

Magician, Master Study Guide

Magician, Master by Raymond E. Feist

(c)2015 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.



Contents

Magician, Master Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	3
Chapter 1-2.....	5
Chapter 3.....	7
Chapter 4.....	9
chapter 5-6.....	11
Chapter 7.....	13
Chapter 8-9.....	15
Chapter 10-11.....	17
Chapter 12.....	19
Chapter 13-14.....	21
Chapter 15-16.....	23
Characters.....	25
Objects/Places.....	28
Themes.....	30
Style.....	32
Quotes.....	34
Topics for Discussion.....	36



Plot Summary

The story opens with Pug and Laurie working in the swamp where they are slaves to the Tsurani. Pug is from the land called Midkemia. The story is about the war between Tsuranuanni Empire and the Midkemian Kingdom and how it was brought to an end.

Pug and Laurie are brought into a plot to end the war by a Tsurani family. While under their ownership a Tsurani magician finds Pug and takes him to be trained to be what the Tsurani call a Great One. In the mean time Thomas is with the Elf Queen, Aglaranna. She and the others in her kingdom are worried that Thomas will soon become a very dangerous threat. Thomas was childhood friends with Pug but hasn't seen him since he was captured by the Tsurani. Thomas was given a gift by a dragon when he was a child. It is armor that belonged to a powerful being called a Valheru. The Valheru has the power to destroy all of them and they fear it is taking over Thomas. Things are further complicated by the fact that the Queen is in love with Thomas.

Pug begins his training as a Great One, which is a Tsurani magician. They have taken his memories and don't give them back until training is complete. They condition the mind so that the person feels absolute loyalty to the Empire. Pug is able to overcome these after he becomes a Great One. He feels loyalty to both worlds now but has managed to find his wal, which is a peaceful place within himself. Others wish him dead because they consider him a threat because of his home world. Prince Arutha is in Crydee on Midkemia. He takes several men with him to Krondor to find aid for the war. When he gets there the city has been captured by his cousin Guy du Bas-Tyra who seeks the crown. The flee back to Crydee without any aid to follow.

Pug is now called Milamber and has twice the strength of any other magician because he draws power from both worlds. He begins to look into how the rift works and decides that the Tsurani Empire is killing itself. Martin Longbow is traveling to the Elf Queens castle and when he gets there he realizes that Thomas is under the influence of the Armor he wears which once belonged to an ancient being called a Valheru. The Valheru were powerful beings that ruled over the people they created. He begins to be increasingly violent and when they capture Tsurani warriors Thomas beheads each one of them until he comes to a small boy that reminds him of Pug. His humanity overtakes the Valheru at this point and he is able to regain control. The Valheru is no longer a threat but the elves still wish him to not be ruler. The queen becomes pregnant with their child and Thomas takes her for wife without taking the throne.

Laurie takes a Tsurani, Kasumi to bring a message of peace to King Rodric but find that the King has gone mad. They flee for their lives and find Duke Borric who has been injured. While this occurs Pug loses control of his calmness and threatens the Warlord and must take his family and flee the Empire. When he gets to Midkemia he refers to himself as Pug again. Once the Duke is dead the King is injured as well and names Lyam the heir. They agree to sign the peace treaty with the Empire but Thomas is tricked into attacking while they try to sign. A battle erupts and Pug, Macros and Kulgan

manage to shut the rift down forever. Lyam takes the throne and the kingdom sees it's first peaceful era in over nine years.



Chapter 1-2

Chapter 1-2 Summary

The story opens with Pug and Laurie working in the swamp where they are slaves to the Tsurani. Pug is from the land called Midkemia and was an apprentice to a sorcerer but doesn't tell anyone. Laurie was traveling the land to learn ballads. He was a musician by trade. Pug has been a slave in the swamp for four years. The slaves in the swamp are treated badly and don't live long in the swamp camps. Anyone that is not Tsurani is called barbarian. The overseer is named Nogamu. He is a slave that has attained the highest rank in the swamp camp. Pug and Laurie try to tell him that a tree they are to cut down is rotten and should be left but Nogamu becomes angry and tells them to cut it down anyway. A branch from the tree lands on Pug and pushes him underwater, and Laurie tries to save him. Nogamu tries to have Laurie killed for not letting Pug die but a Tsurani comes by and openly rebukes Nogamu.

Later that night while Pug and Laurie are asleep Nogamu sneaks into their tent to kill them. They manage to get his knife away and stab him. The punishment for killing the overseer is death. The same Tsurani that saved them in the swamp comes in and has Nogamu hung while he is still breathing so that he will receive no honor in dying by the knife and so that he doesn't have to kill Pug and Laurie. The Tsurani is the son of the man that owns the camp. His name is Hokanu, of the Shinzawai. He asks them questions about who the new overseer should be and how long they have been in the camp. Laurie tries to say that Pug should be the new overseer but Hokanu says that he has other things in mind for the both of them and he doesn't want a barbarian to be in charge. They tell him of a Tsurani named Chogana. He falls behind in his taxes when his crops failed and was sent to the swamp.

Hokanu doesn't tell Laurie or Pug where they are going but before they leave the camp together the next day Chogana tells Pug that he had a gift. He can see things in people sometimes and he tells Pug that he has a power trapped inside him. He doesn't know any specifics but does tell Pug he must seek perfect peace within himself called his wal. He also tells Pug that there is a foe he must face and if he can't find the peace within himself, referred to as his wal, before then he will die. Pug wants to know who the foe is and Chogana tells him that it is the same foe to be feared by most men. He tells Pug the foe is Pug himself.

They travel through the Tsurani city with Hokanu and his guards. When they finally reach Hokanu's father, Komatsu, Hokanu tells him of Nogamu and the changes that he made after Nogamu's death. Hokanu tells Komatsu he thinks that Pug and Laurie will be helpful in the plans they have made for the north. His father silences him and tells him not to speak of it. Pug and Laurie still don't know what is going on.

They all continue on their journey the next day towards Komatsu's estate and run into Komatsu's other son Kasumi. Kasumi is riding a horse from Pug's home world but



doesn't know how to ride it well and they plan on Pug and Laurie teaching him to ride and to speak their language. There is a man that visits Komatsu's home called A Great One, a Tsurani magician. No one speaks much of him and Kasumi tells Pug that The Great One is actually Komatsu's brother and Hokanu was his son. Once you become A Great One you must give up all family ties and worldly connections. Pug falls in love with Katala and wants to marry her but Komatsu won't allow it because of certain laws. The Great One returns again and asks Pug who he is. He tells him that he is a slave named Pug. The Great One grabs Pug's hand and demands to know who he is and why he has the power in him. Pug finally admits that he is Pug, and an apprentice to the magician Kulgan. The Great One takes Pug away with magic as he tells Komatsu that he is no longer a slave to them. Pug has become the province of the Assembly.

Chapter 1-2 Analysis

It seems that Pug and Laurie are close friends. It appears that Pug knows more than the others because he has been there longer than most any other slave. Pug was a musician traveling the land to learn ballads to sing and was captured. It appears that Pug hasn't told anyone of his past. The reader isn't given a reason why he wants it to be a secret yet.

Hokanu saves Laurie and Pug and it seems to the reader that he tries to befriend them. Laurie seems to be learning to trust in Hokanu as he talks to them but you see that Pug doesn't trust the Tsurani and may feel that he is trying to use them. Hokanu takes them from the camp and they journey with him on the way home to his father. It seems Pug hasn't told anyone that he was an apprentice to a magician before being captured and doesn't want the Tsurani to know.

Hokanu's father, Kamatsu, and Hokanu talk about plans they have in front of Pug and Laurie and that the two will serve the purpose well but appears they never tell the two slaves what they are referring to. It seems that Laurie speaks his mind too much to be a good slave. Kamatsu's other son, Kasumi, shows up at his father's estate later and appears to act oddly to Pug's ideas of what should be. He says he wants Pug and Laurie to teach him to ride horses and to speak their language. He befriends them in a way but Pug is never able to forget that they are being used.

Pug realizes there are reasons they are being treated well but you don't find out what that is. Pug notes that there is something that the son is not telling him but you don't find out what that is until later in the book. Pug falls in love with a servant girl in the house and wants to marry her but is forbid. You aren't told why but that goes back to the secrets that they are keeping from Pug and Laurie. Kamatsu's brother is called A Great One and has given up all family ties for his position. He sees Pug and feels something inside of him. It appears Pug is terrified of the man and when The Great One finds out that Pug used to be an apprentice he takes Pug away with magic to the Assembly. You aren't told here but the Assembly is the collection of magicians in the Empire.



Chapter 3

Chapter 3 Summary

The Elf Queen, Aglaranna and her son Calin are discussing Thomas. Thomas possesses magic armor that belonged to a Valheru named Ashen-Shugar. The Valheru were the ancient God's that created the people. Those who search out the magic items that belonged to the Valheru do it because they want the dark power and the darkness takes them over. Thomas wasn't searching for any power when the armor was given to him. He was a small boy and it was a gift from a giant. Thomas is human but the armor has changed him. He is more like an elf than a mortal.

The queen, her son and Dolgan, dwarven chief, discuss what they should do about Thomas and his armor. They decide that while the armor may change Thomas into something to be feared they need the help it may provide in the war against the Tsurani that are attacking. Thomas is a fierce warrior and the armies that fight the Tsurani obey his commands in the battlefield. Thomas, Dolgan and others in the camp are watching the Tsurani and decide that they must start doing what is not expected and try to drive the Tsurani back.

They begin to be unpredictable. They will attack fiercely several nights in a row and then not be seen for nights or shoot only one or two guards and then do nothing else. They feel they are making progress and getting response from the Tsurani forces. While Thomas and Dolgan sit at a fire one night, a ranger comes to them to explain where the Tsurani are moving. They want to catch one of the Black Robes, which are actually the Tsurani magicians called the Great Ones, to find what they are capable of.

At different point during all of this Ashen-Shugar has been feeling odd feelings he is fighting with in ancient times but that are parallel to what is occurring to Thomas. A voice tells Ashen-Shugar that he is what he will become and what he was. He is Thomas.

A man appears at the castle to talk to the queen and her war council. The man knows many things of the Tsurani and how they will attack. He tells a man there that he helped his father. The man is surprised and says he doesn't understand how the man hasn't died from old age. The man is named Macros. He tells them that when the Tsurani attack they will need him to help protect the elf's magic if it is to survive. Before the attack Macros talks to the queen. He tells her that if she sends Thomas away that it may turn him toward the darkness. He can't promise that any action is the correct action but can help her understand what may be. He explains that Thomas is Ashen-Shugar. He says that in old times Ashen-Shugar was the last of the gods that built the world and something made him stay when the others left the world not caring.

After the battle Thomas sees how Ashen-Shugar killed the last of the Valheru. When he was done the queen came in to Thomas to tend to his wounds and she tells him she came to comfort him.



Chapter 3 Analysis

It appears the queen cares very much for Thomas. Many of the elves seem to fear the magic that he possesses because of the Valheru it came from. She has set up her magicians to cast helping spells on Thomas, and it appears to help him in keeping the darkness from taking him over. She doesn't want him to be her husband. The reader sees that she is afraid of what would happen if he does go toward the dark magic. The reader also sees she is afraid of watching him grow old while she remains young.

The reader sees that those around Thomas see something dark in him but they don't seem to realize what it is initially. They seem to both respect and fear Thomas. You do see that Thomas realizes something is going on with him but doesn't seem to talk to Ashen-Shugar initially. At first it seems to be more of a feeling. It soon grows to a conversation between the two in their different times.

Calin is the Queen's son and it appears he is worried for his mother. Calin seems to realize his mother's feelings and the reader will find that there is a respect there but you find that Calin is resolved to kill Thomas if need be. It seems the Queen has held him off but is told by Macros that pushing him to far away may drive him toward the darkness because of the emotions that it will invoke. You are never told of the things that cause her to finally give in to the feelings that she has for Thomas but the reader will find later that it has been a crucial decision.



Chapter 4

Chapter 4 Summary

A man stands outside his plain cell room. He is dressed in plain white robe, as are the other young men there. There are men in black robes that appear and nod to one of the young men meaning for them to follow. The man stands and waits on a man in black for him to follow. He is not allowed to talk. He doesn't remember being told that but he knows he isn't allowed. He can't remember anything before waking in his cell but it doesn't worry him. Each day a man in the black robe gives him a task. While trying to complete a task there is a voice in his head that asks him questions. If he answers wrong the voice goes away for a while. If he continues to answer correctly the questions continue.

That night while he slept he dreamed that a sorcerer told him to consider he is the architect of his own imprisonment. The next day while having lunch with the others in white robes he suddenly stands up and goes to one of the black robes and tells him that this is no longer his place. The man in black takes him to a door and tells him to open it. He begins to open it but then stops and opens it instead with his mind. Inside the man in black tells him to change into a grey robe. He is told that he will be able to speak now. Many of the others die when they get to this level because they fail to open the door with their mind. If you touch the doorknob it will strike you dead. They name him Milamber telling him that he has been there for nearly four years. His memories have been taken from him so that he can hold off the desire for former ties of family, nation and friends.

They give him a different test each day and he passes many of them quickly. He has begun to see glimpses of his past but doesn't understand much. He knows he was a slave and that there was a girl. His memories will return when he finishes the final task. He finishes the final task as he stands on the top of a precarious rock. It begins to storm and he is suddenly sees visions of the past. He sees the entire history of the Tsurani people and when it is over he has achieved the status of A Great One. He also gets his memories back. At this point he is able to find his way of inner peace. He remembers his people and knows that he is no longer Pug, but a very powerful magician.

He meets with a magician named Hochopepa. He tells Milamber that there is concern about his past since there is a war going on with his home world and many in The Association, made up of The Great Ones, wish him to be put to death. They voted and it was a tie. Hochopepa is the deciding vote and has decided that he will wait to vote to see what Milamber will choose. Milamber laughs at the sorcerer and tells him that his situation hasn't changed any. He still is a slave but he finds Hochopepa to be a much better master than he had before. Hochopepa tells Milamber that they are concerned because they cannot read his mind. They know what most will do and so they are not concerned with the outcome of their behavior. Something about Milamber prevents them from doing this. Hochopepa tells Milamber that he will be watched closely and will



have to become more Tsurani than anyone else in The Assembly and remain peacefully within his wal.

During his training there were mental conditions put on him. Milamber has been able to undo many of these but doesn't tell anyone. He begins to think of Katala and finding her. Since Milamber was of both worlds he drew power from both, giving him twice the power of the other black robes. His true name could not be spoken or those that spoke it will have power over him. His true name in the Tsurani tongue translated to mean one that stands between worlds.

Chapter 4 Analysis

The man in the white robe is Pug but you are not told that in the beginning. The reader sees that he has a peace about where he is and no confusion about the fact that he cannot remember his name or anything about himself. He appears to find it odd that he is so much older than the others in white robes. When he figures out how to become a grey robe they tell him that he has in fact been there four years. He appears to be surprised because he can only remember a few months. They explain how vital it is that he be able to withstand the desire of his homeland, family and friends. He appears confused at this point but continues his training and is now called Milamber.

After the final task that Milamber endures he appears to regain his memories and emotions. He seems to enjoy the new power he receives. He is no longer Pug the keep boy but a magician and appears much more powerful than his former master Kulgan from his home world. The reader finds that The Great Ones cannot read his mind and seem worry about what Milambers actions will be. It appears that he has found his wal and is seemingly able to make friends with some of the Great Ones but you find that he is keeping things from them that will later be the things that define his destiny.

He appears to have found his feelings for Katala and you see later he will go back and retrieve her to be his wife. Him becoming a Great One appear to have great impact on where he goes from this point in the story.



chapter 5-6

chapter 5-6 Summary

Martin Longbow, the huntmaster, Garret, and a former Tsurani slave named Charles bring news to Prince Arutha about the Tsurani that camp outside the kingdom. Arutha knows that the Tsurani are slowly winning the war. Charles has found that the flags flown by the Tsurani have changed and the new family emblem on them tells him that there will be about ten thousand more Tsurani coming to fight the war in the spring. Charles tells them that the conduct of the war to the Tsurani is more of an aspect of a political game than anything else. Prince Arutha, younger son of Duke Borric, decides he must go to try and get more troops to come from King Earland in Krondor. Squire Roland must say goodbye to Princess Caroline to go see his father in a different direction than Prince Arutha.

The trip will be dangerous because of the time of year. The captain of the boat is fired and Amos, the prince's captain, volunteers to take charge. He tells Arutha to tell his family goodbye before he leaves and to put things in order in case he doesn't make it back. They take on a crew but don't tell them what they plan to do until they are almost to the Straights of Darkness. The crew tries to mutiny because they know they may not survive, but Amos keeps firm control of them. They manage to make it through the Straights of Darkness after which every member of the crew pledge their loyalty to Amos. Amos takes Martin aside and tells him that he realizes that he is the illegitimate son of the Duke Borric and advises him to tell Arutha. Martin says it is his decision and doesn't think he will ever tell him.

They make it to Krondor only to find that Arutha's cousin, Guy, the Duke of Bas-Tyra has taken over Krondor and the royal family has been imprisoned in their rooms. The boat needs repairing so they can't leave without fixing it or buying a new one. After spending a couple of weeks in town they have found very little helpful information about Guy and what has been done with the King. Various unknown people in the town are watching them very closely and Arutha knows it isn't safe for people to know that he is Guy's cousin.

Arutha doesn't know who would still be loyal to the King since Guy has taken over the town. They hear rumors that the son of the King has died from mysterious illness but no one knows what happened. Guy leaves the city to go to war with his armies and the city is shut up. They hear rumors that someone knows that Guy's cousin is in the city and is being looked for. They assume it must be Arutha and begin to get desperate to leave the town. Amos finds that when he leaves the ship one of the men who had been watching the ship follows him. Amos is able to catch the man in a lie and they fight. Martin, Amos and Arutha run and begin to split up to try and get away but Martin is caught. Amos tells Arutha to go on and he goes back to help Martin.



As Arutha tries to escape the men after him a boy stops to help him for a price. The boy takes him through so many turns that he isn't sure where he is going. When they at last stop at a door to go through. After Arutha steps inside he finds that there are swords aimed at his gut and nowhere to run to.

chapter 5-6 Analysis

Martin Longbow and the others are making their way back to the castle. Squire Roland and Prince Arutha are discussing Martin. They seem to know that he is keeping part of his life secret but neither of them know that Martin is actually Arutha's brother. The reader doesn't find this out until later in the story. The reader gets a hint that Squire Roland will die after he leaves but you don't know that until later in the book.

Martin Longbow, Prince Arutha and the prince's captain, Amos Trask, head to Krondor to get troops from the Erland. The way will be very dangerous and so they don't tell any of the men on the ship where they are heading. The men seem angry at being tricked and try to mutiny but Amos and Martin are able to keep them seemingly under control. When they make it through the perilous waters the men all pledge their loyalty to Amos as their captain. It appears that Amos has shown that he is a strong captain and he has the ability to see what Martin has been hiding. Martin appears to be very conflicted about the fact that his father has kept it hidden more than anything else.

When they reach Erland they find that the kingdom has been taken over by Arutha's cousin Guy. It seems he has imprisoned Erland and his family in the castle somehow. It seems they spend the entire time in port trying to get the boat fixed and find a way out of Krondor. It appears Prince Arutha feels it is pointless to try and find any help from the troops from Guy and it seems that Guy wants to become ruler of Erland. They soon run into trouble and a small boy appears to want to help Arutha escape the pursuit. When Arutha opens the door he finds himself cornered.



Chapter 7

Chapter 7 Summary

Once Arutha was inside the room he realized that Amos and Martin had been captured and lay slumping in the room. The man in the room that seem to be giving orders introduces himself as Aaron Cook and the small boy that misled him is Jimmy the hand. The boy boasts himself to be the finest pickpocket in Krondor and a fine thief. Cook asks Arutha several times about his business. Arutha doesn't tell cook his true identity. Each time Arutha is struck in the face for lying. They want to know why Jocko Radburn wants to find the three of them so badly. Arutha truthfully tells Cook he doesn't know why Radburn is after them.

Cook explains that Radburn is the senior officer in the Viceroy's secret police. Radburn started to keep an eye on Arutha and the others so Cook's men did the same. When Radburn tried to seize them Cook's men intervened. Cook asks Arutha again who he is. This time Arutha tells part of the truth in that he is an agent for Crydee who came to look for aid against the Tsurani. Cook doesn't believe the story but before he ask much else Amos Trask wakes up and tells him he knows who he is and won't speak again until he is speaking to Trevor Hull.

Trevor Hull has been listening in from an adjoining room. He knows Amos Trask because they pirated together. Amos was called Captain Terenchar, the Dagger of the Sea. Amos explains to Trevor and the others Arutha is Guy's cousin and the reason they were so secretive. Trevor explains they are working with the smugglers and Mockers in the town against Guy and his police and gangs.

Trevor tells Amos about the precious cargo the King has given them to smuggle out of the kingdom and Princess Anita walks in. She kisses Arutha telling him she is his cousin but he doesn't really remember her. She is very young. She tells Arutha that Guy interred her bedroom and told her they were going to be married so that he could be King. Her father is to ill to resist but refused to sign the betrothal agreement. She was smuggled out of the castle after Guy left with his troops. They are looking to get her out of the kingdom and Trevore feels that Amos is the captain that can do the job.

Arutha tells Amos later that he always thought his past had something dark in it like piracy but that there are many things to forgive. Amos tells him that he is tired and he can hang him when they get back to Crydee for piracy but to let him rest until then. They are getting ready to sneak Anita and the rest of the crew out of port. They manage to make it to the boat but Radburn has a boat that is capable of overtaking them and begins his pursuit. Amos manages to get to the boat to dangerous water and fog sets in. They are very close to the other boat but cannot see each other. Radburn's boat runs against the rocks and goes under. They hear the men screaming as they make their getaway.



Anita tells Arutha she remembers a boy helping her to see in the windows of the castle so she could have a peek at him when she was younger. The young boy was Pug. Arutha tells her he was lost in battle to the Tsurani. He asks her why she wanted to see him and she tells him that her father had told her they were to be married. Arutha had never been told. Martin and Amos discuss the fact that Arutha is happier now that Anita is on board but agree he most likely doesn't know why.

When they return to Crydee Arutha goes to see his sister and finds that Squire Roland has been killed by Tsurani troops looking for food. He notices that she is much more mature now and is not mourning for him as she did when Pug was lost in the war. He tells her of Princess Anita and they go to greet her.

Chapter 7 Analysis

Arutha seems to really care for Amos Trask as a friend and you find that he supposedly knew that he may have been a pirate. It appears that when Trask was a pirate he committed many crimes and the reader is left unsure of his standing with Arutha after Amos' true identity is discovered.

When Arutha finds that the cargo to be smuggled out is Anita he seems angered. He realizes that Guy is after the kingdom by whatever means are necessary. Arutha appears to be confused by the feelings he has for Anita. The reader finds that he has feelings for her almost immediately but never says what they are. It appears even Arutha is confused by them although Martin and Amos seem sure as to what they are. Anita doesn't tell him until later that their parents had thought they would marry for reasons of state.

It appears that Radburn is desperate to get Anita back. The reader can guess that Guy needs her very badly to ensure his right to the throne in Krondor but you are never told what happens to Radburn. It is believed that he died when the ship went down that was following Anita's ship.

You see that Princess Anita knew Pug and when his name is mentioned you see that Arutha is still aching for the loss of his childhood friend. When they get back to the kingdom you find that Squire Roland has died and Princess Caroline mourning for him. The reader finds that Princess Caroline is able to hold herself together well with the loss of the man that you were led to believe she would marry.



Chapter 8-9

Chapter 8-9 Summary

Milamber finds a place to build a house and spends much time and money having it built. He makes himself a recluse confining himself to his studying. His house is a type of architect that is born from Milamber's home world. He hasn't yet decided whether or not he will go fetch his wife. When the bell rings announcing a visitor to his home on his way to greet Hochopepa he decides he will go to retrieve his wife. He and Hochopepa discuss an Imperial Festival that is coming. Milamber doesn't wish to go but Hochopepa urges him to attend.

Milamber has decided the culture is stale and unhealthy. He reassures Hochopepa that he is a man that has a strong sense of duty but that he is possibly a very threatening thing to the Empire because he will serve justice without mercy because he wishes to save the Empire. He explains to Hochopepa that the people in power are more concerned with themselves and their own grandeur than with the well being of the Empire. Milamber tells Hochopepa that while the army has grown and borders have expanded that the culture has remained very stale and hasn't grown at all. Hochopepa decides that Milamber shouldn't discuss any of this with the majority of the Association.

They go to the Assembly and discussions of the Warlord and the war against the Midkemian world. The Warlord wishes more Great Ones to go to fight the war. Hochopepa tells the Assembly that he will send a message to the Warlord on behalf of the magicians. The Assembly will not order any magician to aid in the war but any individual may provide services if he wishes.

When Milamber gets to the Shinzawai Lords house he surprises Laurie. They thought him to be dead. Milamber learns he has a son named William. Katala never took another husband. He tells Kamatsu that he is going to take his family and Laurie. The Lord tells him that he may take his family but begs him to leave Laurie. Laurie begs him to keep a secrete for him. Milamber can force Kamatsu to tell and he would but he cares for Laurie as a friend and agrees. Laurie explains they intend to sneak into the Midkemian world with the Warlord in the spring and Laurie is to be Kasumi's guide to the King to offer peace to the Medkemians. Milamber is unsure but agrees to leave Laurie and keep their secrete.

Martin Longbow and Garret are on their way to the Elf Queen's castle. He tells Garret of the Elf's traditions and that should anything happen to him he wants Garret to be the one to take over his position and keep the human and Elf worlds from drifting apart. When they reach the castle Martin is amazed at the difference in Thomas. He can tell the armor has had a negative effect on him. Thomas and the Elf Prince Calin have an argument and Thomas walks out. The dwarves have captured Tsurani guards and slaves. Martin gets there first and they are discussing what to do with them when Thomas shows up and begins to speak in the ancient Valheru tongue. He begins to



behead all of the prisoners. When they try to stop him he offers to kill Martin if he doesn't leave. He doesn't stop killing until he comes to a boy that reminds him of Pug. He has an inner conflict that the others see only reflected in his eyes but the Valheru leaves and Thomas loses the resemblance of the god that controlled him. There is a chance that the guilt for the murders committed may kill him.

Chapter 8-9 Analysis

Milamber decides that the Tsurani culture is devouring its own people and is stale. He wants to change that to help the Empire but knows it may be looked upon as something evil. He decides to go and get Katala and Laurie. When he gets there he finds he has a son named William. Katala remained single for all those years because she loves Milamber. Laurie doesn't want to go with Milamber because he and Kamatsu's son Kasumi are going to Midkemia to offer the King a peace treaty. Milamber agrees to keep this information secret and takes Katala and his son back home.

Martin Longbow and Garret make their way to the Elf Queen's castle. Martin tells Garret he wishes him to learn all he can of the Elf's so that he can take over in his stead should something happen to him. When they reach the castle Thomas comes to talk to Martin with the Queen and her son Calin. Martin can't believe how Thomas looks. The Valheru has taken over much of Thomas. He tells Thomas of Squire Rolands death and is surprised that Thomas doesn't care more about the death of his childhood friend. The dwarfs are approaching and have captured some Tsurani's. Martin arrives first and they want to keep them alive. When Thomas arrives he is overcome with madness and begins to kill the prisoners. When Martin steps in-between Thomas and his next kill, Thomas picks Martin up and throws him. It isn't until Thomas begins to kill a small boy that he stops. The boy reminds him so much of Pug, his childhood friend, he can't kill the boy. The men around him can't hear the argument in his head but he struggles with the Valheru and manages to win. He loses the look that the Valheru had put on him but is overcome with guilt and the wizards tell him it may kill him. The Queen is relieved to have Thomas back.



Chapter 10-11

Chapter 10-11 Summary

Kasumi and Laurie manage to make it through the rift into Midkemia unnoticed. Once they are there Hokanu helps them hide until a battle occurs. In the confusion Kasumi and Laurie escape to bring the message of peace to the King. They are dressed in Midkemian fashion and each carry gems in their packs for money. They see boats carrying supplies for the war and realize they must hurry to bring the offer of peace to the King. They reach the gate of Krondor and find Guy's banner flying. Once in the town Laurie takes them to an Inn that is ran by his friend Lucas. Lucas is able to tell them a little about Guy and the imprisonment of the royal family and about Arutha and Anita's escape. He gets them in touch with the Mockers to get them out of the city without being noticed. Jimmy the Hand helps to create a distraction that allows them safe passage.

When they near their destination they get better clothing to speak to the King in and ask for an audience. They are sent to many different people until they at last talk to the Royal Chancellor, Duke Caldric. He gives them an opportunity to speak with King Rodric but the King is so sick that he can't make sense when he speaks. He has what they call madness. He tells the men he will consider what they have to say later. They realize the man may be crazy and get ready to leave. Duke Caldric comes to their room and gives them papers to see them safely to Duke Borric. Caldric says that is the kingdoms only hope for peace because the King won't get any better. He has sentenced Laurie and Kasumi to die as spies but Caldric sets them free and tells them to tell the Duke that Prince Erland in Krondor is dead from the imprisonment put upon him by Guy. When they find the Duke he is dying and his son Lyam is told that he will have to decide what is to be done.

Milamber attends the Imperial festival and sits with Shimone and Hochopepa. The Emperor and Warlord are both in attendance but not Kamatsu or his family. The festival consists of many battles between slaves and convicts for their freedoms. The Warlord stands to make an announcement of the war and destruction of Midkemia and Milamber almost stands up but Hochopepa stops him. He sees his friends he sits with wanting the bloody battles that ensue. It makes Milamber sick. Hochopepa tells him the reasons that the Shinzawai are not there is because they have lost face with the Warlord and are suspect. They march out two different tribes to battle to the last man.

Milamber becomes very angry and stops controlling it. He tells Hochopepa and Shimone to get the Emperor to safety. He challenges the Warlord and withstands the Warlord's personal magician. Milamber begins to control the weather and brings cold wind, lightening, rain and causes earthquakes. He doesn't kill the Warlord but leaves him publicly humiliated and shamed. He knows he will be killed for what he has done and goes home to get his wife. He gives his best servant his house and freedom with papers he has already drawn up and Milamber takes his wife and son and leaves. He goes to talk to an older magician, Fumita. Fumita gives him what help he can and tells



him to hurry to the rift before those there know he is wanted dead. Milamber tells him he means to try and close the rift.

Before they go to the rift he goes to see Kamatsu to tell him what has happened. When he makes it to the rift Hokanu helps them escape on horses before anyone else can stop him. He tells Hokanu that he needs to go see his father. He rides off with Katala and William. When stopped by people speaking his native language he identifies himself as Pug of Crydee.

Chapter 10-11 Analysis

Kasumi and Laurie are able to get through the rift but must escape through the lines of the Tsurani warriors when a battle begins. It seems that Kasumi wants peace but has to leave his brother while in battle. The reader sees that this troubles Kasumi. Laurie and Kasumi make their way to King Rodric and soon come to Krondor. When they get there it appears there has been many changes to his world since Laurie left.

When they see the things that the war has caused the reader finds that Kasumi feels torn in himself as to his feelings about the war. They are smuggled out of Krondor and make their way to deliver their message. On the way Laurie stops to help an old hungry magician. It appears that Laurie is trying to do a kindness to Pug more than to some strange magician. When they make it to King Rodric it appears madness has taken over the king and he sees spies everywhere. His Chancellor appears to be on their side and gives them aid when the King orders them put to death. He appears loyal to the kingdom but knows the King is ill. The Chancellor tells them to go to Duke Borric and tell him that he is the kingdoms only hope. They find the Duke dying and it would seem that his son Lyam must decide what to do. It isn't until Duke Borric dies that Lyam is told he has a half brother, Martin.

Milamber goes to the Imperial festival but has trouble fitting into the Tsurani way of thinking. He finds it detestable that they enjoy the senseless slaughtering of human life. The reader watches him grow angry watching men kill each other and tells Hochopepa and Shinome to take the Emperor to safety. He openly challenges the Warlord and leaves him publicly disgraced. He goes home quickly to fetch his wife and daughter and takes them to the rift. Once they are safely through Hokanu helps them get through the Tsurani lines into Midkemia safety. When asked to identify himself by Midkemians he calls himself Pug of Crydee. The reader isn't told why he identifies himself this way. If it is because he is now in his home world or if he feels that he left Milamber behind when he challenged the Warlord.



Chapter 12

Chapter 12 Summary

Pug manages to make it to the Duke Borric's side before he passes away. He tells Pug that he had visions of Pug and has set aside a sum of money. He wants Pug to start a school for wizards in Midkemia. Pug's old master Kulgan is there as well. Katala waits outside with William while Pug says his goodbyes. He is happy to have seen Pug's wife and child. The Duke also tells Pug that he had adopted Pug into their family after Pug was taken since he had no family of his own. He knows that Pug will not shame the family name. As he laid dying he tells his son Lyam and Brucal that he acknowledges his eldest son Martin Longbow. Lyam thought that he was the oldest heir.

Pug explains to Kulgan that he wishes to destroy the rift that links the two worlds together. He has done enough investigating to know that the rifts are unstable and hard to establish. Once it is closed they would have no way to reopen the rift to Midkemia. They could open another rift but can't control the location it would send them to. He tells Kulgan and Kasumi about the happenings at the Imperial Festival. Kasumi tells them that either the current Warlord will kill himself or be replaced and the new Warlord will be sure to attack and soon. They bring in Lyam to tell him that there will be an attack within days. Kasumi asks to go back to his people since King Rodric refused the peace treaty claiming him and Laurie to be spies. Lyam agrees but Pug tells Kasumi his father, Kamatsu, has need of him and not to stay and fight to just go home.

The next morning King Rodric arrives. He tells Lyam that he will be hanged for being a traitor and has him imprisoned. The King then takes the troops off to battle. The King is returned soon with a fatal wound. It clears his head so he is able to make sense of things. He names Lyam the King as eldest son. Lyam knows that Martin is the oldest heir as his father named him as he lay dying. Brucal tells Lyam he has to accept until things are settled with Guy at Krondor and the Tsurani battle is over or else the kingdom will suffer.

Those in the camp realize that Lyam will make a good King but not a great one. His younger brother Arutha would make a great King but they are not sure if Martin will challenge Lyam for the throne or not.

Since Lyam is taking the Kings duties over he has decided he will accept the peace treaty that has been offered by the Emperor. Since the Tsurani accept the word of the Great Ones without question Pug was sent to take a message to the Tsurani troops. They know he is wanted dead but Pug has come in peace and makes known the offer of peace. They take the message back to the Emperor. In a few days The Emperor sent message that he would be visiting himself to sign the peace treaties.

Kulgan and Pug sit to discuss what has happened that forced him into the role of a masterful magician. Kulgan knows that Pug never wanted to become a magician and



knows that the Tsurani conditioning is what pushed him into the role. He believes that even if Pug had not become a magician he would be destined for greatness.

Chapter 12 Analysis

Pug is able to talk to Lord Borric before he passes away. He loved Pug as a son and reveals to him that he adopted Pug into the family after he was taken by the Tsurani. Katala leaves Pug's side to go and watch William. She sees how much he cares for the Lord and does her best to both be there for Pug and give him the space he needs. Lord Borric also cared for Pug's old magic teacher, Kulgan. He leaves a large amount of money to be used to build a school that will teach the magic arts. Kulgan is extremely touched because in Midkemia, magicians are often looked at as beggars and vagrants. With his dying breath, Lord Borric announces to his son Lyam that Martin Longbow is his older brother. He tells Lyam that he has wronged Martin but he does love him.

When King Rodrick shows up he tells Lyam that he is going to be put to death as a traitor. Lyam loves the kingdom enough that he is willing to die. The King suffers a wound in battle and it clears his mind long enough for him to realize how wrong he had been about his recent decisions. He claims Lyam to be the heir to the throne. Lyam knows Martin is rightful heir but doesn't say anything to keep the country from civil war. He doesn't want to be King if it isn't his place, but for the love of his country keeps his mouth shut.

With Rodrick dead Lyam sends message back to the Tsurani Emperor that they will agree to peace. The Emperor says he will come in one month's time to sign the papers. They are overjoyed at the thought the war will soon be over.



Chapter 13-14

Chapter 13-14 Summary

Thomas and Queen Aglaranna are lying in bed when Thomas is awakened by something that he feels. He feels the things that occurring with Pug, King Rodric and Duke Borric. Since he was free from Ashen-Shugar, Queen Aglaranna notices he is a new type of being that is neither the boy from Crydee or the Velheru. His Velheru powers had become more acute since he had regained his humanity. She still is sure that there is no reason to hope for anything.

Lyam sends word to his brother and sister of their father's passing and King Rodric, but keeps quiet about Martin at the urging of Brucal. Lyam tells them to go to the Grey Towers. The King had told Lyam before he passed that there was to be mercy given to Guy du Bas-Tyra. Brucal enters Lyam's tent to tell him that Bas-Tyra has fled because one of his spies is in Lyam's camp and sent a messenger pigeon with the news. They know that Guy is not giving up that easily and will wait to make sure there is no way he can vie for the crown before Lyam gets it.

Queen Aglranna is talking with the council when they announce that something must be done about Thomas. They don't want him to be ruler because they still fear the Velheru in him. Thomas is confused and they announce the Queen is with child. He didn't know but assures them that he will remain her councilor but doesn't wish to rule the kingdom. He acknowledges that Calin, her son, is going to be ruler and his child will be a loyal subject to Calin. They have a ceremony to wed the next day.

Laurie is on his way to the Elf Queen to tell them of the peace treaty when he meets a wizard. The wizard works a spell on him and convinces him that he has already talked to the Queen and Thomas and sends Laurie back on his way with word that they will come. The wizard, who is Macros, goes to the Queen and explains the situation to her. He tells Thomas that there will be treachery at the peace talks and he must have all his army ready to attack the Tsurani. Thomas is unsure and Macros reveals that he has had much to do with everything that has happened to Thomas from the beginning of time.

When the peace talks begin there is no sign of betrayal for a moment but Thomas sees something and they attack. Lyam refuses to help the elves and dwarfs for a moment because of their double handedness but soon has no choice because of the Tsurani warriors coming to attack. Macros shows up and with the help of Kulgan and Pug they are able to close the rift between the two worlds. Lyam is angry with Thomas but after talking with Kasumi who leads the Tsurani troops they realize that they have all been used by Macros. Macros leaves instructions for Pug and Kulgan to go to his home to find answers to the things that have happened.

Lyam is not sure he will make the best King and tries to hand the honor over to Arutha who refuses it. He tells Lyam that there is no other brother to take the crown so he is



stuck with it. Lyam knows that Martin may be a better King but is worried that it will cause war with the other Lords since Martin's birth was scandalous.

Chapter 13-14 Analysis

It appears that Thomas has become more perceptive to the powers the Valheru side of him has given. He and the Queen remain lovers and she is with his child but doesn't tell him. It appears she is worried that there will be too much on his mind for him to think of such things with the war going on. The reader sees the people in her kingdom worry that he will want the throne since he has a claim to it with her carrying his child. He appears to simply want to be with his wife and child. Had this happened before he was in control of the Valheru powers it is possibly that he would have taken the throne but the reader isn't shown the clear answers here. The people appear to be satisfied with his answer and you see no more questioning.

You can see that Lyam wrestles with what to do about Martin but at Brucal's warning keeps quiet until the peace treaty is signed. It appears that Brucal wants more than anything for the kingdoms safety. Macros intercepts Laurie who was to take the message to the Queen and Thomas. He takes the message to them and tells Thomas that he must be ready to attack the Tsurani. Thomas appears unsure and the magician seems to show his anger and tells Thomas that he is the one that befriended the dragon and left the Valheru's armor for Thomas knowing that it would find him. He worked spells to ensure that Thomas wouldn't fall to the Valheru and he has taken care of the people, as is his fate. He tells Thomas that he owes him nothing but if he doesn't attack the Tsurani than his world will be lost beyond recalling. Thomas agrees but Lyam knows nothing of this. Macros is using them all but you are not shown what is truly going on.

It appears Thomas sees the Tsurani attacking during the peace treaty and attacks with all the dwarfs and elves. Lyam is forced to help although it appears that is the last thing Lyam believes to be a good idea. While they are fighting Macros shows up. With Pug and Kulgan they are able to close the rift but Macros disappears. Lyam doesn't know if he will make the better King but Arutha refuses to take the crown. Lyam knows that Martin may take it but is unsure what would be best for the kingdom.



Chapter 15-16

Chapter 15-16 Summary

Arutha, Pug, Meecham and Kulgan go ashore to Macros Island home. Once inside they find a goblin like creature named Gathis. He shows them to a room and says that Macros left a message for them. Pug is able to open the door and find Macros has a vast library with information on many magical studies. His note explains that he is from a distant time and space and since he became a sorcerer he has known his own fate as others know their pasts. He apologizes for the loss of life he has caused and explains that once peace was achieved the rift would have been left open indefinitely. He tells of an Enemy that is called to rifts and would have destroyed both planets. Macros couldn't see past the rift ending but doesn't know if he was going to die or start a new existence. He said that the Midkemians needed Pug to master magic on the Tsurani home world to teach Midkemians. He leaves his library to Pug and Kulgan.

When they return Arutha speaks with Lyam who tells him that Martin is the oldest son and therefore has a right to claim the crown. Arutha is worried that it will cause a civil war but Lyam tells him he will not oppose Martin should he want the crown. Arutha is angry with Lyam for revealing all of this before Lyam is crowned. He loves Martin but thinks that Lyam should have waited until things were steady to announce his father's oldest son. He vows that should it come to it he will kill Martin to keep the kingdom safe and united. They know that Guy du Bas-Tyra is in the kingdom and is hoping that something will go wrong at the coronation so that he will have a claim to the throne.

Martin is seeking solitude when Amos Trask finds him and offers to let him go with him on a ship. Martin is worried that Lyam will not make a good King. He tells Amos that if it were Arutha waiting for the crown he wouldn't worry but he sees doubts and worries with Lyam that make him think that he will be a troubled King. Amos tells him that he can't judge someone before hand. When it comes time to name the King, Martin comes forward with his brothers as those that have a right to claim the crown. He defers to Lyam and everyone vows allegiance to Lyam. Lyam proclaims that Guy is banned from the Kingdom but shows mercy as was asked by King Rodric before he died.

Kasumi is made an Earl and his warriors remain free soldiers. Martin is given the title of Duke and rules his fathers Lands. Arutha is given Krondor to rule and Anita stays close to the castle. Pug is given the name Pug conDoin and named a member of Duke Borric's household. While celebrating peace and the new King they realize that Amos Trask is gone. He had been pardoned for his piracy crimes but now has disappeared. Martin and Arutha ride off to look for him and find that he has stolen King Lyams ship. Arutha yells out that he will have Lyam give him the ship and Amos is despaired that Arutha would take all the fun out of it.



Chapter 15-16 Analysis

They go to Marco's home and find his explanation for what occurred. You find at this point the sorcerer had a hand in most everything that occurred. It seems that the explanation that he left was not completely satisfactory to the men because it raised several questions for each answer. He leaves his extensive library of magic studies to Pug and Kulgan who will use it in their new school for the magical arts.

The reader finds that Lyam decides to announce that Martin is their brother before he is crowned because of honor. It appears that Martin is unsure about Lyam's ability to rule the kingdom but decides in the end to let the rule fall to Lyam. Lyam has been unsure about what kind of ruler he will make and is sure that either brother will be better than him but accepts the crown. Lyam allows Guy to leave the kingdom as was wished by King Rodric. Pug talks to Princess Caroline and finds that while he still cares for her but it appears he will never love her like he once thought when he was a boy. It appears that Princess Caroline enjoys the company of Laurie.

Kasumi is made an Earl and his men remain free soldiers, this appears to give them pride. They are able to help with battles that otherwise would have been lost and are soon accepted. Pug is made part of Duke Borric's family and Martin appears accepted by his family, which was his father's wish. Amos Trask steals one of the King's ships and sails away back to piracy.



Characters

Pug

Pug has connections to many of the characters in the book but doesn't appear in every chapter. Pug begins the story as a young Tsurani slave having been captured in his home world of Midkemia years earlier. He had been a magician's apprentice but didn't care for learning it. He wanted to be a warrior. He is rather young but is able to take his position as a slave. He is discovered by the Tsurani Great One's and taken to be schooled in magic. They are able to train him to the point that he is able to call upon great power. Once his training is complete he takes on another name, Milamber. He takes a slave wife, Katala, and they have a son named William. He had refused her advances at first because he still remembered Princess Caroline but knows he may not ever make it back home. He calls himself Milamber and claims that the boy named Pug no longer exists. His conditioning undergone by the Assembly of Great Ones has taken away many of his former feelings. He is able to get these back to an extent and his love for his homeland returns. He tries to be a Tsurani and take on the appearance and attitude of the people but ultimately he loves his homeland too much and soon has to take his family and flee to Midkemia to save their lives.

Once in Midkemia he begins to introduce himself as Pug of Crydee even though he had said that part of him was dead. He must be the one to close the rift that connects the two worlds. He finds that the conditioning that the Assembly did was so complete that he feels just as much for the Tsurani as he does for his own homeworld. While the rift is still open he has twice the power of any other magician because he can draw from both worlds.

Thomas

When he was a boy he was given magic items that once belonged to an ancient Valheru named Ashen-Shugar. The items contain the power of Ashen-Shugar and begin to change Thomas. The Elf Queen tries to have spells made that will help Thomas avoid the darkness of the powers that have overcome men. The Elf Prince, Calin, decides that if they must they will kill Thomas to stop the evil that may overtake him. When faced with Tsurani prisoners from the war Thomas begins to slaughter them. When he comes to a small boy that reminds him of Pug he is unable to kill the child. The human part of him overpowers the Valheru hatred and his humanity returns. He feels great sorrow and guilt for the lives he has taken. The guilt is great because not only does he feel for the lives he has taken but also for the murders that occurred in the Valheru's time in space. The two have taken on each other. Just as Ashen-Shugar has changed Thomas, Thomas changed Ashen-Shugar in his earlier time.

Thomas and the queen become lovers and it is discovered she is with child. Thomas is feared by those in the kingdom and while they don't mind the queen's choice in a mate



they don't want the frightening powers within Thomas to be in control over them. He refuses the throne but demands that his child be born into a happy complete home and asks the queen for her hand in marriage. Thomas still struggles with the powers of the Valheru. They are more pronounced after his human side takes control. He can feel things that happen far away. He is no longer the boy from Crydee that Pug knew but he is not controlled by the hatred in the Valheru either. He is more elf than man.

Martin Longbow

The Huntmaster of the Kingdom. He is the illegitimate son of Duke Borric. Has an option to claim the throne but defers to his younger brother Lyam.

Macros

A mysterious magician that shows up to help the people of Midkemian at different places throughout the story. He helps Pug to close the rift between the Midkemians and the Tsuranis.

Laurie

A Midkemian musician. He teaches Kasumi the ways of the Midkemians and helps to bring the offer of peace to King Rodric. He is Pug's good friend.

Guy du Bas-Tyra

The cousin of Arutha and Lyam. He takes the Prince of Krondor captive trying to claim the throne. The Prince dies in the dungeon.

Arutha

The youngest son of Duke Borric. He saves his cousin Anita from Guy du Bas-Tyra.

Lyam

Thought to be the oldest son of Duke Borric. He is named Heir to the kingdom when King Rodric dies.

Kasumi

The youngest son of Katsumi. He is Tsurani but finds the war to be useless and his father takes in Laurie and Pug so that they can teach Kasumi how to be a Midkemian. He brings the offer of peace to King Rodric.



Queen Aglaranna

Aglaranna is the Elf Queen. She is in love with Thomas and has her magicians cast spells to help him while he begins to get the powers of the Valheru.



Objects/Places

Midkemia

Referred to as the Kingdom. It is Pug and Laurie's home world. The Tsurani want to have their valuable metals.

Rift

The opening that joins the Midkemian's and Tsurani's world together. Unstable and held by a machine the magicians created.

Ashen-Shugar's Armor

The Armor given to Thomas as a boy by the Dragon. It gives Thomas great power but puts a darkness on him that Thomas must fight against.

Straights of Darkness

Deadly sea passage that Amos, Prince Arutha, Martin and the rest of the crew must navigate to get to Krondor to ask for assistance against the Tsurani warriors.

Crydee

Kingdom where Pug was from. Westernmost province where ruled by Duke Borric.

Krondor

Kingdom where Prince Erland rules. Prince Arutha goes there to ask for troops and finds Guy du Bas-Tyra has taken control of the city.

Macros Staff

These are used by Kulgan, Pug and Macros to close the rift.

Sorcerer's Isle

The home of Macros the magician. He leaves an explanation for the things that occurred here and a library full of magic studies to be used by Pug and Kulgan to start a school.



Wal

A peaceful place within oneself that Pug wants to find if he is to gain control of his magical powers.

Mockers

A society of thieves that work against Guy du Bas-Tyra in Krondor. They are responsible for getting Prince Arutha and his cousin, Princess Anita, out of the city safely.



Themes

Good Versus Evil

Good versus evil becomes much more complex within this story. There are several different evils. The story is about two warring worlds, but in fact neither one of them is evil in description. The story is told by the people of the Midkemia world but when Pug is conditioned by the Assembly you find that he begins to feel the good in the Tsurani and feels as if that is his home as much as Midkemia. There are people on both worlds that cause a problem and would be considered evil from the story telling standpoint. In Midkemia Guy du Bas-Tyra is seeking the throne by whatever means necessary and kills Prince Erland because he wants the crown. In the Empire of the Tsuranuanni there are many that want the war to continue, such as the Warlord, and the others that are striving to end the war.

The biggest battle in the story seem to be inner battles. Pug has to battle himself with the ballance of the love he feels for both worlds and his magical abilities. Thomas also has great struggles that take place between himself and the Velheru, Ashen-Shugar who is trying to take over Thomas. The struggle and story take many turns showing that good and evil often don't fall into the catagories we feel are black and white. Macros does things that might be considered evil and knows that the thousands of men that die are his fault, but he felt he had to. Even with all this we are not led to believe that Macros is evil.

Love of Country

Pug loves Midkemia but after his mental conditioning he feels that the Tsuranuanni Empire is his home as well. The battle for him to find a balance between those two loves takes him some time. Both worlds love their countries but have different ways of showing it. The Tsurani value honor and battle. They are a warrior people and when disgraced in battle they find it better to take your own life or fight to the death. The war for them is just as much a point of pride and showing that their country is mighty. In Midkemia they value life more and find that war serves little purpose without a sound reason.

You see that Lyam is fighting with himself heavily over the love of his country and what is right. His father was an honorable man who asked that Martin be honored as his oldest son. Lyam is unsure what to do that will both be honorable and keep the Kingdom together. He tries to get Arutha to take the crown because he is unsure of his own leading abilities. When Arutha learns that Martin is his brother he worries about what will happen if Martin does try to claim the crown because of the kingdom. No one wants war. He loves Martin and is glad he is his brother but vows to kill Martin if he opposes Lyam. Martin himself is so worried about the kingdom that he is unsure who will better serve as King but does what it takes to keep the Kingdom intact.



The Desire for Power

The desire for power in the story is shown by many of the Tsurani. The warlord wants power and openly tries to command the wizards of the Assembly. When the Warlord is confronted by Pug at the festival and is shamed the next in line is quick to take over seeking the power. The Assembly shows their power often. The Great One's in the Tsurani culture are above the law. There is a constant struggle between the houses in the Empire and death often is the end result. In Krondor Arutha finds that his cousin, Guy du Bas-Tyra, is seeking power. He wishes to have the throne at Krondor and tries to force Prince Erland into a betrothal agreement between Guy and Prince Erland's daughter, Anita. When the prince refuses Guy throws him in the dungeon where he dies.

The Elves are discussing Thomas who is obviously under the effects of the ancient Valheru. They know that others that look for the items that belonged to the ancient ones were taken over by the black hatred and became evil, but they were looking for the power and were seeking to control it. They know that Thomas was just a young boy and had no desire for power at all. The desire for power is ultimately the downfall for all those that seek it. Even Macros who desires the power to control the situation at the rift may have been destroyed.



Style

Point of View

The story is written in third person. The characters in the book seemingly have no connection in the first other than a past and that they are all in the same war, but you find as the story continues that their stories are destined to collide again. The book is told from a sometimes limited and sometimes omniscient point of view. For instance when Thomas is having an inner struggle between himself and the Velheru, you are given the details of what Thomas feels and thinks while the battle occurs. Other times you are given nothing more than a look that occurred but no explanation as to why it was there. The story is not told from one point of view. It happens to tell the story of the war itself and goes between the men and women that have major roles in the war.

The point of view stays in order of events but shifts between characters as the story progresses so that you have insight as to what will happen to one character after another character has finished their story. The link between the characters adds to the point of view since the happenings to one are significant to another and increase as the story progresses.

Setting

The setting takes place on two different fictional worlds. The story begins on Tsuranuanni but primarily it is about those on the Midkemian world. Both have their own language and customs differing greatly from each other. The Tsuranuanni have different houses that make up their world and are a warrior people. They have little metal and so it is deemed very valuable. They have an Emperor, magicians and a Warlord. All these are considered very powerful in the Empire. Kamatsu has his son's trained in the way of the Midkemians in order to bring an offer of peace. This is unheard of in their culture.

Midkemia has magicians as well, but they are not in a position of power. They are considered more of a beggar status. Midkemians are not a waring people but have many armies that also consist of dwarfs and elves. There is a King that rules the lands and Dukes, Earls and other men of power. They are taller people than the Tsuranni and more accustomed to the colder weather of Midkemia. You see the massive differences in the two when Kamatsu's son, Kasumi, is talking to the Midkemians. He is shocked that no one reveres Pug and that they don't kill prisoners of war.

There are also times in the book when you are shown images past of Tsuranuanni and the Valheru, Ashen-Shugar. These images lend to the history and explanation of what happened to the two worlds and why they differ in customs and values.



Language and Meaning

The language is easily followed despite the fact that much of it is geared toward old English. There are times when the characters are being very formal with the King or the Emperor but the type of language remains the same. The language of the novel helps to characterize the different cultures and characters involved. This is shown in the way that Pug talks to Kasumi before he becomes a free man. You see many differences in the way that a slave talks to another slave as apposed to their master. Each set of characters has a different speaking form. The noble Tsurani speak differently than the Mockers in the Thieves Guild. When Jimmy the Hand is talking to Prince Arutha the language becomes a lot more relaxed and informal.

The language adds to the theme of the Kings and Emperors with a feel to it that makes the horse soldiers and robbed noblemen very believable. The story line ends with the coronation of King Lyam and those that took part in the story have a satisfying ending with the pirate friend of Prince Arutha sailing away in a stolen ship. Even though the lands are fictional the connection between their old English and the time of Kings and Pirates lends credibility to the story.

Structure

The story is divided up into 16 different chapters, in the author's preferred edition, with a passage at the front explaining what has happened in the story thus far. The story chapters end neatly with climatic points. In the first several chapters the different characters are all in different places and so there will be a chapter or two about a set of characters and then there will start the next set of characters. As the story progresses there are characters who cross paths and begin the story together. By the end of the story the main characters in the book have joined together for the celebration or have at least planned to be there soon.

The story is about the people involved in the Midkemian/Tsurani war that is going on and their part in ending the conflict. Despite the fact that the story has many characters, there is a main character that seems to tie the others together. The magician, Pug, tends to be the common link between all the characters. Duke Borric's family took Pug in when he was a child, Thomas and Pug were childhood friends, the Tsurani that brings the message of peace is Pug's master and the magician that orchestrated everything seems to have done it just for Pug's learning of the magical arts. The story is left open for another sequel but gives enough closure to let the reader set the book down with a satisfying ending.



Quotes

"In the four years he had been a slave on this world, he had not grown used to the appearance of these life-forms." Chapter 1: page 3

"Pug said he would, and Chogana said, "Within you there is a trapped power. What it is and what it means, I do not know."" Chapter 1: page 16

"You are to teach me things Laurie. You will teach me how to ride, and how to speak your language." Chapter 2: page 34

"This slave is no longer property of this house. He is now the province of the Assembly." Chapter 2: page 67

"Thomas was a boy of good and noble heart, with no taint of evil in his soul. Perchance he will grow to master the dark side of the magic." Chapter 3: page 73

"He was a being of both worlds, worlds bound together by the great rift." Chapter 4: page 141

"He said nothing, suddenly caught up in a strong emotion, a protective feeling, a need to keep Anita from harm's way, to care for her." Chapter 7: page 238

"And in the months since I came to live here, I have come to one conclusion: the Empire is slowly killing itself." Chapter 8: page 257

"Kasumi interrupted. 'I go to meet the King and bring him an offer of peace.'" Chapter 8: page 271

"The King has ordered the spies put to death." Chapter 10: page 324

"They were no longer a mystery to him but the wellspring from which all his power stemmed." Chapter 11: page 350

"A demon has been driven from me, Lyam, and I can see much of what I have done was wrong, even evil." Chapter 12: page 382

"I possess the power of the Valheru, though I was not born to it, and my mind remember ages long gone to dust." Chapter 13: page 400

"If you ever hope to end this bloody war, we must capture and hold that machine." Chapter 14: page 422

"Your Highness," Said Kulgan, "If the sorcerer's hand is in this-and it has been in everything else, it seems-then it may be best to unravel this mystery at leisure." Chapter 14: page 436

"I have decided not to oppose Martin should he choose the crown." Chapter 16: page 465

"Hail Lyam! Long live the King!" Chapter 16 page: 491



Topics for Discussion

Do you agree with Lyam's decision to acknowledge Martin before the coronation ceremony or Arutha's thought that it should have waited until after Lyam was crowned? Why?

Arutha noted that Princess Caroline handled her grief much better when Roland died than when Pug was captured. Why do you think that is?

What do you believe happened to Macros after the rift was destroyed?

Milamber (Pug) says to Hochopepa that the Empire had become stale and was devouring its own people. Do you believe the Tsurani culture to be weak? Do you consider the Tsurani people to be weak? What was shown in the story to draw these conclusions?

Did you find Macro's explanation for the events that occurred to be acceptable? Why?

Do you think that Ashen-Shugar is still a threat to Thomas and his humanity? Why?

Do you believe that Pug's time in the Tsurani culture will change their Empire? If so then how and why?