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# The Bitter Kingdom (Girl Of Fire And Thorns Book 3)



## Synopsis

The third book in Rae Carson's award-winning The Girl of Fire and Thorns fantasy trilogy. Elisa, the seventeen-year-old sorcerer-queen, will travel into an unknown enemy's realm to win back her true love, save her kingdom, and uncover the final secrets of her destiny. Veronica Roth called The Girl of Fire and Thorns "intense, unique . . . definitely recommended." Perfect for fans of Tamora Pierce and George R. R. Martin's style of sweeping and deeply satisfying epic fantasy, the third and final book in the trilogy takes the young queen on a journey more dangerous than any she has faced before. Elisa will stand before the gate of the enemy. And she must rise up as champion "even to those who have hated her" or her kingdom will fall. Full of sorcery, adventure, sizzling romance, and secrets that challenge everything she believes, this is a bold and powerful conclusion to an extraordinary trilogy. As USAToday.com proclaimed, "Rae Carson has proved she's a master and has shaken up the YA genre."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

5 Stars

Magically enchanting, and wonderfully addicting, THE BITTER KINGDOM delivers an explosive conclusion that will leave you breathless and yearning for more!!! From it's rich lure of fantasy blend, and it's thickened plot, to it's breathtakingly hypnotic romance, and non-stop action and adventure, and magical background that solidifies this series to it's fullest. THE BITTER KINGDOM was one hell of a finale that I am utterly satisfied with, but drastically needing more...I am speechless after reading THE BITTER KINGDOM. I feel like my feelings are all jumbled and no words I can form will do it nearly any justice. There are no words to express the full depth and love I have for this book--no series. This series is one of those series that will stay with me for a very long time. And I'm saddened to see it all end, as I still want more from these characters and this world. But either way I still really enjoyed the way this series ended, even though at the same time it felt incomplete. But it doesn't really matter because it was an EPIC journey though it all!!Like I said above, this book ended great, it was absolutely wonderful. But, I still did feel that there were still too many unanswered questions that were left open at the close of this series. And it kept picking at me long after this book was over. It felt like it wasn't the end of the series and that another book would follow. It just didn't wrap up as good as I hoped it would have. I would of liked to see how some of the side chapters ended up after the battle was all said and done. I guess I just wanted more from the epilogue, and to see how things fared after the main plot was played out. BUT nevertheless, it still delivered in more ways then one, and has stole my heart and branded it's world forever in my soul. The writing was as elegant and suspenseful as ever, and the characters had so much growth and development that it was heart-warming to see the strength they were able to pull from each other through all their struggles. I loved watching them through each book as they went through and endured each obstacles that tested them to their fullest, and were able to find the strength and endurance at each turn to overcome their predicaments and become stronger and more determined then ever!

**THE PLOT**

Elisa has failed her kingdom, and now she's paying the price for that failure...Betrayed by supposed allies in her most trusted circle, Elisa is now hunted, a wanted fugitive in her own kingdom. Hiding amongst her own people, trying to blend in and cope with the capture of the captain of her guard and the man she's slowly came to love. Elisa can't possibly imagine it getting anymore complicated, but boy is she wrong. It's about to become a sandstorm of madness...

**ELISA HAS 5 GOALS:**

- 1-Free her beloved Hector before he makes to Invierne in enemy hands, and surfs a fate unimaginable.
- 2-Safely enter the City of Invierne and stop the impending war that's on their way to her kingdoms doorstep.
- 3-Meet with the neighboring kingdoms Queens, her sister Alodia, and her good friend CosmÃ©, to forge a health alliance and hopefully join their kingdoms.
- 4-Stop civil war from tearing her kingdom apart at the hands of the fellow Quorum Lord

Eduardo, before it's to late. 5-And finally, restore her kingdom back to it's once glory, or better yet, make it even more remarkable then it ever was. Simple right? Ooh no, far from it!! Elisa's journey will be horrendous as it takes her all across neighboring kingdoms and back, fighting enemy's and supposed allies at every turn. But Elisa is steadfast on completing her 5 goals before all is lost to them all. She is their Queen, and their born savior, and she will not give up until all is saved, until her kingdom is back in good graces, no matter the sacrifices, she will endure them all...THE BITTER KINGDOM went above and beyond the limits I expected, and though it didn't end the way I thought, it still rocked this series to the very core and has me eagerly anticipating more from Rae Carson. Because this woman is brilliant, and truly has the special gift of creating magical worlds that not only draws the reader in, but also invest them into her world and wonderfully characters, that satisfies in more ways then one. Overall, THE BITTER KINGDOM is a thrilling conclusion that is not to be missed. This whole series is wonderful and will go down as one of my favorite series of all time!! If you're looking for an epic adventure though enemy lands, and a battle to save a kingdom with magical elements, and a bitter sweet romance, then THE BITTER KINGDOM and the complete series is definitely for you!!

While 4 stars is not a bad rating, The Bitter Kingdom fell short in a series that, for me, showed amazing promise - I gave a 6-star rating to The Crown of Embers, the second novel of this trilogy!! I was disappointed with how Rae Carson wrapped up the story about Elisa, her Godstone and her act of service. It felt anti-climatic to me. After reading the second novel, I thought I had a grasp on the concept of a Godstone, but now I'm not so sure. Is a Godstone truly a direct link between the bearer and God or is it something else entirely? Carson did such a wonderful job of building up Elisa and Hector's relationship in the first two novels. It was the perfect combination of angsty and sweet. But, I felt the magic between our couple was lost in The Bitter Kingdom. I'm longing for more story about Rosario and Red, Storm and Alodia, Mara and Belen, even the future of Joya D'Arena, but the series is now complete. I truly hope Rae Carson will consider writing more story in Fire and Thorns world. She is a fantastic storyteller! Overall, I still believe The Bitter Kingdom deserves a 4-star rating, with the overall series rating being 5 stars!

The Bitter Kingdom for me ended up being more about finishing out the series, rather than me being pulled into the story. There were aspects to this final installment that I enjoyed: the friendships, seeing Elisa become a stronger character (in some respects), Storms addition to the group, and Mula, who added a bit of humor to the story at times. The romance between Elisa and Hector builds

up in this one. While at points I enjoyed their romance, in other respects it was also a bit disappointing too. Large parts of the story are of course their hardships through enemy territory and such. I will admit I ended up skim reading through some sections of the novel. The story was still well written, it just did not grab me like the first one or even the second.\*Note, while the novel remains a clean read. There are a few fade to black scenes.

This was quite an enjoyable trilogy. I liked the adventure in this volume, the nonstop action and the introduction of the character Red, who deserves her own book series. I also like the inversion on the usual hero-rescues princess trope, with the princess in the beginning setting out to rescue her romantic interest. I wasn't thrilled with some of the revelations about the Inviernos, which seemed to come from out of nowhere and without enough build-up. Also, I thought the message at the end about learning to love oneself was laid on a little too thick, to the point of being eyeroll-inducing. It's possible, I think, to have a strong theme in a story without throwing it in our faces. Up until now the series did an excellent job of it. Ms. Carson should trust her narrative to get the point across on its own, without having to scream it from the mountaintops in the last chapter.

I truly honestly live all three books. I'll admit Carson has made me jump out of my seat when at the edge of something interesting or frightening. I have fallen in love with this style of writing. Rae Carson is truly gifted. I recommend this book to anyone with an over active mind. I recommend to anyone who loves to read. But if you are like me, and you think that you don't like to read unless the book really interests you and pokes at your ribs to continue reading like it does to me, then I truly recommend you to start the trilogy at once. If you have and just need this book, get fast, read it. No matter how hard I tried not to finish it, how hard I tried to savor the literature, I still ended up reading it in two days. I look forward to reading all novelas. I highly doubt that another book will get me as excited as this trilogy, but if it does then that book must be great because I can assure that this trilogy was.

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