



# Home Ground

*Ann Somerville*

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## **Home Ground** Ann Somerville

Wepizi is ready for the challenge of a new post, but it will test him more than he ever imagined, and Prince Juimei will learn the true role of a leader in a great crisis.

In 'Bearing Fruit', it's time for Kei, Arman and their friends to explore the fruits of peace and to build on the hard work of the last two decades. But if they thought life had settled down – they were much mistaken.

## **Home Ground Details**

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Author : Ann Somerville

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## From Reader Review Home Ground for online ebook

### Anna C says

#### **Bearing Fruit** (25% of the book)

Gleaming 5 stars because of Arman and Kei, of course. I still don't like Karik and Romi but especially Karik here, a father of two kids but still acts like a big kid, hhh... Surrounded by so many people who love and adore and pamper him, but he still whines like he's the most unfortunate man in Periter. Smh. Anyway, this book is about second chance at happiness. I'm glad Arman and Kei finally have the second chance to have sons, they truly deserve it.

#### **Home Ground** (75% of the book)

Dimming 4 stars, mainly because of forced romance and some stupid and hasty actions of Wepizi and Neime after 50% of the book (the betrayal upon betrayal, the narrow-mindedness), it just left a sour taste in my mouth after all of that, I don't really care anymore if the couple will get together or not. I adore Juimei and his leadership throughout the post-earthquake rehabilitation is the only plus point and interesting part in this spin-off, not even the Blessed, nope, I don't like Jozin petulant big kid and Nuveize nosy old hag. No matter how hard the author tried to convince me, I still think there's no chemistry between Juimei and Wepizi, not even when Giwade the empath said about how their love 'glows' like Arman and Kei's. To me, Juimei and Wepizi's is more like lonely dogs lick each other wounds.

But at least, theirs is tolerable than Karik and Romi's equally-bland romance, merely because of Juimei and his character development. He truly shone and overshadowed all characters in this spin-off. Liking a character made a difference.

The best part of this series is of course the book one (Arman and Kei's love story) and the short closure **Bearing Fruit**. I advise people to skip book 3 (Karik and Romi's love story) and **Home Ground** if they want to try this series.

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### Zuyuan says

One thing I love most about this series is the couple from first book wasn't discarded. I read series cause I love main characters from vol.1 and want to know more about them, in the same time I want to read something new too which done so well in this.

For "Home Ground" it's like I'm reading new stories but it's as good as others chapters. I think I'm a bit fall in love with Jui now.

Great praise for author.

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### A.B. Gayle says

I especially enjoyed "Home Ground" even though it didn't centre around the main characters from the other books. The world building was fantastic. Perhaps it may have fared better published separately as a spin-off. But the Darshian Tales are more than just a mm romance between two characters. They're better viewed as

mainstream fantasy that just happen to deal with characters in male pairings. The side characters inhabit and enrich all the books so much, that I enjoyed jumping into a couple of other heads.

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### **JL Lucaban says**

That can't be it, right? There's still that criminal, and more stories about them, and... NOOOOOOOO THAT CAN'T BE IT!!!

Anyways, that was good. Just like the others.

Very mature too, like this people don't know how to be angry and impolite.

Also, the whole story(from book one to four) was governed by emotions. I don't mean that they're not using their brains or something, but like they follow they're hearts. It portrayed human emotions as irrational and cannot be explained by logic, which I may argue about, but still agree to a degree.

I think I'm not explaining it very well...

OH WELL, I love it! xD

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### **Paul says**

#### **5 STARS**

#### **Series of 4 epic books 4.5 STARS**

I ended up being taken away to another world with this series. It's high fantasy and I just adored these books. If you want to literally get lost in another world and vanish from this one for a while then read these books.

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### **Katie says**

I really liked this series. The journey taken by Kei and Arman was influenced by the strength of their characters, not by some super awesome powers that make them ~\*~a special snowflake~\*~. Kei was unusual in having two Gifts, but they hurt him more than they ever helped his cause.

The fact that the hurt/comfort went both ways really made it seem like their relationship was on an even keel, considering Kei and Arman's various states of freedom throughout the four books.

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### **CJ88 says**

Not as good as the other Darshian Tales. Very low on the heat index.

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## Duane Colwell says

Another in a long list of wonderful stories by Anne Somerville.

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## Eisheth says

I really enjoyed this installment of the Darshian Tales. Fantasy though it is, just like the rest of the series it doesn't lack for believable details and realistic, large-scale world-building. I'm pretty sure at this point that I know more about the history, geography, and politics of this world than I do about my own.

As I've come to expect from the Darshian books, the characters are multi-dimensional, realistic, and sympathetic. Sometimes they're kind, sometimes they're cruel, but you can always understand *why* they are the way they are.

I really loved that this book detailed a different kind of romance than what I'm used to reading. This is not fiery passion and burning love, but a slow evolution of understanding and mutual respect, with the weight of past sorrow, adversity, and personal growth behind it.

I've always been interested in seeing how people react to tragedy and adversity, and I love "trial by fire," so to speak: watching someone forged into a stronger person by difficult circumstances. So this book was a delight in that respect. Perhaps a bit cruel that I want my characters to have to work so hard for it, but a well-earned and fully-deserved happy ending is a very satisfying thing.

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## Melissa says

i really enjoy the growth that Somerville shows in her characters. Though i feel like the relationships her stories portray echo each other (yet manage to be unique in ways that kept me steadily reading 4 books), the characters all show great capacities to grow, change, and accept/share love, even in unconventional places.

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## Sho says

Bearing Fruit was a very nice way to show how all the changes Kei and Arman brought and wonderful results. I was very glad to know that finally Arman was able to go back to his home country as someone worthy and not the traitor. Also for I loved the fact that they were able to receive the gift of children, albeit from horrible circumstances. Still it seems like that has come full circle too with Karik as well. One thing I would have liked to know was Soza getting his punishment somewhere. I really need to see Romi punch him or something!

Home ground was something unexpected. When I first started to read it, I couldn't understand what Juimei has to do with the story. However after reading the story, I find myself wanting more. I am very glad that Wepizi found a wonderful person and finally a home!

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## Ravyn says

Just re-read this one for probably the 3rd or 4th time. There's nothing I don't like about this series except for the fact that it ends here.

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## Pandora says

### Bearing Fruit (29%)

★★★★☆

Pretty good, yeah. My only complaint is that it provided a closure to stuff that I didn't much care about and left other very, very important stuff unresolved.

### Home Ground (71%)

★★★★☆

This one's different. I had a hard time feeling engaged. Some characters are great, others are rather childish and hard to connect with, but there's some impressive character growth there. In the end I did enjoy it.

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## Evaine says

Home Ground Ann Somerville

I totally enjoyed this 4th volume of Darshian Tales. I love how Ann's characters take their time falling in love and how each love is different - so often in series works, we see the same relationship played out over and over again with only the names changing. Not with Ann's works. *Home Ground* was a little ... I guess more quiet than the other books, but that, I believe, is because Wepizi is a calmer, more even-tempered character than any of the others that Ann has written about. Now, Prince Juimei is anything but even-tempered, but by the end of the book, he's well on his way to a peaceful life, albeit a very interesting one!

And the other story, *Bearing Fruit*, well, I loved it. I cried. And it was so wonderful to see so much of my favorite Kei and his mate Arman and see them so happy.

I must add that Ann's world-building skills are impressive! The world of Periter and it's lands, Darshian, Andon, Kuprij are distinct and well-defined, their cultures full and well-rounded.

A wonderful read!!

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## Aelfwina says

Only read this to see how it would all end. Was pleasantly surprised that this one was better than the previous two... but still not as put-together as the first one. Was also nice to finally get a break from all the self-recrimination of the first 3 books...

