



# Sanctuary

*Mercedes Lackey*

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## Sanctuary Mercedes Lackey

In the third novel of the best-selling Dragon Jousts series, The Altan serf Vetch has escaped the enemy kingdom of Tia, only to find his homeland, Alta, enslaved by the evil Priest-Kings. With a small band of followers, Vetch must gather a secret army of dragon riders to rid their world of war and magical domination once and for all.

## Sanctuary Details

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Author : Mercedes Lackey

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## From Reader Review Sanctuary for online ebook

### Debbie says

I still love this new world that Lackey's created but I felt that this book fell short of the previous two. The story was slow to start and it didn't really get going until after the first 100 pages. Also, I think my reaction had a lot to do with the fact it's been about a year since I've read the second book and the events and characters of that were a little fuzzy. However, the ending was satisfactory and there are enough intriguing hints of what's to come in this universe that I'll keep reading. In addition, for a history freak like me, I'm loving the parallels to Lackey's world to the historical ancient Egypt's unification. Recommended, but read the first two first.

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### Reader-ramble says

I just enjoyed these books. And I still have one more to go.

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### Annette McIntyre says

Following the adventures of Kiron the Dragon Joustier as he and his friends set up their refuge in the desert and their saving of those the Mages of Alta would use in their quest for eternal youth and power

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### Dominique says

I've enjoyed most of Mercedes Lackey's books, and while I enjoyed this one very much, it was not one of her best outings.

I always pictured Ari as a soldier and a leader of a small group of men under his command, not the leader of many hundreds hiding out in the desert so when he was "chosen" to be the King of Sanctuary, I didn't much buy into that.

My other real issue with the book concerns the encounter between Kiron and his love interest. Characters are supposed to grow and evolve as the story unfolds and I did not imagine Kiron giving into her demands as quickly as he did; it's as if he completely reverted back to the serf he was when the series started.

There was not as much detail in this one as there had been in the previous two; it was almost as if we were expected to have read the other two prior to reading this one.

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### Dawn says

The conclusion to Lackey's **The Dragon Joustiers** series, an alternate fantasy history of Ancient Egypt. Kiron (nee Vetch) and his lady love Aket-ten and the rest of the Altan Joustiers have fled to Sanctuary, a secret city in the desert, to seek refuge from the Magi. The Magi have taken control of Alta (Upper Egypt)

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and an offshoot takes over Kiron's slave home country, Tia (Lower Egypt) throughout the book. It is up to the rebels at Sanctuary to prevail over the evil wizards and to restore these two warring countries to peace.

This is a comfort read for me. Lackey isn't at her shining best, but she still delivers a good story. The look at an alternate Ancient Egypt is neat and I think she has some real credence to the dragons actions, from her affinity for raptors in real life. None of the characters will surprise you, but they won't disappoint either. This book nicely summarizes important events from the past two, which was good because it had been at least 2-3 years since I'd read them and I had forgotten some of the major plot points.

If you are a fan of Lackey's style and would like her take on *Dragonriders of Pern*, but in Ancient Egypt, I would recommend this book.

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### **Michael says**

Another great addition to the "Joust" series.

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### **Lisa (Harmonybites) says**

This is the third book in the Dragon Jouster's series that began with *Joust* and continued in *Alta*, and you should read those first. I'm a fan generally of Lackey's books, particularly her Valdemar series, and I think these are among the best of her books I've read. The series is centered on Kiron (in the first book known as Vetch) and I like his arc throughout the books, as well as the magical land, reminiscent of Ancient Egypt, in which this is set--and the dragons of course. They're not talking or telepathic dragons in the vein of McCaffrey or Novik, but are still engaging. The problems in the two lands of the previous books come to a head in this one, and beyond following characters I'd grown to care about (the dragons as much as the humans) this makes for a well-paced gripping adventure tale.

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### **Coleman Glider says**

wing-leader Kiron, the former serf known as Vetch and a disparate group of refugees from the countries of Alta and Tia flee to the desert to a hidden refuge that the gods have uncovered and named Sanctuary. In Sanctuary Kiron and a small cadre of Jousters are safe from the evil Magi who are draining Alta and Tia of their "gifted ones." Kiron and the Jousters with their magnificent dragons who have as much personality as the human characters must learn to coexist in a land of extremes. They know they need to hide from the Magi and increase the number of jousters and dragons to wage a war. Refugees from both Alta and Tia begin to straggle into Sanctuary seeking safety. The jousters make desperate attempts to rescue those being drained of their powers and get set for the coming battle with the Magi. Once again Kiron and friends must face their fear and brave danger to help save Alta from the Magi's corruption.

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### **April says**

A re-read for me, but this is a fun series!

## Jo Oehrlein says

The bad guys are doing even more bad things in Alta and have gotten influence in Tia.

The good guys have setup camp/HQ in Sanctuary.

Aket-ten and Kiron become an official item.

Less world building than books #1 & 2.

The usual number of editing mistakes -- at one point the wrong jouster is identified as a baker's son, for example.

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## Nan says

I like this series but, clearly she had to churn this out very quickly. It repeats a lot of the 2nd book and doesn't add much new info and misses out on some items that would need to be taken care of if whole cities move to the desert and try to work together to build a new nation. Also, there are editing errors with names. This is why authors should work hard to avoid having too many characters with the same lettered names who are always working together. ie. Karen and Kate with their do Kit. ahhh.

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## Saphirablue says

I'm a bit torn about this one. On one hand I liked to learn how Kiron & Co fare in Sanctuary and with what they have to deal on a daily basis. On the other hand I feel like that that part of the story was a bit too long and detailed. ./

I also didn't like that I got told certain bits of information and history again and again and again. I've read the previous books. I don't need to be told again what happened. Or that Aket-ten's power is a minor one again and again. Or that Toreth was murdered. And so on. :(

I also felt that it was a bit too convenient that the Gods helped so much in the end with the guiding through Kaleth and the shakes. But on the other hand - they *are Gods* and can do whatever they want.

I really liked all the descriptions of flying and when Kiron discovered the other City. Also, training the Dragons to fly in the dark (even though - I wanted to read about more about the training) and the way how they got the Winged Ones out of the Temple? Great.

So yeah, I'm a bit torn about it but I still enjoyed reading the book.

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## **mirba says**

If you love dragons, this is the correct series to read. This three books are so filled with dragons and flying jousters that you'll feel the wind on your skin while reading it.

These books are a really good coming of age story, but also the world building, the politics and the society overall are very good.

Only thing that doesn't get a five star for me is that there are a lot of external characters, but these characters are sometimes forgotten, and sometimes it makes you feel that the book should really have been longer. Also it's really a boy book, and being female I strongly feel the absence of female characters

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## **Jade Lauron says**

This isn't really the final book, since she then went back and wrote a fourth one, but since the threat of wild horses couldn't entice me to continue reading once I found a good stopping place, I might as well use this as my conclusion. It was, after all, only meant to be a trilogy.

She finally ended most of the tedium of dragon care, what was fascinating in the beginning soon felt like I really did own a dragon. The reader was present for every feeding, at least we were spared the shoveling of dung in this final book. What's more, the constant search for food was an all-pervading theme, okay, we get it, dragons are HUNGRY. I'm only glad she bothered to take care of the search for water in the desert, because that could've really gotten boring.

The world was moderately interesting, except it was just a fantasy version of Egypt, and the Egyptian names blurred together after a bit. The characters proved intensely flat. So what if boy got girl? Boy was never in danger of losing girl. In fact, the books were entirely devoid of any romantic entanglements of any sort. How is it that every relationship was so distinctly without any drama? A few people died, but no one intrinsic to the plot, or if they were, I didn't seem to notice. I didn't really care about any of them.

Honestly, I'm just glad this is over with, which isn't how I should feel about a trilogy. I should be excited about jumping into another book, and happy that she wrote a fourth.

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## **Windy says**

The third book in the series is an lovely tale of people coming together, definitely something the world needs more of.

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