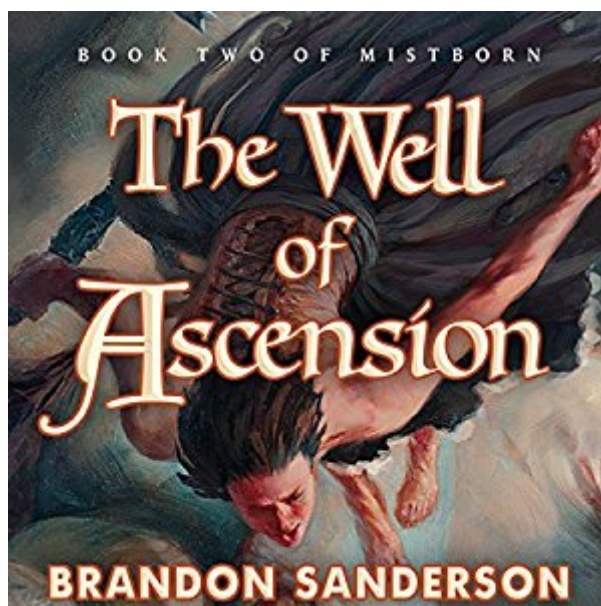


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The Well Of Ascension: Mistborn, Book 2



Synopsis

The impossible has been accomplished. The Lord Ruler â “ the man who claimed to be god incarnate and brutally ruled the world for a thousand years â “ has been vanquished. But Kelsier, the hero who masterminded that triumph, is dead too, and now the awesome task of building a new world has been left to his young protégé, Vin, the former street urchin who is now the most powerful Mistborn in the land, and to the idealistic young nobleman she loves. As Kelsier's protégé and slayer of the Lord Ruler she is now venerated by a budding new religion, a distinction that makes her intensely uncomfortable. Even more worrying, the mists have begun behaving strangely since the Lord Ruler died, and seem to harbor a strange vaporous entity that haunts her. Stopping assassins may keep Vin's Mistborn skills sharp, but it's the least of her problems. Luthadel, the largest city of the former empire, doesn't run itself, and Vin and the other members of Kelsier's crew, who lead the revolution, must learn a whole new set of practical and political skills to help. It certainly won't get easier with three armies â “ one of them composed of ferocious giants â “ now vying to conquer the city, and no sign of the Lord Ruler's hidden cache of atium, the rarest and most powerful allomantic metal. As the siege of Luthadel tightens, an ancient legend seems to offer a glimmer of hope. But even if it really exists, no one knows where to find the Well of Ascension or what manner of power it bestows. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

Elend: There is an army outside Luthadel. It happens to be led by my father. I'm king now, maybe I

should do something about this. Dockson: Indeed- wait, what? We made you king? Aren't you, like, 15 years old? Elend: Ah, shucks, that isn't very nice. I'm 21. Dockson: Well, you are a good guy so I'll let it pass. This will be mentioned repeatedly throughout the book. Honestly, you are so good. Vin: (Glances around the room, making sure everything is safe) Hey guys. Elend: Holy crap you are so paranoid! I love you though. I worship the ground you walk on. Let's make a bunch of mist babies. Have I mentioned how adorably paranoid you are? Readers: Actually, considering her upbringing and the fact that you are now king, she doesn't seem paranoid. She is just being smart. Elend: No, no, trust me guys. She is soooo paranoid. Readers: But, don't you mention how assassins try to kill you every month? And that she is essentially the only one protecting you? Elend: Guys, seriously. She is paranoid. Readers: Sigh, Ok... Vin: You know how I seemed conflicted about my role and who I was in the last book? Well, that was unresolved and we are now going to drag it out for 400 pages. Zane: Hey, what's up? I'm another Mistborn and I'm the bad boy. I wear all black. By the way, Elend wears all white. There is no symbolism in that AT ALL. Vin: Woah, who are you? Zane: Oh, I work for Elend's dad...you know, the one who is currently commanding an army that is besieging the city? Vin: Considering my predilection for not trusting anybody, it would be consistent with my character to treat you as a hostile enemy. But, I'm just so intrigued! Another Mistborn! Zane: Elend is using you Vin. You are nothing but a tool to him. Vin: If that were true, wouldn't Elend just command me to go slaughter his father's army by myself? I mean, I'm so powerful now all I have to do is blink and people's heads explode. Zane: Nope, he is using you. Vin: Actually, I'm the one who insists on being his personal body guard and roaming the mists at night. He never once asks me to do that and in fact hints that he would prefer I stay safe inside the castle. Zane: Read my lips. TOOL. Vin: You have convinced me! It's not like you have an ulterior motive for causing me to doubt Elend. Zane: Not at all. While I'm here, I could easily kill all the team members with a single coin while they slept. In fact I could kill your entire army very easily simply by being quiet and not continually letting you know I'm here. But I won't. Vin: Because you are honorable? Zane: Um, no. Just because. Sazed: Hey guys I'm back! Guess what? The mists are eating people now. We should maybe do something about that. (The characters proceed to pretty much ignore him). Vin: Crap, it looks like someone has killed one of the team members and replaced him with a Kandra! You know, like Renoux in the last book. Elend: Wow, this is serious. BUT Kandra can't use Allomancy. Seeing as how the entire group can use Allomancy except for Dockson, and Vin can pierce copperclouds, you should go and test them right away. Like now. Vin: Eh, how about I wait for 200 pages and you continue to tell them all your secret plans? Elend: Sounds good! Vin: Ugh, I'm so conflicted! I wish I could be the girl Elend deserves, wearing pretty dresses and being supportive all the time. This line

of thought is not supported by anything Elend does and actually conflicts with the whole "You are a tool to him" theory, but oh well. I love the mists! But I'm so angsty about my relationship with Elend! Ah, the mists! But angst! Hmmm, mist, angst, mist, angst, mist.....mangst? Readers: This is incredibly boring. Elend: Alrighty, I'm going to meet my father. Alone. Breeze: That is the stupidest thing I have ever heard. Elend: Hey, don't be a meanie! You see, that is the point! He will think me stupid for meeting him without protection! Breeze:...That's because it is stupid Elend. At least take Vin. Oh, and while you are there, you could take the Kandra working for you. That way, you could kill your dad and replace him with your Kandra, therefore effectively being in control of his army. He could just order the enemy army to attack the second army now at your gates. Problem solved. Elend: Um, no. Breeze: Ok, why not? Elend: Cuz I'm a good guy? Breeze: No, you are confusing "good" with "insanely inept at being a king". God I wish Kelsier was here. Cett: So I'm in charge of the other army. Mind if I cause the government to depose Elend and then set me up as king? Readers: Wait, how did you get in the city? Elend: We don't ask those kinds of questions. Readers: But he is a cripple! He can't walk! If he was able to get into the city, then why didn't he just send a couple of his troops in each night and hide out until the entire army is in the city, thereby taking everybody by surprise?? Sanderson: (covering ears) La la la la la, I can't hear you! Stop asking questions, the characters don't ask these questions! Readers: Ugh, who cares anyways, I'm just glad Elend is no longer allowed to act like an idiot while in power. Elend: But wait! I'm a good, honorable guy! Readers: So we have heard. Cett: How about while you guys are deciding, I bring my troops in here? That ok? Elend: Ya, sure, what could possibly go wrong? Readers: (Loud groaning) So, it's now been 400 pages, nothing has happened and we have yet to even address the title of this book. Vin: Well allow me to up the drama! I think.....THE MIST IS ACTUALLY THE DEEPNESS. Readers: We already figured that. Vin: Oh ya, well what about.....I THINK I AM THE NEW HERO OF LEGENDS. Readers: That was clear from Book 1. Vin: Fine! Then I think I need to.....GO TO THE WELL OF ASCENSION. Readers: Thank the Lord baby Jesus, finally! And the book proceeds as it should from there. The ending (and the really cool and developed magic system) is the only reason this book gets 3 stars.

THERE ARE MINOR SPOILERS! I'd like to first start off and say that book 2 is NO book 1. Granted the last segment is good. It was too much of a burden getting there. There were many points in the book where I wanted to burn the book it was so annoying. I would give this book a 2.5 if I could but since the ending was good. I gave it a 3. I'll go into detail below about the negatives. 1) Vin and Elend's relationship. It is one of the most UNBELIEVABLE and AWKWARD romances. In book 1,

you kind of saw the chemistry and it made sense. One could see them pushing through their differences and, hopefully in the future, grow into a mature relationship. In book 2, all hope of that is destroyed. There aren't ANY scenes where you feel that they should even stay together. I found myself many times rooting for Vin's other love interest just because it made more sense. I completely understand how opposites attract but it was just so strange reading Vin go slaughter a group of assassins and then come act like a Tween couple stuck in the puppy love stage with Elend immediately after. It was just too unrealistic and extremely tiresome to read.

2) Extremely slow paced. I won't get into this too much but let's just say this book could've been named something completely different like "Mistborn: People Gathering Outside While We Bicker Inside" or "Mistborn: Teen Insecurity and Its Dire Symptoms on a Kingdom" or my personal favorite "Mistborn: Being Redundant Helps for Redundancy". This book has so much filler I would put it up there with some of the Wheel of time books. You know, how the whole book is tiresome and then something EPIC happens at the end. Ya, its like that but not as interesting because the politics and teen insecurity happens over and over and over and over and over again. Very tiresome.

3) Elend in this book. Its not entirely the character that's the problem, but the situations that he is put in. They are so stupid and could've been completely avoided. I don't understand why Sanderson would make Elend so righteous that he lose his status as king because he couldn't tell a lie/not say anything about the clause and THEN turn around have Elend shank his former friend and then kill a Koloss just because he was wondering what was in its pouch. WTF? You ask. Yes, indeed Elend is psychopath (jking). I still don't understand how I can like the character but hate almost everything they do but the paradox is here.

3) Vin's disapproval/misconception of Kelsier. I HATED THIS ABOUT THE BOOK! This drove me up the wall, more than the teenage puppy love awkward scenes, more than the stupid political ploys that wound up doing nothing, and even more than the sheer Elend's uselessness as king. We know Kelsier as the self-sacrificing hero of book 1 that wooed us all over with his awesomeness. With that being stated, can any of you please send me the memo where Elend in any way, shape, or form is better than the Survivor? There was a section in the book that Vin states Elend is a better than Kelsier and then goes to say Kelsier was ruthless blah blah blah. ARE YOU KIDDING ME!?!?! I'm sorry but Sanderson EXTREMELY dropped the ball here. Vin goes on to turn Kelsier in a ruthless maniac that eats babies and kicks the elderly in her mind. All the while, Elend is the golden boy that can do no wrong and is the Heaven in human form to her, while he forsakes his kingdom and its people to another man who is a supporter of one of the books main bad guys!!! I feel Sanderson tried to make Kelsier the good "bad" guy to make Elend and Vin seem more righteous. It only pissed me off. Kelsier died, paying the ultimate sacrifice for the good of all

skaa in book 1 and book 2 Vin belittles his actions. I can go on and on about this because it's so frustrating.4) Vin is a poor replacement for Kelsier in book 2. Before I go on, yes, I am a fanboy of Kelsier. He was an awesome character that did many things to earn him respect in my eyes. After he died, we had Vin. At the end of book 1, Vin was pretty bearable. In book 2, Vin loses all credibility and just becomes one of the most annoying main characters I've read in a series. The reason I say this is because Vin seems REALLY bipolar in this book. Yes, I understand Sanderson is trying to make her SEEM more human by giving her uncertainty but you just want to take her out back and shoot her many times during this book she is so annoying. It would have been a different case if there was more development of her personality. I felt, even in book 1, she didn't really have too much of a personality other than her "holy crap hide and become small". Yes, she had her moments, such as her blowing up at the crew, but it still felt out of place because there wasn't a REAL distinct feel to her. You didn't notice it too much because Kelsier had enough personality for both of them. Without him in the equation, you really start to notice her character design faults. When you add the annoyances of being in an unbelievable, puppy-love romance, Vin is the most annoying character in the book.5) The final bad thing about the book is how easy things come to Vin in this book and how great she is. It just seems so fake. Examples of this are, of how her handwriting is amazing or of how she was dancing in her new dress at the shop and the keeper says he has never seen someone so graceful. Or how her bluntness usually turns out to be the best for the situation. Or how Everything just works for her. TOO EASY!!! Hell, she even gets stabbed in the chest by a dagger, shrugs it off, and goes on to defeat the attacker who is using Atium. Her killing Rashek left a bad taste in my mouth because of how stupid the fight was. It's turning into a really bad episode of Dragonball Z, where the main character is getting rolfstomped the whole time and then out of nowhere gets a bunch of power and wins. No originality, no skill. Positives of this book The last 1/5 of the book I gave this book 3 stars for the ending section of the book. Doesn't make up for wasting my time throughout most of the book but whatever. The stage is now set for book 3. Hopefully, it is mind blowing

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