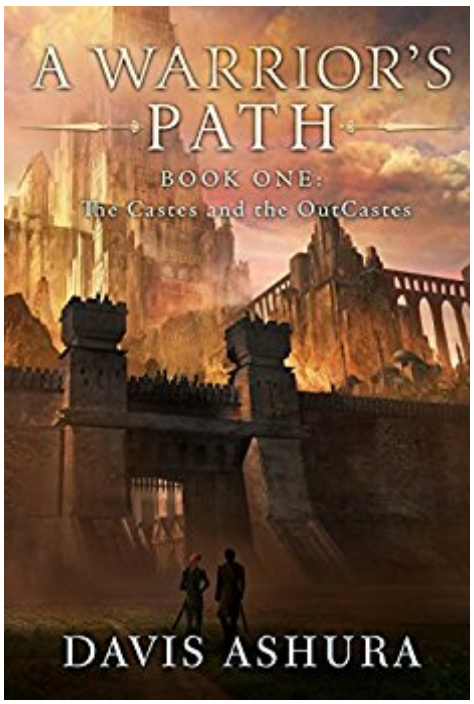
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A Warrior's Path (The Castes And The OutCastes Book 1)



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Synopsis

Discover the epic fantasy series that readers are comparing to Brandon SandersonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s The Stormlight Archive and Robert JordanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Wheel of Time.Sweeping from the majestic city of Ashoka to the perilous Wildness beyond her borders, enter a world where Caste determines mystical Talents, the purity of Jivatma expresses worth, and dharma may be based on a lie.Rukh Shektan has always understood duty. As a member of Caste Kumma, the warrior Caste, nothing else is acceptable. He is expected to take part in the deadly Trials, to journey the Wildness and protect the caravans linking Humanity's far-flung cities. Though the mission is dangerous, Rukh's hope and optimism are undaunted. Karma, however, is a fickle fiend. His caravan is destroyed by the monstrous Chimeras; twisted servants of their fearful goddess, Suwraith. While Rukh survives the attack, events force him along an uncertain path. Morality becomes a morass - especially when he encounters a mysterious warrior, Jessira Grey, a woman whose existence ought to be impossible. The holy texts warn against her kind: ghrinas, children of two Castes, abominations. They are to be executed whenever discovered, but for the first time in his life, Rukh defies duty. Jessira may be the key to his city's survival.Meanwhile, a secret society seeks Ashoka's demise; foul murders cloak a deadlier purpose; and behind it all looms Suwraith. But it is the Baels, the leaders of Her Chimeras, who may hide the greatest deception of all.The Castes and the OutCastes:A Warrior's PathA Warrior's KnowledgeA Warrior's PenanceAlso available in an omnibus edition.

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Customer Reviews

I will try to sum this up without spoilers, however some description is necessary for a review so be cautioned.I have seen at least one review that says this book was wordy and overly detailed. I would have to disagree with that completely. When world building as Mr. Ashura has done here, the details were needed and greatly enhanced the story for me. Being a detail oriented person and not wanting to miss a thing, and with so many new words and concepts introduced in the beginning, I initially thought I wouldn't be able to keep up with it all. I found myself re-reading the first couple of chapters to make sure I had the initial picture of the Castes(which I didn't really know much about), the players and the words and concepts that were new to me. The descriptions were necessary for me. The descriptions of the Chimeras and specifically of the City States brought them to life for me. I get a real picture in my mind of Ashoka and all the beauty it contains. This to me is not a quick read book but instead it's a pretty good sized novel. The glossary at the end is a welcome addition to this novel but not as convenient to get to(as with all eBooks) as it would be with a hard cover or paperback. There is also a glossary on the Author's webpage that I have turned to once or twice. The back and forth for the different scenes and characters initially bothered me as I wanted to continue the story with the main characters, but again it is necessary to the story as a whole and it does flow nicely. I found myself just as involved with the other scenes and characters as I was with the main two.I love the history and the backstory of the two main characters, and I like the pace of the story and how we don't get everything at once. We get the backstory in small doses right in the beginning mixed with the action. There are a ton of characters in this novel, a lot of people to keep up with but they add to the story and are necessary to get the complete picture and history. There is enough information about the other players to get to know them. I like the way the Rukh and Jessira are growing and the struggle they have with the prejudices they are dealing with and must or at least hopefully should overcome. What I think is going to happen or maybe what I want to happen may seem a bit predictable but the struggles and the journey to get there is great. I have had a hard time putting this down and getting anything else done in my free time. I would like to see more of the

relationship between Rukh and the giant kitty Aia, as I loved the brief interactions and those parts have peaked my interest to see where that is going.I read about a book a week and I try to keep my cost down by going for the special sales mostly. I rarely pay full price and usually wait until it’s on sale. My chosen genre is science fiction, and that is usually what I read. I am however open to other types. "A Warrior’s Path" was recommended to me as a good book if I liked sci-fi, but when I read the synopsis I thought this is really more of a fantasy type book. I almost passed on it. I am so glad that I took the plunge. Initially not being all in, and not wanting to waste money, I used my free book a month that you get with Prime membership. Figured if I liked it enough, I would use next months on the sequel. By the time I was finished the first book, I found myself already heavily invested in the characters and the direction the story was going in so I bought both of the books in the series so far. This is unusual for the frugal me, but the book was that good and I couldn’t wait for the next month to roll around to get the sequel.One of the best novels I have read this year or ever for that matter (and I read a lot). I eagerly look forward to continuing the story. Mr. Ashura from his webpage promises us that we will get closure from this trilogy rather than a continuing forever story and I appreciate that, although at this point I will be sad to let these characters go. Hopefully we will maybe get a second trilogy later in this world he has created.Highly recommend for lovers of fantasy and even other genre fans. Now on to the second book....

Once in a while I encounter novels like this. Novels that at first might seem to over ambitious, but have a fascinating world strukture, interesting and well developed characters.The novel is as well writen as work from more famous authors and it’s the first in a serie that will hopefully span 4-5 novels, where the author will only get better and better. With luck this author might become one of the more famous authors.The novel has an moderntone on a good versus evil theme, where the good isn’t as good or self righteous and the evil isn’t som uncompromisable dark entity, but a mad and sad creature that is a sympathetic character in the novel.On a note of the good side of the novel. They are human and they behave as humans do with all our faults and glory. In other words the characters are believable in all their complexity and diversity.The writing is well done, without any noticeable spelling errors. The flow of the text easy and flows well and there is only one noticeable break. It’s written so that you find out what happen from the context, unusual in the flow of the main story in a novel but it holds up. Yet it feels like there is a part of the novel thats missing because of it. There might have been numerous of reasons of why that happen, only more experienced authors would have hidden it better to maintain the flow of text.

A rich and interesting setting meets with a pretty solid (seen before, but not overused) plot... but for me it falls short when it comes to characters: mostly Rukh.He is lacking in significant character flaws that would make him less bland, especially since he has so many 'good' characteristics. There isn't enough balance in his character. He is a prodigy to the point of winning the Tournament of Hume the first time he entered, before he even went on any trials. He is said to be wise, he's relatively open-minded and humble, and he's very respectful of Jessira- and can even read her like an open book, despite their mild cultural differences. He's not bad looking, either, even if he isn't superbly attractive. His negative traits: he... Doesn't always consider what negative consequences his actions will earn from society? At the start of the book he was almost close-minded as all of his peers? It's hard to find his flaws because... He's not written with them.Rukh feels a little flat, and I care much less for him than for the other characters because of that. He's a little too good to be an interesting main character.His relationship with Jessira (as far as the end of the first book) is painfully predictable, as well. I kept hoping that they would get to stay good friends because that dynamic for them was great but no... Romance rears its ugly head.Jessira's character is a bit cliche, too: the strong, outspoken woman that the man still ends up protecting. Her being injured and having to be cared for by Rukh for a good portion of the book was very lame in my opinion. Still, Jessira did show solid and interesting growth, and she wasn't as bland as Rukh.The story and setting are great, like I said, and I enjoy the different points of view throughout the novel. It's only the main characters that seem a little subpar. It's worth a read if you like harsh settings and culture with strict castes. I'm looking forward to the next book.

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