts of Caine Book 2)

By Matthew Woodring Stover

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Twenty-seven years ago, they said Hari Michaelson didn't have a chance. He was just a loser, a street criminal from a disgraced family. He'd never make anything of himself. They were wrong. He made himself into Caine: Killer. Superstar. Hero . . .

THE BLADE OF TYSHALLE

Six years ago, Ma'elkoth--a god of Overworld--held Pallas Ril in his merciless grip. Earth's ruling elite wanted her dead. Caine swore he would save her. They said he didn't have a chance. They were wrong. He sacrificed his career as Caine to crush Pallas Ril's enemies and bring her home.

Now Hari Michaelson is the only man who stands between the soulless corporate masters of Earth and the green hills of Overworld. Caine's victory over Ma'elKoth opened a door between the worlds, and the faceless masses of Earth are killing everything he loves. Enemies old and new array themselves against him. And Hari's not even Caine anymore. He's just one man--alone, half-crippled, powerless. They say he doesn't have a chance.

They are wrong . . .

From the Trade Paperback edition.



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Blade of Tyshalle hits like a sledgehammer to the face. Here's a taste of this thickly boiling stew of fantasy, horror, and science fiction:

Kollberg chewed on the finger, worrying it, cracking the bone like a dog sucking marrow; he turned his head to one side, wedged the finger back between his molars, bit down again, and yanked his head from side to side until the bone splintered at the knuckle and he could rip it free. Blood sprayed, and Kollberg fixed his lips to the wound, sucking greedily.

Imagine an earth overloaded with faceless billions scrambling for the scraps of the unimaginably wealthy few. The only way to climb out of the gutter comes through training for Reality TV to the *nth* degree: actors train in special academies, are implanted with broadcast equipment, and get transferred to Earth's sister world, called Overworld, where all the trappings of high fantasy exist for real.

There are tiny, winged fairies on Overworld. They carry yard-long lances of razor steel. The dwarves magically flow stone to entomb their enemies. Back on earth, viewers experience full-body simulations of the actors' heroic adventures.

But the billions hunger for more than entertainment. Overworld tempts them with its pure air, its unexploited resources, its living space, and its sweet, clean water. Their hunger begets a blind god. And Kollberg, the god of human appetites, sends his weapons to Overworld--bulldozers for the land and a plague of fatal, frothing madness for the people.

Enter Hari Michaelson, the actor formerly known as Caine. Since the events of Stover's *Heroes Die*, in which Caine squared off against the god Ma'elKoth, a new religion has sprung up--Cainism. The Children of Ma'elKoth persecute the Cainists, but that particular war is small potatoes next to the bouts of unstoppable death about to be unleashed as earth's high-tech weaponry takes on the fiery thaumaturges of Overworld.

Hari/Caine, his old friends, and his bevy of mortal enemies surge and clash and take unbelievable beatings, spiritual as well as physical. And the faceless billions learn nothing of trust, sacrifice, or redemption.

Blade of Tyshalle: gods, myths, human weakness, and the tool that is pain. You've been warned. --*Blaise Selby*

From Publishers Weekly

A host of action sequences (whose detailed choreography reflects the author's martial-arts background), subplots, counterplots and secondary characters (some gruesome enough to give Hannibal Lecter pause) extend (some will feel pad) Stover's (*Heroes Die*, etc.) latest epic. A century or more from now, Earth's 14 billion people are kept under control not only by a rigidly hierarchical totalitarianism but by the entertainment provided by the adventures in the Overworld, a parallel world that seems to be the Faerie of myth and folklore. Hari Michaelson, a media executive on Earth but a formidable assassin named Caine in the Overworld, discovers a monstrous plot to infect Overworld with a deadly virus and depopulate it for the benefit of Earth's oligarchy. With the help of his wife, Shanna, in her avatar as the goddess Pallas Ril, and his old fighting instructor Kris Hansen, now an Overworld mage named Deliann, Caine/Michaelson fights a long

and involved battle against both the Earth conspiracy and Overworld's dark god Ma'elKoth. How it all turns out matters a lot less than the immediate, often X-rated action. In spite of its high ambitions and a considerable level of intelligence, the book goes over the edge from complex into convoluted, and among efforts to combine SF and fantasy (consider Tad Williams's Otherland series and classic Michael Moorcock) has to be ranked as an interesting near miss.

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From Library Journal

Before his confinement to a wheelchair, Hari Michaelson made his living on earth as a virtual actor. As the assassin Caine, Michaelson enjoyed another identity in the alternate realm known as Overworld. When a ruthless corporation threatens both Earth and Overworld, Michaelson must find a way to overcome his physical confinement to take up his role as killer and savior and prevent disaster from overtaking both his homes. Stover's sequel to *Heroes Die* blends science, magic, and martial arts into an action-packed tale of adventure and heroism that belongs in large libraries fantasy or sf collections.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nydia Kelly:

Book is actually written, printed, or created for everything. You can understand everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important matter to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A reserve *Blade of Tyshalle* (Acts of Caine Book 2) will make you to always be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think this open or reading a book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suited book with you?

James Roberts:

This book untitled *Blade of Tyshalle* (Acts of Caine Book 2) to be one of several books this best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by means of online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, because you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to you to past this guide from your list.

Mark Bunnell:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love *Blade of Tyshalle* (Acts of Caine Book 2), you may enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Lashunda McCloud:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got college students? We believe that that concern was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. And also you know that little person including reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update regarding something by book. Many kinds of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them are these claims Blade of Tyshalle (Acts of Caine Book 2).

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