



The Cataclysm

Margaret Weis , Tracy Hickman

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A continent is sundered . . .

The Kingpriest's arrogance brings the wrath of the gods upon Krynn. The result is the Cataclysm -- chaos and anarchy, despair and villainy . . . and inspiring heroism.

Mark Anthony, Nancy Varian Berberick, Todd Fahnestock, Richard A. Knaak, Roger E. Moore, Douglas Niles, Nick O'Donohoe, Dan Parkinson, Paul B. Thompson and Tony R. Carter, and Michael and Teri Williams contribute untold stories to this indespensable collection. Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman enhance this lineup with an original novella and verse dedicated to the accursed Lord Soth.

The Cataclysm Details

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Author : Margaret Weis , Tracy Hickman

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Bradley says

Most of the stories are spot on. Lord Soth is still my favorite. =)

Kathryn says

I know I really enjoyed this book, but after looking at a list of the stories included I find I have almost no memory of most of them. Of course two of the exceptions, "Ogre Unaware" and "The Cobbler's Son" would have to feature gully dwarves and kender, respectively. (I seem to be one of the few people who isn't fatally annoyed by those two types of characters.) "The Cobbler's Son" would have to go in the list of my favorite short stories; it's fun and hilarious and cute and just a teeny bit of a tearjerker in places. Roger E. Moore is one of the few people who can write a good kender story.

"No Gods No Heroes" was also good, although in a more slapstick kind of way. And "True Knight" was one of those perfectly canon (naturally, it was written by the creators of the series), powerful stories that I enjoyed once and have little interest in reading again. The rest, eh, maybe I'll pick up a copy of the book sometime and see if they jog any good memories.

Bill says

I've never played in the DragonLance universe. I don't think I'd have the patience to deal with NPCs like Kenders and Guly Dwarves and the Knights of the Rose seem awfully silly without huge tracts of land to support their follies and missions.

I liked "No Heroes, No Gods" and "True Knight" the best.
I also liked "Ogre Unaware" and "The Cobbler's Son" in spite of myself.

Jenny says

*****3.5*****

I ended up enjoying most of the stories in this collection. It was interesting to read more about the Cataclysm, this event that's so important to the history of the company in Dragonlance Chronicles and Legends. I liked that the stories are about all different types of characters: kender, ogres, knights, humans. My favorite story is "The Highpriest of Halcyon," which is creepy and dark with a pretty good twist. "True Knight," the novella by Weiss and Hickman, is also up there for me as the background story of Riverwind's ancestors. "No Gods, No Heroes" is a great example of the humor that Krynn and its characters can support. I recommend this for people who haven't read any Dragonlance books before since it's "historical" and for Dragonlance fans in general.

Kirk Domenico says

Μικρες ιστοριες χωρις πολυ ενδιαφερον.

Lana says

a great read, the evil of the Kingpriest and pride is unbelievable, the cataclysm was bound to happen but the pity was that so many suffered who were not guilty!! it was great catching up a bit on the effect of the cataclysm!

David says

Plot:

The Cataclysm. The event when the gods of Krynn threw a fiery mountain (or meteor, if you want to get technical) upon, the world, shattering it and ending Istar forever, and ushering in The Age of Despair. Here, we are given a series of short stories depicting how the people of the world survived the aftermath, surviving in a world that has been changed. With darkness reigning not only in the corners of the world, but in the hearts of the people as well, it will take special, strong heroes to find the light in a world without gods, a world without faith, a world of despair.

Like The Reign of Istar, this book has multiple plots from containing different stories written by different authors. Some where humorous and well written, while others were touching. The highlight of this book has to be the novella depicting the rise of Lord Soth, and how in a surprising twist he shows how darkness isn't a physical manifestation but an inward choice.

Caution:

Characters in peril, with some blood and broken limbs. Uses of h-word and d-word.

Lessons:

A person's true worth isn't found in their outer appearance, their rank, or their nationality, but in their heart and soul. We should strive to have faith even when those around us choose not to. Even when it doesn't appear so, light and goodness still abound.

Elizabeth Wallace says

One of the last decent Dragon Lance books published, to be honest. (Some of the "5th Age" ones are just AWFUL, seriously, don't waste your time.) Only folks who've read Chronicles and Legends are going to like this collection (everybody else won't really know what's going on) but for the fans out there, there is a LOT of good stuff in this one. "Ogre Unaware" by Dan Parkinson is very sweet, "No Gods No Heroes" by Nick O'Donohoe is awfully funny, and "The Cobbler's Son" by Roger E. Moore is the best, bar-none, the BEST kender story I've ever read. (And if you're wondering what a kender is...you probably don't need to read this collection....)

J.C. Cauthon says

The Cataclysm is another short story collection from the Dragonlance saga. This anthology features eleven stories from various contributing authors. Included stories are *The Word and the Silence*, *Mark of the Flame*, *Mark of the Words*, *The Bargain Driver*, *Seekers*, *No Gods, No Heroes*, *Into Shadow*, *Into Light*, *Ogre Unaware*, *The Cobbler's Son*, *The Voyage of the Sunchaser*, *The High Priest of Halcyon*, and *True Knight*.

As short story collections go, this was one of my favorites. The stories all read well-enough, and several of them were quite enjoyable quick-reads. I loved *No Gods, No Heroes* and *Ogre Unaware*, and *The Voyage of the Sunchaser* was a pleasant adventure.

But there is enough background from the main Dragonlance timeline that if you have not read the *Chronicles* or *Legends* collections, then you may be left a little confused once you finish this anthology.

Very good stories, though.

Tim says

And so the fifth volume of the Tales series is read out. One more to go. It took me longer than expected and desired. Like the others, however, there are good and not good stories in it, making the novel on a whole not super, but average. Then again, it concerns separate tales of low importance in the storyline of Dragonlance and Krynn.

Not good (enough) for me:

- The Word And The Silence
- Seekers
- Ogre Unaware
- The Voyage Of The Sunchaser

Good, but never super:

- Mark Of The Flame, Mark Of The Word
- The Bargain Driver
- No Gods, No Heroes
- Into Shadow, Into Light
- The Cobbler's Son
- The High Priest Of Halcyon
- True Knight

? Gramy ? says

This is definitely a worthwhile, fantasy, adventure that I enjoyed very much.

Would recommend!

Kyle K says

The Word and the Silence -

Mark of the Flame, Mark of the Words -

The Bargain Driver -

Seekers -

No Gods, No Heroes -

Into Shadow, Into Light -

Ogre Unaware -

The Cobbler's Son -

The Voyage of the Sunchaser -

The High Priest of Halcyon -

True Knight -
