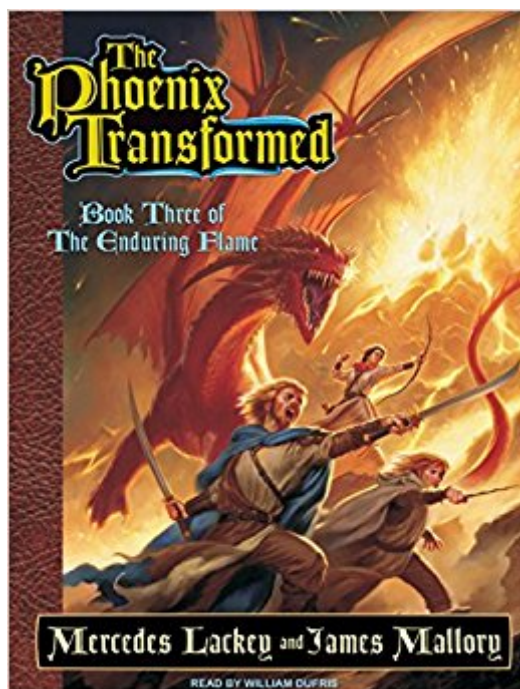




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The Phoenix Transformed: Book Three Of The Enduring Flame



Synopsis

In the Enduring Flame Trilogy, Mercedes Lackey and James Mallory have given audiences a new view of the complex and fascinating world they originally created for the Obsidian Trilogy. Jumping ahead one thousand years in time, Lackey and Mallory have told the compelling story of Harrier Gillain, the first Knight-Mage in a thousand years; Tiercel Rolfort, the first High Mage in hundreds of years; and Shaiara, the young leader of a desert tribe who takes both boys under her wing but has a special affection for Harrier. These three young people are their world's main defense against the evil called up by the rogue Wild Mage Bisochim. Bisochim's conviction that he was restoring the balance was shattered the moment Ahairan took her first breath. Now, in *The Phoenix Transformed*, Bisochim joins forces with Harrier and Tiercel, and the three mages search desperately for a way to destroy Ahairan as she sends her magical forces against them and the desert nomads under their protection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Shaiara is a plucky and resourceful character, rising above the tropes common to multicultural fantasy. Readers can rest assured that Lackey and Mallory will not let them down.”
—SFRevu.com on *The Phoenix Endangered*
“Entertaining. . . . Highly readable.”
—Publishers Weekly on *The Phoenix Unchained*
“As entertaining as the first trilogy. Tiercel and Harrier are great foils for each other, and their friendship rings true. A

thoughtfully created world, engaging characters, and a tighter plot than many fantasy epics make this a must-have. [VOYA on The Phoenix Unchained](#) --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

“Shaiara is a plucky and resourceful character, rising above the tropes common to multicultural fantasy. Readers can rest assured that Lackey and Mallory will not let them down.” [SFR evu.com on The Phoenix Endangered](#) “Entertaining” [Highly readable](#). [Publishers Weekly on The Phoenix Unchained](#) “As entertaining as the first trilogy”. A thoughtfully created world, engaging characters, and a tighter plot than many fantasy epics make this a must-have. [VOYA on The Phoenix Unchained](#) --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

This one was a huge disappointment after the first two books in the series. Spoiler alert...2/3 of the book consists of an unimaginative demon herding the remainder of the tribes through the desert. After a while it really becomes a chore to read. Very little character development takes place, there is a ton of teenage whining/angst from the two main protagonists and the demon seems almost an afterthought as does the "tacked on" hint at a romance. Characters that were highly involved and heavily developed early in the series just kind of inexplicably drop out of the picture. I really had high hopes for this book, as I enjoyed the first two in the series... but even finishing this one was tough. The editor should be ashamed.

This book almost seems like it was ghost written by someone who a) was not used to writing fiction and b) never read a Mercedes Lackey book. Also, when it came to sending it to the publisher, Lackey somehow forgot to read it and offer suggestions. The writing is stilted and repetitive and most of the book just simply has too many words. Aside from the continuation of characters, I didn't feel this book had much in common with the previous two Enduring Flame books. As far as the story goes, the last ten pages are literally the whole story; you don't need anything that comes before aside from two straightforward facts, and you paid dearly for having had to suffer through the rest. This is the only time I have ever found fault in any of Lackey's books aside from the pervasive feeling at the end of each of wanting more. If a fourth book came from the Enduring Flame series, I would burn it rather than read it.

This book was a little slow going because so much was going on, but the conclusion more than

made it up. I'm sad I can only give 5 stars when it truly deserves about 100. a great conclusion, but the only thing I wished we could have seen was the fate of Kellen, since we got to learn about everyone else from the Obsidian trilogy. I hope there is more to this universe soon.

I like Lackey books, for the most part. However, with this series, I only made it through the last book from sheer morbid curiosity and willpower. It wasn't due to any excitement from the story. It's funny that so much of the book was trekking across the desert to build up endurance. I felt the same way reading the book. I did manage to endure it, and the last 10% (Kindle edition) was interesting, although I'd lost any interest in the characters long ago. If you are reading this before picking up the first book, avoid this series. If you started this series, I'm sorry, and just read the end of the book and imagine a montage of walking through the desert with a lot of people dying to dark critters. And arguing.... lots of arguing.

I enjoyed the first book in this trilogy (*The Phoenix Unchained*), and I found second (*The Phoenix Endangered*) fairly interesting. However, I think that the final book in the series (*Phoenix Transformed*) falls far short of a satisfying conclusion. The continuing arguments between H. and T. get tiresome, and the never ending march through the desert (and back again...) gets tedious. I suspect that a few hundred pages of the book could be dropped without losing anything of importance. Also, I found the lack of logic of the demon hard to understand, despite the books attempt to rationalize it. Thus the plot fell apart for me. I have enjoyed many other of J. Lackey's collaborative efforts, but this one ends with a whimper.

While this was harder for me to enjoy than the first two the ending was well worth it for me. The sense of journey I didn't quite feel as the desert didn't do much for me and unfortunately where the plot and character development leads sometimes it's not all about grand battles, fights, new wondrous places and nonstop magic use. So it made it a lot more challenging of a read after what happens at the end of the second book as there is a missing element that was very enjoyable that you nearly have to live without in this one. With no map in this book my curiosity is really peaked about how much more land there is to explore, new people, lost lands, what's in the oceans besides kraken? The life of sailing or pirates? I would also like to know more about that little bombshell they left us about a unicorn! Of course more centaurs would be nice too! This series delivers on the creatures that usually don't get too much attention in epic fantasy books, hope to see a lot more.

This one had some serious dull spots in the middle. It started out fine..it ended fine but the middle was tiresome and predictable and uninteresting.Overall the series is good but this one...

and too torturous and long winded in the testing of two youngsters out to save the world... i pity the two on the journey to save the world simply because of the way they are brought across the desert...

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