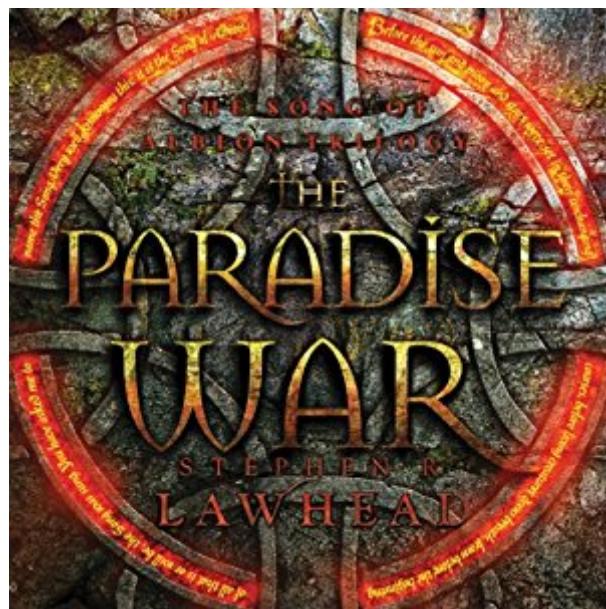


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The Paradise War: Song Of Albion, Book 1



Synopsis

The first in a trilogy patterned on the classic "myth" and set in present day Oxford and Scotland, and the Celtic otherworld. It features a young American who goes in search of a fellow-student who has disappeared while investigating a cairn. The author has also written "The Pendragon Cycle". --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

This book is good, though what I liked best about it was that it introduced me to Stephen Lawhead. I've become a fan of many of his books, particularly his Robin Hood Trilogy and his outstanding book Patrick, which is about the life of St. Patrick. I did not like this book as much as those other books, largely because the pace on this book drags from time to time. While I would encourage readers to start with the Robin Hood Trilogy or Patrick first, this is still enjoyable.

This is a riveting and thoroughly enjoyable tale. I would HIGHLY recommend this to anyone regardless of which genres they normally gravitate towards. Though definitely not as far reaching or comprehensive, Lawhead's writing and the world he creates was evocative of the styles of Tolkien and Martin. The narrative style is chosen with distinct deliberation and it works splendidly for the novel. This novel is a classic tale of good vs. evil, but told in a manner where the reader finds himself relating to the principle character and his struggles. It involves a touch of fantasy, but this should not discourage those who often shy away from such a genre as the writing is superb and the

character development alone are worth the read.

I wish I had more time, and I do wish to come back and edit this review, but it will suffice to say that this was an incredibly enjoyable reading experience. It starts slow, especially if you're comparing to the King Raven trilogy or Byzantium (my previous Lawhead experience), but goodness it picks up quick and the sprint in Albion is worth the plod through the drudgery of a gray, sad, and broken world. Our world indeed. That is, I think, the greatest value I've come away from this book with: the beauty of what we can just barely imagine, the eternal, as the impetus for the temporal. A reminder that there is greater purpose than the comforting of the wanton soul.

I read this book, and loved it so much that I purchased the rest of the trilogy. It has many of the qualities of classic fantasy. I enjoyed the way the character "Louis", an Oxford scholar, was transformed into a hero of epic proportion, yet retains his purity of heart through all the trials and tribulations that Albion endures. I loved how the relationships of loyalty and love between characters develop. What can I say? I've been a "Ring Nerd" since 1965! If you love Tolkien, you will love this series of books!

After getting this book free on the Kindle, it sat in my archives for several years. I am so sorry I waited that long to read it. Told through the perspective of Lewis Gillies, an American graduate student at Oxford, it recounts his travel to Albion. Through a cairn in Scotland, he (along with the reader) is transported to this mystical world based on Celtic lore. He learns the language and customs from his druid companion Tegid. It is a wonderful story and as soon as I was finished, I downloaded the second book, Silver Hand, so I could finish the story. I recommend this to anyone who likes fantasy like C.S. Lewis' Narnia series.

This is a perfect beach book. The story isn't terribly complex, so you don't have to pay too much attention to the details, but it moves right along, enough so that you won't be bored. The characters start off pretty bland, and there isn't a whole lot of development, but the events that take place don't require a huge insight into their motivations and thus it's not a problem. The writing is quite good, but fairly simple. In fact, my major complaint with the story is that it seems written for a young adult audience, say, high-school. That made it just a little too simplistic for me to give it four stars. So while it won't keep you on the edge of your seat, it will keep you amused enough to lounge in the sand.

My daughter's boy friend loaned me this book, it being one of his favorites. I had never heard of the writer, but from the first pages character descriptions and writing, I was taken. I finished the first book and ordered a set for myself and for my other daughter. They are a delight to read and are romantic in the truest sense of the word. The land of Albion is a spring of life that overflows into our world through love, honor, joy and all wonderful things. The conflict unfolds between light and darkness. Right is right, with no grey areas which is quite satisfying and refreshing to read.

While always enjoying but never engulfing myself into Celtic stories, I was very interested in this book when I saw it on sale. It had been one of the best book purchases I've made this year. Two very different roommates from Oxford travel into a Celtic land, where they each discovered who they really are. While that is what pretty cheesy synopsis of the book, it's what happens on a nutshell. Would recommend it to all folklore, Celtic, and adventure lovers.

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