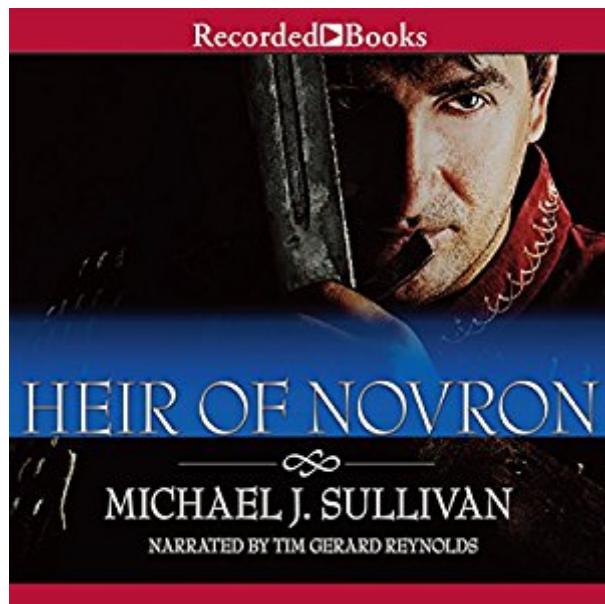


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Heir Of Novron: Riyria Revelations, Volume 3



Synopsis

A rising star in the fantasy genre, Michael J. Sullivan has built an ardent following for his Riyria Revelations saga, which draws to its epic conclusion in Heir of Novron. On the holiday of Wintertide, the New Empire plans to burn the Witch of Melengar and force the Empress into a marriage of their own design. But they didn't account for Royce and Hadrian finally locating the Heir of Novron—or the pair's desire to wreak havoc on the New Empire's carefully crafted scheme. Heir of Novron contains Wintertide and Percepluis, books 5 and 6 of Riyria Revelations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been reading for pleasure since the early 1980s and I have not been paid or given any incentive for this review. I have confirmed purchase of each of these books on for my Kindle Paperwhite and I am writing this review for all of the Riyria novels and will post this for each. Please see the authors' notes for reading order of this series but this review is based on reading in chronological order: The Crown Tower (The Riyria Chronicles) The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) The Death of Dulgath (The Riyria Chronicles) Theft of Swords (Riyria Revelations) Rise of Empire (Riyria Revelations) Heir of Novron (Riyria Revelations) Author Michael J. Sullivan has a gift. After 20 years I have a new favorite series and Michael J. Sullivan has another dedicated reader and fan. This series, and the writing style, takes me back to the old school days of Robert E. Howard in way. Each book stands on its own. It is a very clear story/adventure that starts and concludes in a single volume so it can be read one at a time or

binged all at once. The thing that differentiates it is that the series, in its entirety, is also a single epic adventure that starts in The Crown Tower and concludes in Heir of Novron. So taken individually each book is excellent and as a complete epic it more than satisfies. Like others have stated as well I was sad to read the end of it simply knowing that this particular tale was ending while at the same time that ending had enough adventure, emotion, humanity, and twists and turns that I was also happy to read the final pages. As an example the end of Glen Cook's The Black Company ended poetically and perfectly so too does the story of Riyria. What I took away from this series was a story following the two main characters, Hadrian and Royce, and was about humanity, morality, pain and loss, redemption, family and brotherhood. The two main protagonists and nearly opposite sides of the same coin but that coin is an old tarnished, beaten, and used coin with its faces faded from the wear of life in a medieval fantasy world. There is no typical heroes journey, no larger than life heroics, no immortality of characters that often plagues the genre. These are characters who are nuanced and believable, so much so that some have complained it is not realistic that the two protagonists would be together at all. To any who thought that I say just read on if there is no mystical fate forcing them together or any overused fantasy tropes, there is just strong character design and development, written by an author with a gift for bringing his imagination to the printed page. The author starts the seeds of the story in the first book and nothing is wasted or filler. Small scenes in one book, with characters you may or may not think to ever see again, but can have an impact further down the road. This is like real life. If you help someone on the street or donating to charity, you may just be doing something that will change the world someday. You will meet an excellent cast of secondary and supporting characters who may come and go in the story but while they are there they are real characters and create real moments in time. Whether you see the impact or the characters again I will not say anything to spoil the story but as far as the characters development and the story itself Michael J. Sullivan did not waste your time with stand-in or generic stereotypical filler roles. The individual stories each touched upon different adventures breaking into an impregnable tower, a high seas adventure, a dungeon crawl, etc, giving each book its own unique feel and never a retread. This works well with the overall storyline for the entire series as well and in the end the payoff is well worth your time and money spent. In regards to reading order, the author suggests publishing order, and I can understand why, but I hate prequels. I do not like knowing where the end is before I read something, so I read in chronological order and I am glad that I did. Seeing the beginning gave me, personally, a better feel for where the characters came from to where they were when the final volume concluded. I am sure these books can be enjoyed either order so use your personal preference

when choosing. I cannot rate these books in any kind of order of enjoyment because overall I have come to look at it as one volume or one story. There were no weak books or weak stories to my taste so I will not try to critique it down to arbitrary ratings based on personal preferences. You cannot judge the arts technically only how they impact you and your enjoyment. Give this series a try if you are looking for something a little different from the glut of current fantasy out there today.

I don't know why I have never put a review for this book here. I first read it several years ago and it is so good that I have reread it at least three times. The Riyria Revelations series by Michael J Sullivan was his first published series which began as six self published ebooks. Those became understandably popular enough to attract a publisher who combined the six into 3 hefty books. Heir of Novron is the 3rd and final book in this fast paced exciting trilogy featuring Royce Melborn, professional thief and former assassin and Hadrian Blackwater, ex mercenary and gladiator, known collectively as Riyria meaning two in elvish. What began in the first book, Theft of Swords, as a simple job to steal a sword threw them into a conspiracy that pitted them against the forces working to do away with the rulers of the kingdoms of Elan to create an empire ruled by the heir of Novron. The plot will capture your imagination, the pace will keep you turning pages and speeding through each book, and the characters, professional thieves Royce and Hadrian will steal your heart. So don't be discouraged when you finish this series. Michael J Sullivan tells the beginning of Riyria in the book The Crown Tower, the first in the Riyria Chronicles series followed by The Rose and the Thorn, and The Death of Dulgath and there will soon be a fourth, The Disappearance of Winter's Daughter. The books in the Chronicles series can be read in any order. If you love good, clean, exciting and fun fantasy reading, I highly recommend delving into Riyria's world with Theft of Swords.

This is a review of the entire Revelations series. I had a fun time reading it, but in the end, the plot was very weak. It's difficult to go into detail without saying anything, but suffice it to say that my itch for good fantasy has not been scratched. I was not absorbed in the world, and I had a hard time getting attached to any of the characters. The characters were highly unbelievable. The attempts at inserting love stories were boring at best and often difficult to believe or seemed horribly out of place. Nothing at all was realistic about Modina. Amilia's story was yawn-inducing. Arista felt like a plot device to make things happen when the characters seemed completely screwed. And everyone goes on and on about how Royce had this terrible life, but hardly any info on that is given. It is also

stated constantly how scary Royce is, but I never really got that. I've always been a fan of authors showing me what a character is like instead of telling me, and Sullivan did not deliver. You would think with how I'm talking about this book that I'm writing a one or two star review. But it was entertaining enough to give it three. I probably won't revisit this series, and I'm not really interested in reading the three prequel novels about Hadrian and Royce's backgrounds. The bottom line is that this series didn't leave a strong impression on me one way or the other. But the journey was pleasant enough.

I thought the whole series was wonderful. Enjoyed every minute of it. Sullivan is an outstanding writer and I especially loved the plot (very complex with lots of twists and turns--some might call it misdirection;) but it was fun to wonder if that's what it really was) and his descriptions, just the right amount. They were an important part of his world, but he didn't go on for too long. His male main characters had a lot of chemistry, lots of lightheartedness and good one-liners, even though they're in very serious situations. His female characters were strong and interesting. There were a couple of times when I cheered out loud for them because they had overcome so much. Great character arcs. I really can't think of a thing I didn't like. Very talented author and storyteller.

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