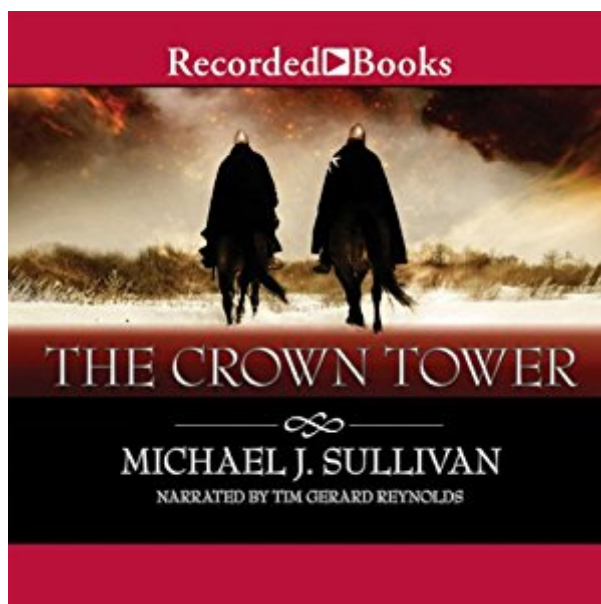


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The Crown Tower: The Riyria Chronicles, Book 1



Synopsis

Michael J. Sullivan garnered critical raves and a massive readership for his Riyria Revelations series. The first book in his highly anticipated Riyria Chronicles series of prequels, *The Crown Tower* brings together warrior Hadrian Blackwater with thieving assassin Royce Melborn. The two form a less-than-friendly pairing, but the quest before them has a rare prize indeed, and if they can breach the supposedly impregnable walls of the Crown Tower, their names will be legend.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours and 49 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Recorded Books

Audible.com Release Date: August 6, 2013

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00DZ01H2W

Best Sellers Rank: #57 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Action &

Adventure #86 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fantasy > Epic #246 in Books > Science

Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Epic

Customer Reviews

"The Crown Tower" is the first book in 'The Riyria Chronicles' by author Michael J. Sullivan. This Kindle e-book was a 717 Kb download (approx. 377 reading pages) and sold for \$8.89 at the time of writing this review. The book also includes a brief excerpt of the second book in the series, "The Rose and the Thorn", due out in Sept, 2013.

Spoilers (general theme) This book deals with the first encounters between Hadrian Blackwater and Royce Melborn... a relationship initially filled with suspicion, distrust and a huge amount of animosity.

End Spoilers

Some Pros and Concerns...

The Pros

- 1.) well written and deftly told in the professional style that is readily apparent in all of the books of this series.
- 2.) a nice sense of pace and timing... important pieces of info were released in proper sequence and at intervals that kept the story moving along while maintaining the suspense.
- 3.) map... there is a very good map with markings for topographical features and the names of major places. (See Concerns below)
- 4.) I thought the author did a terrific job in highlighting both Hadrian's and Royce's initial character traits. Hadrian with a degree of youthful naivety and innocence and

Royce's uncaring ruthlessness. Two clashing personality traits that were slowly and often painfully softened by the books end.5.) some interesting confrontations between our heroes and several other groups and individuals. These moments are tense, exciting and typical of Michael J. Sullivan skill with prose for action-based scenes.6.) bantering conversation... because this tale documents their initial meetings, it took a while for them to develop their kibitzing style of repartee...

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 authorsâ™ 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 wayâ | 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 Cookâ™s The Black Company ended poetically and perfectly so too does the story of Riyria.

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