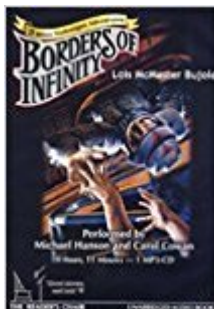


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Borders Of Infinity



Synopsis

3 Miles Vorkosigan Adventures! The Mountains of Mouring is a Hugo & Nebula Award-winning novella. Just after graduating from military academy, Ensign Miles must take on one of his duties as a Barrayaran Vor Lord by acting as detective and judge in a back-country murder case. In Labyrinth, Miles travels to Jackson's Whole on a covert mission for Barrayar as Dendaril Mercenary Admiral Naismith. His mission to rescue a top research geneticist is complicated by the doctor's insistence that one of his experimental creatures be destroyed first. The Borders of Infinity finds Miles in a Cetagandan prison camp. But why is he here? How does he handle captivity? And, will he make it out alive?

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Customer Reviews

3 Miles Vorkosigan Adventures! The Mountains of Mouring is a Hugo & Nebula Award-winning novella. Just after graduating from military academy, Ensign Miles must take on one of his duties as a Barrayaran Vor Lord by acting as detective and judge in a back-country murder case. In Labyrinth, Miles travels to Jackson's Whole on a covert mission for Barrayar as Dendaril Mercenary Admiral Naismith. His mission to rescue a top research geneticist is complicated by the doctor's insistence that one of his experimental creatures be destroyed first. The Borders of Infinity finds Miles in a Cetagandan prison camp. But why is he here? How does he handle captivity? And, will he make it out alive?

LOVE LOVE LOVE her Miles series. He solves his problems by out thinking his opponents and outside of all boxes. His home world is military minded so the stories have some violence, but not an over abundance and any sex is talked of but no graphic descriptions. Miles gets into the middle of a mess and the mystery is how he can get out of it with the least amount of damage. The first story is set after the *Warrior's Apprentice*, and is him out thinking a murderer. No sex, the murder is before the story, and minimal violence. The second and third stories are set before *Brothers in Arms*. Miles is "picking up" a scientist who has lost track of his life's work and won't leave without it - always expect complications with Miles involved. The same with the next story - he is to get one prisoner of war out of a jail, but decides he is breaking out all the prisoners instead.

In a society that spent hundreds of years killing off "Muties", the genetically damaged children of parents who's great-great-grandfathers were exposed to radiation during the nuclear holocaust that threw this civilization back to the stone age, Miles looks like one of their number. But he isn't; his warped and damaged body was created because his mother was subjected to a chemical attack while he was in the womb, and the chemical poisons damaged his fetal development. His earliest memory is waking up to find his own grandfather trying to strangle him to death to cleanse the "impure genes" from his bloodline, only stopped by his father. The world Miles was born into has been once more rediscovered by the star faring humanity who originally settled it, and the imperial houses who rule his planet are fighting for their place and survival among the stars. Miles has a head start on the process, since he had to fight harder than that just to be able to live to maturity, and some in the government recognize the value in his style and techniques. This collection of short stories gives you a peek at how he developed over the years, and what some of the challenges he faced were. It gives you the flavor of the Vorkosigan universe, and most of all it gives you some wonderful stories about someone who refused to turn aside just because the going got tough, and solved every one of the problems he ran into with his wits. Lois McMaster Bujold is an amazing author, and for me, this is flat out her best series.

Love this author although her combination publications (combo books versus purchasing each story separately) can be really confusing and sometimes, costly.

This is only a short story, but it won well deserved awards when it was first published. This is the kind of story where you have no idea what is going on at first, but slowly the author leads you to understand. True genius, IMHO. Human interest, drama, psychological thriller, human nature at its

worst and best. I can't recommend Bujold enough, and this story, even though short, was worth the money.

Dear Readers!! started reading this series back in the late 1980's while still working offshore. A 12 hour shift was disappeared immediately! Just this winter I rediscovered them and found several stories I had not read. 20-25 years experiences and well over a decade in Balkans and Eastern Europe make me appreciate the depth of research and cultural sharing that support a Superb Storyteller!! recommend Heartily, especially to youngsters who are following a Science-Math-Tech career, for the depth of humanity, the rich pattern of describing a primitive physical culture assimilating high tech lifestyle and values, and "Just Plain Fun"!

Another wonderful read.

Normally, I dislike reading short stories: there's just no time to fully flesh out the characters. However, in this case, since these are part of the Miles Vorkosigan saga (and we're all familiar with him, his background, and his environment by now), I loved them. Each of the three short stories in the collection ("The Mountains of Mourning," "Labyrinth," and "The Borders of Infinity") are about 100 pages long, very interesting, and very well done. These short stories are also not peripheral to Miles' story. They seem to be covering central aspects of Miles and the Dendarii. The only downside to the book is that the three stories, though published in this one book, take place between different sets of the major books. Specifically, the first of the short stories happens during the short gap between *The Warrior's Apprentice* and *The Vor Game*. While the second and third stories occur after *Cetaganda* and before *Brothers in Arms*. Nothing insurmountable, but it's disconcerting. I rate it an excellent 5 stars out of 5.

A friend recommended Bujold's Vorkosigan books and I am working my way through the series. I have read 10 books in the series so far. These are a lot of fun, and Miles Vorkosigan is the most interesting character I've come across in a very long time. If you were wondering -- read this, read more. You will love these!

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