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The Emperor's Knife: Tower and Knife Book I



Par Mazarkis Williams
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurThere is a cancer at the heart of the mighty Cerani Empire: a plaguethat marks each victim with a fragment of a greater design. Geometricpatterns spread across the skin, until the victim dies in agony orbecomes a Carrier, doing the bidding of an evil intelligence. The lost prince Sarmin, the emperor's only surviving brother, lies lockedin a hidden room. As the pattern draws closer to the palace he is atleast remembered: now he awaits a bride, Mesema, a Windreader from thenorthern plains. She is accustomed to riding free across the grasslandsand finds the Imperial Court stifling, but she soon realizes thepoliticking is not a game. It is in deadly earnest. Eyul, theimperial assassin, is burdened by the atrocities he has committed. Ascommanded, he bears the emperor's Knife to the desert in search of acure for the pattern-

markings. As long-planned conspiracies boil over into open violence, the enemy moves towards victory. Now only three people stand in his way: a lost prince, a world-weary killer, and a young girl from the steppes who saw a path in a pattern once, among the waving grasses.

Revue de presse 'A fascinating, original and enthralling debut that will leave the reader eagerly awaiting the next instalment' *The Founding Fields*. (Founding Fields) 'A riveting and intense debut ... compelling characterizations will keep fans of grim fantasy entirely enthralled' *Publisher's Weekly*. (Publisher's Weekly) 'An ambitious debut novel ... demonstrates great deal of promise in its author' *Justin Landon, Staffer's Musings*. (Staffer's Musings) 'A must read - it's fresh, it's exciting and [...] looks set to get even better!' *Fantasy Faction*. (Fantasy Faction) 'A debut with great potential' *Stefan Fergus, Civilian Reader*. (Civilian Reader) 'A strong fantasy novel with a fresh setting, rich characters and an enjoyable storyline' *Adam Whitehead, The Wertzone*. (Wertzone) 'An ambitious, sophisticated and thoughtful debut novel' *SF Signal*. (SF Signal) 'Fans of fantasy intrigue will want to try this new author' *Library Journal*. (Library Journal) 'It makes for a rich and entertaining storytelling environment, and Williams creates a twisty and enjoyable tale ... this is strongly recommended' *SFX*. (SFX) 'It's a highly complex novel, filled with devious sub-plots, and enough twists to satisfy even the most demanding reader' *Popcorn Reads*. (Popcorn Reads) 'Mazarkis Williams ... immediately ranks among the year's most exciting new fantasy authors' *Fantasy Book Critic*. (Fantasy Book Critic) 'Replete with political intrigue and mystery, *The Emperor's Knife* is a story I will remember' *Tim's Books*. (Tim's Books) 'Some wonderfully imaginative ideas that will [...] keep you reading' *Book Monkey*. (Book Monkey) 'sophisticated and thoughtful' *SF signal*. (SF signal) 'The Emperor's Knife is a tale of fear and fluidity, of evolution and ego, and is one that is dictated in a style so visual and penetrating that it will have the Pattern invading your dreams long after the final pages have turned' *Fantasy Book*. (Fantasy Book) 'The Emperor's Knife is a well-crafted narrative. The story flows well and the writing strikes a great balance between description and action' *British Fantasy Journal*. (British Fantasy Journal) 'This amazing tale of magic and political scheming is a work of high fantasy in every way ... A grown-up and utterly brilliantly well-wrought epic fantasy' *Ranting Dragon*. (Ranting Dragon) 'This novel puts great writing to the service of vivid characters, a compelling plot and a wholly convincing fantasy world' *Ben Aaronovitch*. (Ben Aaronovitch) 'Presentation de l'auteur' There is a cancer at the heart of the mighty Cerani Empire: a plague that marks each victim with a fragment of a greater design. Geometric patterns spread across the skin, until the victim dies in agony or becomes a Carrier, doing the bidding of an evil intelligence. The lost prince Sarmin, the emperor's only surviving brother, lies locked in a hidden room. As the pattern draws closer to the palace he is at last remembered: now he awaits a bride, Mesema, a Windreader from the northern plains. She is accustomed to riding free across the grasslands and finds the Imperial Court stifling, but she soon realizes the politicking is not a game. It is in deadly earnest. Eyul, the imperial assassin, is burdened by the atrocities he has committed. As commanded, he bears the emperor's Knife to the desert in search of a cure for the pattern-markings. As long-planned conspiracies boil over into open violence, the enemy moves towards victory. Now only three people stand in his way: a lost prince, a world-weary killer, and a young girl from the steppes who saw a path in a pattern once, among the waving grasses.