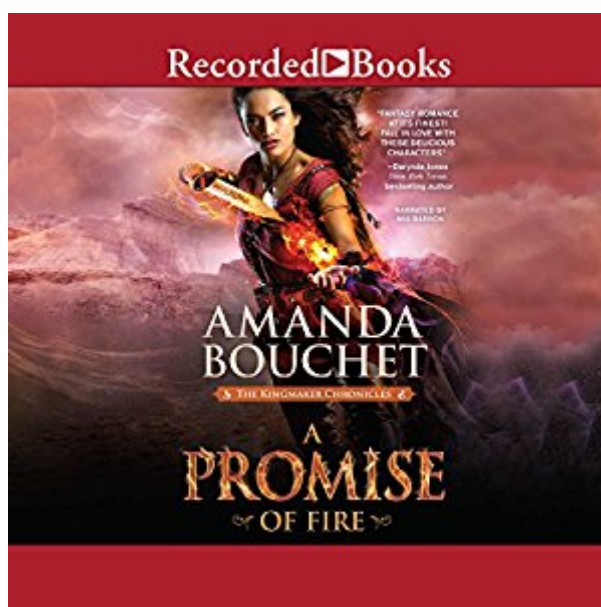


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A Promise Of Fire



Synopsis

The perfect pause-resisting romance debut for fans of Game of Thrones. Catalia "Cat" Fisa is a powerful clairvoyant known as the Kingmaker. This smart-mouthed soothsayer has no interest in her powers and would much rather fly under the radar, far from the clutches of her homicidal mother. But when an ambitious warlord captures her, she may not have a choice. Griffin is intent on bringing peace to his newly conquered realm in the magic-deprived south. When he discovers Cat is the Kingmaker, he abducts her. But Cat will do everything in her power to avoid her dangerous destiny, and she battles her captor at every turn. Although up for the fight, Griffin would prefer for Cat to help his people willingly, and he's ready to do whatever it takes to coax her - even if that means falling in love with her.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Oh man, I have SUCH disappointment about this book. Authors, could you explain to me why you would set up a whole world around a female character, give her god-like powers, training, skill and intelligence, then infantilize her and allow her to be overpowered by a man for an ENTIRE book? Why? WHY?! Cat seemed to have boundless powers that develop as needed - a "very deus ex machina" of the moment sort of thing. She defeated dragons, killed thirty soldiers with a single breath, had prophetic dreams, was a soothsayer, was protected by gods (plural). Yet, in the face of one man she's helpless. What's more, she's also presented as unreasonable and needlessly angry that he kidnapped her. Literally, she asked why he expected her to accept him and her situation and he said, "I expected you to be reasonable" and she internally agreed. Excuse me? He abducted her,

unknowingly exposed her, threatened her friends and adoptive family. I'm pretty sure surliness and trying to escape IS the reasonable response. And she is kidnapped in the very beginning, so she's basically a helpless captive for the whole book. So, I'm angry that the supposedly strong female was basically, 'strong, but not as strong as the men' but I died a little with each cliché that was thrown in. The scene where she got accidentally high as a result of her own actions and lets all her guards down, acting inviting and sexy, but being "happy like a child" and needing protection. The one where the scorned woman went homicidal. The one where 'her body betrayed her' by being attracted to the man who kidnapped her. The ones where she had to be a virgin because good heroines never have sex with anyone but their hero. My god, this book was practically a cobbled together series of romantic fantasy clichés.

I've been eagerly anticipating this book since I first heard about it months ago. I'm happy to say A Promise of Fire meets all expectations, and then some. Eight years ago Cat ran away from home and ended up joining the circus as a soothsayer. Of course this is all a front to keep people from finding out who she really is: The Kingmaker. Everything changes when she runs into Griffin, warlord for the Sintan royals. He knows her for what she is, and knowing his kingdom needs her power, he kidnaps her. I wasn't prepared for the story being so seated in Greek Mythology, but I loved it. The land of Thalyria is divided into three kingdoms Sinta, Tarvan, Fisa. Divided further into those with magic (Magoi) and those without (Hoi Polloi). There's Oracles, and Gods, and various creatures. The world Amanda Bouchet created is wonderful, and completely easy to become enmeshed within. Cat was a wonderfully snarky, stubborn heroine. She's running from her past and determined not to bring anyone else into her troubles, but I loved watching her walls crumble, and see her form relationships. Pretty much shattering everything she believes herself to be. The chemistry between Cat and Griffin just jumps off the page. There is so much sexual tension between them I couldn't stop reading because I was just waiting for them to do something about it! The banter is definitely on point as Cat tries desperately to keep herself from feeling too much for him, but Griffin is just as stubborn as Cat and once he sets his sights on her nothing can dissuade him. There's a lot of mystery that revolves around Cat's powers and her past. It's pretty easy to figure out early on, she kind of beats around the bush a bit, and it verges on being dragged out too long.

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