



The Water Road (The Water Road #1)

J.D. Byrne

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Two women are about to expose a terrible secret that will turn their world upside down.

For centuries the great river known as the Water Road separated the Altrerians in the north from the Neldathi in the south. When the Neldathi clans united and struck out across the river, the nations of Altreria formed an alliance, the Triumvirate, to drive them back. For more than a hundred years after, the Triumvirate kept the Neldathi barbarians at bay, fighting amongst themselves across the Water Road.

Antrey is a woman without a country, the daughter of a Neldathi mother and an Altrerian father. She's found a role for herself in Tolenor, the headquarters of the Triumvirate, that's given her access to a secret the alliance has kept for generations. When she finds it, she explodes with rage and embarks on a quest to find justice for the Neldathi people.

Strefer is a reporter without a story, desperately working the streets of Tolenor for any kind of lead. When Antrey flees the city, Strefer slips in and discovers her uncovered secret, stained with blood and fury. It's the story of a lifetime, one powerful forces want to keep her from telling. With the help of a renegade Sentinel, Strefer sets out for a mythical city in hopes she can make the world listen to the truth.

Together, they'll inflame the passions of a people and set the world alight. The Water Road - first book of The Water Road trilogy.

The Water Road (The Water Road #1) Details

Date : Published June 22nd 2016

ISBN :

Author : J.D. Byrne

Format : Kindle Edition 373 pages

Genre : Fantasy

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From Reader Review The Water Road (The Water Road #1) for online ebook

Lana says

A very different book to the ones i usually read, not fantasy but more of a thrilling adventure of two very courageous women from different strata of society, one is a neldathi half-breed so is not usually respected by either of her parents clans and the other is a journalist, an altrerian!! the half breed discovers that the altrerians have been causing the neldathi clans to fight and kill each other for centuries is angered and kills her own employer and protector in a way when she finds that he defended this cruelty!! she escapes and attempts to get the different indogenous clans to get together to over throw the altrerian triumverate. the journalist discovers the red book, at the crime scene, steals this and is also angered by what she discovers in this book and tries to get this published and widely distributed!!! of course all this causes havoc, so will they manage to gain the water road for the neldathi?

J says

The motivation doesn't make any sense.

There is no reason for Antrey to be so angry at the revelation given what we understand of her history and personality. I would expect her to just shrug and move on.

The inciting incident rings hollow.

Luna Lovebooks says

I received a free e-copy i exchange for an honest review.

Likes: I like that both Antrey's and Strefer's stories are so well blended. One is a tale of righteous vengeance and justice – the other, a tale of revealing the truth to those who don't want to hear it. I like that both characters are well developed and feel that their path is the correct one, but we also see that both paths may not be such a good idea as well. I look forward to seeing how these two very different paths unfold. The world building is on point. The land and mythos of the different people is well thought out and the history is alive.

Dislikes: While the world building is excellent, there are parts of the novel where that history bogs down the story and the pace slows. I did not get the need to have the different races have different skin colors like reds and greens that seemed unnecessary to me. While it is classified as fantasy, Water Road lacks some elements that we have come to associate with fantasy such as magic and magical creatures.

I have to give this book 4 pikti.

Patricia Hamill says

The Water Road is an epic in the making. Antrey's story is all about righteous indignation and a quest for justice and vengeance. Strefer's story is about revealing the truth to a people who don't want to hear it.

I thought this was a rather well put together read. Both stories and heroines are fully developed and engaging. In both cases, their chosen path is something they feel is right, but is it? That's a question that can only be answered in later volumes. This story sets the stage for what promises to be an epic-scale struggle both between two civilizations and within each of the two women that spark it in the first place.

As a fantasy, this one isn't concerned with any magic systems or peoples. However, the world building is flawless and the history is intriguing and rich. I love the details sprinkled into the story, but also how they don't take over. The focus is on the people and the struggles they face: past, present and future. And the characters are relatable, and the pacing is steady, but good for this sort of book. There's a balance between information and action with no unnecessary romance clouding things up.

Overall, I loved this story, and I'd strongly recommend it to fans of fantasy, intrigue and politics, and other worlds. You won't find dwarves or elves in these pages, but you won't miss them either.

I received a copy of this book from the author so that I could write this review.

Bob Neumann says

The Water Road is an extraordinary experience. While a fantasy, it is based within a world where division between groups were made by their skin color. The differences as the believed everything between blue to very deep shade of green. I personally been a great believer in the very fickle meanderings of fate. Weird timing if you will, days before St Patrick's Day. J D Byrne spends a great deal of time of world building. In all my experience I have never read anyone do better. Likewise his character development may seem slow to many readers, but it was necessary to establish our full understanding of their personal growth and the individual evolution as people caught up in situations that were created by their actions.

To say that it is a magnificent work of storytelling, is clearly my evaluation. I am acutely aware it will not be received by any One wanting a quick and easy read. Many who may have read any other of my reviews anywhere will notice I enjoy them too.

The Water Road is an interesting and extremely well crafted work that stimulates the readers thought proces,,,,,which is an awesome ability the world needs more of.
