

The Romance Readers Connection

Review by: Sarah Silversmith
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Rating: 3 out of 5



With the publication of THE MAGE, Jean Johnson concludes her Son's of Destiny series. This book is Morganen's story, one of the strongest mages ever to live, needs to fulfill the prophecy so he and his brothers can finally live in peace with their spouses. It has not been an easy journey and everything that has happened leads up to this climax.

Haupanea is the Duchess of Nightfall. Or at least she was the last one before an accident pushes her to a different world and a different time. Marooned on Earth, a very un-magical place, it is not until a portal opens up and steals her best friend Kelly, that she feels a connection to home. While on Earth, she assumes the life of Hope, a victim of a tornado that hit when she landed in this plane of existence. For months after Kelly leaves, all she can see is a hand through a mirror portal, writing to her in communication.

Hope and Morganen start a long distance relationship. Can it hold true when she returns? She has kept some big secrets and they can destroy her budding relationship with Morg.

Let me state here that you should not even contemplate reading this book if you have not read all seven preceding this one. I read the first two books and while I could follow along in this story (sort of), this is no stand alone book. Actually, so much happens in this story that is tied to the other stories, I wonder if these 8 books would not be better served as one HUGE tome. I want to mention that these stories and the sub plots that underlie

the story ARE interesting, they are just very intertwined. Ms. Johnson's characters have a quick no-nonsense type wit which keeps the book from getting too bogged down in the minor details.

Conversely, this is an interesting world which is created but there is so much going on that at times I felt cheated at how short the scenes were. Also, there is a huge focus on Kelly as queen of the island and her part in the prophecy, that Morganen and Hope's story gets pushed to the back ground. I found the beginning of this book to move along very slowly, and then rush through a lot of action to reach the end. That does not make this a bad book, just a bit uneven in the pacing. **THE MAGE**, does wrap up the prophecy and tie up all loose ends satisfactorily for those who are reading for that purpose.