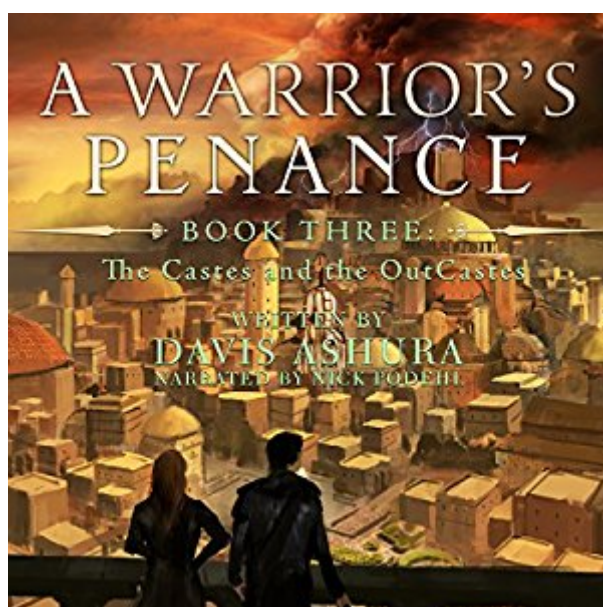


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# A Warrior's Penance



## Synopsis

The thunderous conclusion to the award-winning fantasy epic... Following Stronghold's destruction, Rukh and Jessira lead the ragged remnants of the OutCastes on the long march to Ashoka. There they seek sanctuary for her people, but in order to do so they must overcome unyielding law that demands exile for all ghrinas. Meanwhile, Hal'El Wrestiva - exposed and reviled as the Withering Knife murderer - escapes from Ashoka and hatches one final scheme to resuscitate his soiled reputation. The Virtuous, a newly formed organization full of certitude and strife, plots the destruction of House Shektan. And Li-Choke and the Baels launch a final desperate plan to save their kind as well as all of Humanity. But it is Rukh who must confront the harshest of choices. It is one that will cost him everything he loves but might also see to the salvation of his home. He cannot falter, for Suwraith has once again turned her ruinous intentions toward Ashoka.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I want to be transparent. Davis and I are friends. We became friends through our books. He read one of mine before I ever had contact with him and posted an unsolicited favorable comment on SFFworld. So, this is an honest review. When Davis's books were produced to audiobooks (using the amazing Nick Podehl as narrator), I wasted no time checking his work out. From the first introduction to his main characters, they leaped out of the story. They sang. I maintain a healthy envy as an author for his ability to develop lively characters that are so authentic despite being set in a fantasy story. That realism continued throughout each book. I loved the relationship between

Rukh and Jasira. I loved the political strife between the Castes in Ashoka. I loved the political maneuvering and consequences of them, good and bad, upon characters you both love and hate. I loved the redemption of one antagonist in this third volume that gave insight into the human soul. Davis has a knack for bringing out raw emotion in his characters that translates to us as readers and listeners. This series is truly original in its magic system. There's a part in this third installment in the first third of the story where a conflict arises that is just GRIPPING. I truly did not know what was going to happen. My heart was in my throat. After that, the book did slow down a bit much for me, but (BUT!) the payoff was amazing. I'm not kidding. I will listen to this series many times like I do Stormlight Archive or the Kingkiller Chronicles (hurry up Rothfuss, Ancients take me). There aren't many series I listen to again, but Ashura's Castes and the Outcastes will be one of those few.

Very solid ending to this series! I enjoyed each book throughout this journey especially the characters and magic system. It is somewhat difficult to say this was a 'perfect 5-star novel' as plot threads and relationships fell into place a bit too easily (a standard issue even with the greatest fantasy series). However, the investment you have in this universe more than makes up for it. I would describe this series as a solid, well-constructed light epic fantasy story and I am glad I was able to jump in!!

The story line with Rukh and the First Father was too drawn out, the choices the characters make aren't logical i.e. continuously walking down dark deserted alleys even though they are constantly used as the stage for some new attack or murder. Rukh learned a talent that could hurt the Sorrow Bringer, and is friends with animals who have the ability to teach anyone another person's talent, but instead of spreading the knowledge and letting the entire city shoot her in the face with a Bow, they just keep fighting with swords and fireballs smh. Not very well thought out

I really wanted to like this book, but unfortunately it wasn't as good as the two previous installments in the series. There is too much mushy-mush and focus on feelings between every character. Apart from one of the main characters, I'm pretty sure everyone hooked up with someone (who they of course loved intensely). I'm sorry, but that's not for me. The first book was far more action-packed and streamlined, and while I figured early on that there was some budding romantic feelings between Jessira and Rukh, it was more alluded to, then written 500(!) times which it was in this book. As for the action and the plot, it is well written as with the previous books, and the last 50-60 pages are real nail biters.

Just finished reading A Warrior's Penance. It was amazing. This is a well written, expanding, and intelligent and just wonderful series. Thank you, Davis Ashura, for bringing this world into being. I now await your next series!

This seemed to me a very fitting end. The characters remain very interesting and thoughtful. The action scenes are detailed and very believable. The plot will definitely keep you entertained. This book will not disappoint, the ending will live up to your expectations.

Good series overall.

The only bad thing I can say about this book is that it concludes a series that I have enjoyed from start to finish.

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