



The Steel Remains (A Land Fit for Heroes)

By Richard K. Morgan

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A dark lord will rise. Such is the prophecy that dogs Ringil Eskith—Gil, for short—a washed-up mercenary and onetime war hero whose cynicism is surpassed only by the speed of his sword. Gil is estranged from his aristocratic family, but when his mother enlists his help in freeing a cousin sold into slavery, Gil sets out to track her down. But it soon becomes apparent that more is at stake than the fate of one young woman. Grim sorceries are awakening in the land. Some speak in whispers of the return of the Aldrain, a race of widely feared, cruel yet beautiful demons. Now Gil and two old comrades are all that stand in the way of a prophecy whose fulfillment will drown an entire world in blood. But with heroes like these, the cure is likely to be worse than the disease.

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The Steel Remains (A Land Fit for Heroes) By Richard K. Morgan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #151505 in Books
- Brand: Morgan, Richard K.
- Published on: 2010-01-12
- Released on: 2010-01-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x 1.00" w x 6.10" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 448 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Noir SF author Morgan (*Thirteen*) delivers a promising but obscenity-laden epic fantasy trilogy opener. As the Yhelteth Empire recovers from a devastating war, embittered veterans Archeth, Egar and Ringil embark on parallel but vastly different journeys. The emperor sends drug-abusing Archeth to gather details about a rumored invasion. Egar becomes a steppes clanmaster, but the other horsemen despise him for seducing teenagers rather than leading. Ringil attempts to locate and free a cousin sold into slavery. All three soon discover the dwenda, a race of magical beings thought long dead. Despite stereotypical plot elements, including a prophecy that states A dark lord will rise, the well-developed characters and realistic battle scenes ring true, as do some gruesomely explicit sex scenes. The intriguing conclusion to the dark, gritty tale will have readers hoping for a more plot-heavy and less visceral sequel. (*Jan.*)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

After reading his film noir take on the future in his science fiction novels, critics were eager to see how Richard Morgan would handle fantasy. In this respect, reviewers were pleased, noting how Morgan takes plot elements that are as old as those of *Lord of the Rings* or *Conan the Barbarian* and gives them a freshness by importing many of the themes that drove his sci-fi work. Several critics were a little disappointed by the pacing of the novel, though they seemed to find it more acceptable when they thought of the book as the first of a series. Every critic also warned readers that while they don't detract from the overall quality of the work, many scenes from *The Steel Remains* contain an awful lot of explicit sex, violence, and harsh language.

Perhaps such scenes are right up your alley ...

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Review

"Bold, brutal, and making no compromises—Morgan doesn't so much twist the clichés of fantasy as take an axe to them."—Joe Abercrombie

"The award-winning author of *Altered Carbon* and *Market Forces* brings the same iconoclastic approach to his fantasy debut as he did to his sf technothrillers. . . . [Richard K.] Morgan's storytelling talent and his atmospheric, hard-hitting prose make this a strong addition to mature fantasy collections."—*Library Journal*

"Spellbinding . . . There's so much to like about the adventure."—*Star-Ledger*

"Morgan has taken traditional sword and sorcery tropes and given them a hard, contemporary kick. The antithesis of the cosy fairytale, this one is for big boys."—*Times*, London

"[A] dark, gritty tale . . . The well-developed characters and realistic battle scenes ring true."—*Publishers Weekly*

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lucille Grant:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive right now, people have to do something to make all of them survive, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a book your ability to survive raise then having chance to endure than other is high. In your case who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this specific The Steel Remains (A Land Fit for Heroes) book as beginning and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Ralph Dell:

Reading can be called head hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specifically book entitled The Steel Remains (A Land Fit for Heroes) your thoughts will drift away through every dimension, wandering in most aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a reserve then become one application from conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get previous to. The The Steel Remains (A Land Fit for Heroes) giving you an additional experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Sylvia Medina:

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