



Chalice

Amber Kell

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In order to stop his magic from eating him alive, Chalice seeks out a man strong enough to dominate and control him.

Chalice might be a prince on his planet but his submissive tendencies prevent him from dealing with the incredible energy coursing through his body. Magic users need a second to balance them out, but there has never been a case where the one with the power didn't hold the dominant position. Chalice's ability as a rare four elemental magic wielder already marks him as different, though. And with the king in denial of his son's needs, he has no choice but to look off—planet to find a powerful partner.

He runs into a diplomat on a mission who leads Chalice to agree to be the pet of an emperor—one whose reputation for tossing aside subs is only balanced out by the fact that Chalice thinks he's the sexiest creature he's ever seen. Chalice takes the plunge, hoping the biggest gamble of his life won't prove to be his biggest mistake.

Chalice Details

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Author : Amber Kell

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From Reader Review Chalice for online ebook

Emma Sea says

A perfectly good plot outline waiting for someone to write the actual book.

A??ela W. says

Spoiler Ahead

This was a short quick read that I liked. Chalice is a prince on his planet, because but his submissive tendencies prevent him from dealing with the incredible energy coursing through his body. Magic users need a second to balance them out, but there has never been a case where the one with the power didn't hold the dominant position. Chalice's ability as a rare four-elemental magic wielder already marks him as different, though. And with the king in denial of his son's needs, he has no choice but to look off-planet to find a powerful partner. He meets a woman who is willing to help him, because she is trying to find a new pet for an emperor. Terrin Hawk goes through a lot of pets because he gets bored with them he takes on look at Chalice and he knows that he has to have him. This was a really good book and I love reading Ms. Kell's work the problem I did have was it wasn't any BDSM in the book yes Chalice is a sub and needed a strong master to control him, but it was only a few sex scenes and none of them were BDSM and it was only one spanking in. The book was well written with no errors in spelling or grammar this book one in a new series to me and I am looking forward to reading more books in this series.

Julio Genao says

flat-out horrendous.

rushed, incoherent, and far too dependent on breezily throwaway explanations instead of actual scene-setting, description, or visuals.

less a narrative than a series of notes.

nowhere near enough story for a novel, and not enough sex to be erotica—so what in the fuck did i just read?

i've no idea, but it gave me neither feelz nor boners.

Heidi Cullinan says

OMG THANK YOU MS KELL. Reading this gave me the most raunchy, kinky, hot fun plot bunny and within 18 hours of finishing this I have 8k and counting. And precious little sleep.

Susan says

3.25 stars

Extremely fast paced, but still enjoyable.

The MCs had almost no background, there was little to no world building, it had an extreme case of insta-love, the story felt rushed, and I still liked it.

Kris says

Oh, Amber Kell. A must when it comes to guilty pleasure reads.

If I felt any guilt reading her work, that is. :P

Why do they call them guilty pleasures anyway?

It's not as if it's that easy to sneak a book add into goodreads.

Someone's always watching.

Emily says

3.5 stars

Originally read June 17, 2012

I greatly enjoyed this book, I think this is a very intriguing series and I will definitely be reading the others in this series (there are currently 2 with another on the way). My only problem with this book is how short it is. Important details and encounters are rushed, details are left out and the end result is that, while I like the story, I feel like it's entirely unbelievable. Yes, I know magic and aliens are science fiction, but the romance feels fake with how rushed it is. The characters seem superficial as we don't have time to truly bond with them. I know Amber is known for writing short stories and I do enjoy them, but I usually wish they were longer. This book, I felt, needed to be longer, not just because I wanted more, but because the story suffered due to the length and it didn't have to. This book has the potential to be a 4 or 5 star book and this series shows promise. I would recommend it to anyone, particularly those who like more sci-fi type books. It's a fun read and an interesting new universe.

Reflection says

Once again I fell for the blurb and read this short story with mounting dismay. I reached the end, and was left questioning is that it? Chalice feels rushed and incomplete.

The plot sounds terrific, a fantasy in a sci-fi setting with magic and BDSM elements and instead it reads like a series of notes from which neither the plot nor the characters develop with any depth.

The tone is jovial which doesn't work in a story with a more serious theme and it put the whole thing off kilter for me. It was like watching pantomime when I was expecting a thriller.

Prince Chalice is searching for a Master to help him control his immense magic power. His search brings him to Emperor Terrin whom Chalice believes will help to centre his magic.

What irritated me possibly more than the banal interactions and insta-love scenario, was the manipulative and deceptive behaviour of Terrin aimed at tricking Chalice into signing a contract to become his pet.

Zall's appalled expression tickled Terrin. Maybe he'd enjoy having the slave around after all. In general, he didn't care about slaves' welfare or how they became slaves, but it didn't hurt that Chalice now thought better of him. His pet would be more pliable if he thought he had a hero for a Master.

I would have thought for a relationship with an element of power exchange to work, both integrity and honesty should be central.

In many ways reading this was like reading a farce, perhaps this was the intention, but for me it was unexpected. I was hoping for a more serious story and the light-hearted tone jarred. Not impressed and disinclined to read any further in the planetary submissive series particularly when there appears to be a flawed understanding of what power exchange actually involves.

Am4u ~ AprilMarie4u ~ says

I was extremely disappointed in myself that I almost let a couple bad reviews dissuade me from reading what was actually a really good book & is in genres I rarely dislike. To be fair though, I did read the newest edition & I'm not sure what/if changes were made.

I somewhat knew what to expect going in. This is a short story so there was not as much storyline or character development you'd get with a full length novel. But this was a complete & full story that did not leave me hanging or feeling cheated. I don't know why people expect the depth of a full length novel in a short story, but to each their own I guess.

For the book content ...

I absolutely loved all the main characters & a few scenes had me laughing out loud. Chalice (male mc) is a bit of a twink - he was both cute & funny. Terrin (other male mc) is a bit of a brute except for where Chalice

is concerned, which was actually very sweet in a demented kind of way.

The erotica portion was lite & the sex scenes were much too brief for my taste, but I feel that way about most romances. I would say this book was more romance than erotica, if you differentiate between the two like I do.

The BDSM was a little blurred in the D/s department, but I wouldn't really consider this a BDSM book - more of a book that has a little BDSM in it. Although, there is a spanking scene as punishment which might be a trigger for some - you've been warned - however the scene is pretty brief.

Overall, if you like Science Fiction Romance with M/m then chances are you'll more than likely like this. For those of my friends that like to switch their reading back/forth from light/dark, this will satisfy your sweet side.

I will be continuing on with this series because there was a pretty cool side character name Zall & he gets his own book in #3 of the series.

Serena Yates says

The first book in this futuristic series is the story of a prince, supposedly destined to rule, who needs a Master (ideally, a sexual Master) to control him. The fact that he is also a magic user needing someone to balance him to avoid losing control makes the whole setup a little more volatile. Who, after all, wants - or can afford to have - magic running amok?

Chalice is a prince running out of time. Significant damage has already been done to his father's castle because he cannot control his magic. Different from other royal magic users, he needs a Dom to balance him, not a sub. Not something his father, the king, wants to even contemplate. The whole situation is rather funny, but when Chalice runs into a normally sour and almost evil emperor who is looking for a new pet, a corner is turned.

Terrin Hawk, the emperor who mends his ways almost upon catching sight of Chalice, is somewhat of an enigma to me. He has clearly been cruel before, using and discarding subs left and right, but suddenly wants more with Chalice. I put it down to Chalice's magical abilities because it certainly can't be anything else; not within the timeframe of this story, which is only a few days!

It is too bad that the emperor changes his views so quickly, much more fun could have been had with the conflict between Chalice 'topping from the bottom' and the emperor not knowing what hit him. But then again, the series tagline: "Being strong doesn't mean you don't need anyone." and the whole idea behind it sounds more like fun than serious BDSM. If this first installment is anything to go by, it is all about the light touch, some occasional humor, and very gentle D/s themes. Definitely a fun, quick read.

NOTE: This book was provided by Total-E-Bound for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Steph says

Chalice introduces us to the first of Amber Kell's *Planetary Submissives*. Chalice, a Prince who is also a rare four-elemental mage, knows that he must find a powerful partner in order to balance his power. Typically such magic holders would find a submissive to balance their power, but in this case Chalice is a submissive and needs a dominant as a partner.

"... sometimes you have to give up something you want in order to get something you need"

Chalice holds his deceased mother's journal that periodically reveals such words of wisdom. Though he lost her long ago, Queen Nyaha's messages help guide him. Now of age, he heads out in search of a Master. While at the spaceport searching for a ship, he meets Dahlia Soon who is hoping to negotiate mining rights on Zaraga. The two make a pact - she'll give him free transport and share some of the money she makes from the mining rights if he agrees to be a present for Terrin Hawk, the Emperor and sticks to any contract Chalice signs with him.

The character and world development was well-done, especially considering the length of the story. I really liked Odwill, Chalice's manservant. In fact, I liked everyone except for Chalice's Master. I jumped right into book 2, Orlin's Fall and look forward to reading book 3, Zall's Captain due out later this month. [Full Rating: 3.5★]

Phaney says

2015 Re-read:

This book amuses me to no end. I don't know how many times I've read it now. And the amusement never fades.

The way Terrin is pretending to be considerate to impress and ensnare his pet, when in reality he does not give a damn about anyone but himself? That makes it even more delicious to see him become entirely obsessed with Chalice and his well-being. And even Chalice has a deeply egotistical streak.

With all of that it's still a sweet romance besides the fun. Sure, it is fast as all of this author's stories. But as I've said countless times before, sometimes that's just the perfect thing to balance out more drawn-out readings.

Heh. Fun!

2012 Review:

Teehee. Now I feel better. I'd inadvertently glanced through a rape scene in a book that I'm sure is very good and will read at some point, but which I am obviously not ready for at this time. It made me feel depressed. So I went looking for something safe and happy. Voilà! This one fit the bill perfectly.

Because I know the author and her delightful penchant for letting the bottom come out on top, i.e. completely wrap the big, bad alpha around his finger, I fully enjoyed Torrin's scheming to make himself appear better

than he is and entrap Chalice. It's so nice when you can rely on certain things. Such as Torrin ending up, well, still not much caring about anyone, but completely devoted to Chalice. I so like it when the domination turns into taking care gently.

Mind you, he apparently used to be brutal and he still has no concern for the well-being of others, but it seems as though Chalice grounds him that way too. Even if it's just to retain his hero status in his lover's eyes.

And anyway, also following the author's usual character types, Chalice himself has a pretty wide and unapologetic ruthless streak.

So yeah, this was not a long story and it did not delve deeply into anything, but there were a few adorable people and warm fuzzies ensued in the end.

Breann says

2.5

I was a little disappointed in what should have been some great sci-fi erotica.

Julesmarie says

The idea for this one is fantastic! I was so excited at the prospect of a fantasy in a sci-fi setting with BDSM elements--sounds like a lot to pack into a story, but the way the blurb read it sounded like it could totally work.

And it might have.

Ms. Kell is a delightful writer and I've very much enjoyed her light-hearted, fun, sarcastic stories (the Swan Prince series especially) but the light-hearted tone in this more serious storyline turned this into a farce.

The characters have no depth (which works fine in her lighter, sweeter stories which are meant to feel more fairy-tale-like) and so I was unable to sympathize with them. I actually began to despise Terrin. He's supposed to be this badass dom who goes through subs like candy. I never actually got that impression, either from being in Chalice's head around him or being in Terrin's own head. Being in Terrin's head was horribly frustrating. He kept telling himself over and over that he needed to be nice still and not scare Chalice off yet because Chalice hadn't signed the contract. It seemed shady and dishonest rather than confident and trustworthy as he should have been if he really were a "good" dom.

The melodrama bit near the end didn't bother me as it did some other reviewers. (I was expecting an Amber Kell story, after all.) I actually found parts of the melodrama and the ending to be some of my favorite bits of the story. (view spoiler)

Pixie Mmgoodbookreviews says

3 1/2 Hearts

Review first posted at MM Good Book Reviews

<http://mmgoodbookreviews.wordpress.co...>

Chalice needs a strong Dominant male to help balance out his magic. Without a grounding force, he can only control his magic for minutes at a time, before he loses control. Chalice leaves his planet and takes a chance and hopes everything will work out. Terrin is an emperor, who has discarded many pets, but Chalice has caught his eye and Chalice's demeanor intrigues him and he suspects he won't get bored with him so easily.

Okay, I was really looking forward to this book, as I had been teased by Ms. Kell releasing little snippets on her blog for seems like forever. The earliest post being way back when in 2010 (I have a long memory). And I did enjoy the story...kinda. Chalice is looking for a Master to ground him and help him balance his magic. He has come to terms with his needs, despite his family insisting that he should be the master and not the mastered, due to the level of his magic. Meanwhile, Terrin wants a pet/sub who can keep his attention. When these two meet it seems like a connection made in heaven, but Chalice has to tell Terrin his secrets and hope he reacts well.

This has a good story-line and plot, the characters are portrayed really well, the sex was hot and the story was humorous in places... but it wasn't as well-developed as Ms Kell's previous work; (which is really strange as she doesn't usually miss a beat). Because although we are told that Chalice is a four elemental magic wielder and that he needs a Master to balance it out the details were not there, you know... how does it balance it out? How does it work? Who was behind the attack? So Ms Kell has a slightly lower rating this time.

So my recommendation... although not up to the authors usually par this is still an enjoyable, cute novella. There is definitely room for a series. There is one traveler, in particular, who would make a great main character in a sequel. *hint, hint* It has hot sex, great characters, a bit of danger, a bit of angst and a HEA so I'd say get the book, grab a cup of tea and enjoy.
