



Penric and the Shaman

By Lois McMaster Bujold

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Multiple-award-winner and bestselling author Lois McMaster Bujold returns to her World of the Five Gods, the setting of her acclaimed novels *The Curse of Chalion*, *Paladin of Souls*, and *The Hallowed Hunt*. Set four years after the events detailed in the Hugo and Locus Award finalist for Best Novella, *Penric's Demon*, Bujold's newest installment of Penric and Desdemona's tale is a breathtaking must-read novella for her legion of fans.

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Penric and the Shaman By Lois McMaster Bujold Bibliography

- Rank: #854361 in Books
- Published on: 2017-02-28
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x 5.50" w x .75" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 216 pages

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Editorial Review

From the Author

Author's Note:

A Bujold Reading-Order Guide

The Fantasy Novels

My fantasy novels are not hard to order. Easiest of all is *The Spirit Ring*, which is a stand-alone, or aquel, as some wag once dubbed books that for some obscure reason failed to spawn a subsequent series. Next easiest are the four volumes of *The Sharing Knife*--in order, *Beguilement*, *Legacy*, *Passage*, and *Horizon*--which I broke down and actually numbered, as this is one continuous tale.

What were called the Chalion books after the setting of its first two volumes, but which now that the geographic scope has widened I'm dubbing the World of the Five Gods, were written to be stand-alones as part of a larger whole. However, the second volume certainly contains spoilers for the first, so *Curse-Paladin* is the recommended reading order. The third is in effect an independent prequel, not sharing characters or setting with the other two, so readers of the prior volumes need to adjust their expectations going in. In any case, the publication order is:

The Curse of Chalion

Paladin of Souls

The Hallowed Hunt

In terms of internal world chronology, *The Hallowed Hunt* would fall first, the Penric novellas perhaps a hundred and fifty years later, and *The Curse of Chalion* and *Paladin of Souls* would follow a century or so after that.

Current internal chronology of the Penric & Desdemona tales is:

"Penric's Demon"

"Penric and the Shaman"

"Penric's Fox"

"Penric's Mission"

"Mira's Last Dance"

Other Original E-books

The short story collection *ProtoZoa* contains five very early tales--three (1980s) contemporary fantasy, two science fiction--all previously published but not in this handy format. The novelette "Dreamweaver's Dilemma" may be of interest to Vorkosigan completists, as it is the first story in which that proto-universe began, mentioning Beta Colony but before Barrayar was even thought of.

Sidelines: Talks and Essays is just what it says on the tin--a collection of three decades of my nonfiction writings, including convention speeches, essays, travelogues, introductions, and some less formal pieces. I hope it will prove an interesting companion piece to my fiction.

The Vorkosigan Stories

Many pixels have been expended debating the 'best' order in which to read what have come to be known as the Vorkosigan Books (or Saga), the Vorkosiverse, the Miles books, and other names. The debate mainly revolves around publication order versus internal-chronological order. I favor internal chronological, with a few adjustments.

Shards of Honor and *Barrayar*. The first two books in the series proper, they detail the adventures of Cordelia Naismith of Beta Colony and Aral Vorkosigan of Barrayar. *Shards* was my very first novel ever; *Barrayar* was actually my eighth, but continues the tale the next day after the end of *Shards*. For readers who want to be sure of beginning at the beginning, or who are very spoiler-sensitive, start with these two.

The Warrior's Apprentice and *The Vor Game* (with, perhaps, the novella "The Mountains of Mourning" tucked in between.) *The Warrior's Apprentice* introduces the character who became the series' linchpin, Miles Vorkosigan; the first book tells how he created a space mercenary fleet by accident; the second how he fixed his mistakes from the first round. Space opera and military-esque adventure (and a number of other things one can best discover for oneself), *The Warrior's Apprentice* makes another good place to jump into the series for readers who prefer a young male protagonist.

After that: *Brothers in Arms* should be read before *Mirror Dance*, and both, ideally, before *Memory*.

Komarr makes another alternate entry point for the series, picking up Miles's second career at its start. It should be read before *A Civil Campaign*.

Borders of Infinity, a collection of three of the five currently extant novellas, makes a good Miles Vorkosigan early-adventure sampler platter, I always thought, for readers who don't want to commit themselves to length. (But it may make more sense if read after *The Warrior's Apprentice*.) Take care not to confuse the collection-as-a-whole with its title story, "The Borders of Infinity".

Falling Free takes place 200 years earlier in the timeline and does not share settings or characters with the main body of the series. Most readers recommend picking up this story later. It should likely be read before *Diplomatic Immunity*, however, which revisits the "quaddies", a bioengineered race of free-fall dwellers, in Miles's time.

The novels in the internal-chronological list below appear in italics; the novellas (officially defined as a story between 17,500 words and 40,000 words) in quote marks.

Falling Free

Shards of Honor

Barrayar

The Warrior's Apprentice

"The Mountains of Mourning"

"Weatherman"

The Vor Game

Cetaganda

Ethan of Athos

Borders of Infinity

"Labyrinth"

"The Borders of Infinity"

Brothers in Arms

Mirror Dance

Memory

Komarr

A Civil Campaign

"Winterfair Gifts"

Diplomatic Immunity

Captain Vorpatril's Alliance

CryoBurn

Gentleman Jole and the Red Queen

Caveats:

The novella "Weatherman" is an out-take from the beginning of the novel *The Vor Game*. If you already have *The Vor Game*, you likely don't need this.

The original 'novel' *Borders of Infinity* was a fix-up collection containing the three novellas "The Mountains of Mourning", "Labyrinth", and "The Borders of Infinity", together with a frame to tie the pieces together. Again, beware duplication. The frame story does not stand alone.

Happy reading!

-- Lois McMaster Bujold

From the Inside Flap

Young Lord Penric now wears the white robes of the Bastard's Order, complete with shoulder braids marking him as a divine and sorcerer, while he pursues scholarly studies in the court of the Princess-Archdivine. His demon of disorder, Desdemona, is, of course, present, accounted for, and offering clever commentary, particularly when she grows bored. And so when a Locator of the Father's Order shows up on the Archdivine's threshold in need of a sorcerer for a journey and she volunteers Penric, at least Des is thrilled with the prospect of an adventure. As they travel into the mountains to locate Inglis, a shaman accused of murdering his best friend, the situation grows into a test for all of Penric's developing talents. Multiple-award-winner and bestselling author Lois McMaster Bujold returns to her World of the Five Gods, the setting of her acclaimed novels *The Curse of Chalion*, *Paladin of Souls*, and *The Hallowed Hunt*. Set four years after the events detailed in the Hugo and Locus Award finalist for Best Novella, "Penric's Demon," Bujold's newest installment of Penric and Desdemona's tale is a breathtaking must-read novella for her legion of fans.

About the Author

Lois McMaster Bujold is one of the most honored writers of science fiction and fantasy, having won five Hugo Awards and three Nebula Awards. In 2011, she was awarded the Skylark Award for her significant contribution to science fiction.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Fugate:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or even goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time to read a book. They can be reading whatever they consider because their hobby will be reading a book. How about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, man feel need book when they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you will need this Penric and the Shaman.

Ross Jackson:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book titled Penric and the Shaman? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have some other opinion?

Louis Hartford:

Reading a book can be one of a lot of activity that everyone in the world adores. Do you like reading book thus. There are a lot of reasons why people enjoy it. First reading a reserve will give you a lot of new details. When you read a book you will get new information simply because book is one of many ways to share the information as well as their idea. Second, studying a book will make anyone more imaginative. When you examining a book especially hype book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the character types do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to some others. When you read this Penric and the Shaman, you may tells your family, friends along with soon about yours e-book. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a e-book.

Betsy Haley:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read the book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day long to reading a reserve. The book Penric and the Shaman it is quite good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book offers high quality.

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