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The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles)

By Michael J. Sullivan



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A dear friend is brutally beaten. Two thieves want answers. Riyria is born.

For more than a year Royce Melborn has tried to forget Gwen DeLancy, the woman who saved him and his partner Hadrian Blackwater from certain death. Unable to get her out of his mind, the two thieves return to Medford but receive a very different reception -- Gwen refuses to see them. The victim of abuse by a powerful noble, she suspects Royce will ignore any danger and seek revenge. By turning the thieves away, Gwen hopes to protect them once more. What she doesn't realize is what the two are capable of, but she's about to find out.

The Rose and the Thorn is the second book in The Riyria Chronicles, a prequel series featuring the early adventures of Royce Melborn and Hadrian Blackwater. Taking place twelve years before the events in Michael J. Sullivan's bestselling The Riyria Revelations, the books can be enjoyed either in order of publication or chronological order.

Publication Order

- *Theft of Swords* (Riyria Revelations #1 & #2): contains *The Crown Conspiracy* & *Avempartha*
- *Rise of Empire* (Riyria Revelations #3 & #4): contains *Nyphron Rising* & *The Emerald Storm*
- *Heir of Novron* (Riyria Revelations #5 & #6): contains *Wintertide* & *Percepliquis*
- *The Crown Tower* (Riyria Chronicles #1)
- *The Rose and the Thorn* (Riyria Chronicles #2)
- *The Death of Dulgath* (Riyria Chronicles #3)

Chronological Order

- *The Crown Tower* (Riyria Chronicles #1)
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Other Books by Michael J. Sullivan

- *Hollow World* (2014 - stand alone science fiction)
- *Age of Myth* (2016 - Legends of the First Empire #1)

Lists and Nominations

- 2013 Audie Award Finalist
- 2012 Shadowhawk's Shade Best of the Best
- 2012 Audible's 5-star The Best of Everything
- 2012 MathiasCavanaugh Top 10 Books
- 2012 AudioBookaneers Favorite Listens, Runner up
- 2012 Audible's Best of 2012 Editor's Picks
- 2011 Library Journal's Best Books for Fantasy/Sci-Fi
- 2011 Only the Best Science Fiction and Fantasy's Top 10
- 2011 Best Fantasy Releases by Barnes and Noble Blog

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The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) By Michael J. Sullivan Bibliography

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- 384 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"Mr. Sullivan continues to impress. In Royce and Hadrian he has created some of the best characters the genre has seen in some time, and in Avempartha he shows that he knows what to do with them. These books should be in every bookstore and I really hope that they are someday." (**Speculative Fiction Junkie**)

"The arrival of a master storyteller... A winning debut for fantasy lovers." *Library Journal on Theft of Swords*

"Hair-raising escapes, flashy sword fights, and faithful friendship complete the formula for good old-fashioned escapist fun." *Publishers Weekly on Theft of Swords*

"A whirlwind of twists, earth-shattering surprises and deadly betrayal." *Literary Magic on Theft of Swords*

From the Author

Welcome to the second book in The Riyria Chronicles. I've received many emails and seen forum posts from people asking, "When is the third book in The Riyria Chronicles being released?" I guess trilogies are so common in fantasy that many assume this was one of them, but this series was written as a duology (with the potential to be expanded) and both books were released in 2013.

The Rose and the Thorn's genesis started with a short story I wrote back in October 2011 called *The Viscount and the Witch* where Royce and Hadrian first meet Viscount Albert Winslow. At the time my released books were in a bit of a limbo state as my self-published versions of *Revelations* had been removed from the market to make way for the Orbit books that were available for pre-order but not yet released. When I decided to write a prequel, the obvious choice was to start with that short story, and in fact *The Viscount and the Witch* appears as the second chapter of that book. As I neared its completion, I realized I hadn't gone back far enough in time (I had to write how Royce and Hadrian first met) and so *The Crown Tower* came into existence.

The two prequels work nicely together, filling in the details of incidents only lightly hinted at, and fleshing in the background of some of my favorite characters from *Revelations* that didn't get as much screen time that I would have liked. I could easily wrap things here, but I do have more stories about the pair running around my head that I would love to get "out there." The issue is I don't want to be "that guy" who doesn't know when to quit, and I would rather Royce and Hadrian leave early than stay too long. As such, I'm in a holding pattern with regards to committing to future Riyria books.

What to write next is a bit of a moot point at the moment. Currently I'm in the middle of my next trilogy (tentatively titled *The First Empire*) which should keep me occupied until April 2014. At that time I'll be ready to start my next book, and I'll be reviewing feedback from readers to determine if there should be more Royce and Hadrian or whether I should concentrate on something else entirely. If you would like to "weigh in" drop me an email at michael.sullivan.dc@gmail.com or you can answer a short survey found at michaelsullivan.poll daddy.com/s/future-writing-feedback-html.

For those who are concerned I don't want to write more about the pair, I can lay your fears to rest. I wouldn't offer future Riyria books as an option if I didn't have compelling stories to tell and a desire to bring them to

life. The only thing I know for certain, is that I'm going to continue writing. It's my favorite pastime and I have more stories in my head than I have years left on this earth to write. So I'll keep writing, and hopefully there will be some people that will keep reading.

From the Inside Flap

Works by Michael J. Sullivan

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NOVELS

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The Riyria Revelations Series

- Theft of Swords (2011 - contains The Crown Conspiracy & Avempartha)
- Rise of Empire (2011 - contains Nyphron Rising & The Emerald Storm)
- Heir of Novron (2012 - contains Wintertide & Percepliquis)

The Riyria Chronicles Series

- The Crown Tower (2013)
- The Rose and the Thorn (2013)

Standalone Novels

- Hollow World (coming April 15, 2014)
- Antithesis (release date to be determined)
- A Burden to the Earth (release date to be determined)

SHORT STORIES (Sold Individually)

- The Viscount and the Witch (2011 - Riyria Chronicles)
- Greener Grass (2012 - Dystopian Science Fiction)
- The Jester (2014 - Riyria Chronicles)

ANTHOLOGIES

- The End--Visions of Apocalypse: Burning Alexandria (2012)
- Unfettered: The Jester (2013)
- Triumph Over Tragedy: An Anthology for the Victims of Hurricane Sandy: Traditions (2013)
- Help Fund My Robot Army: New and Improved Monkey Paw (2014)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eric Reynolds:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone on everywhere. The information can be a expertise or any news even a concern. What people must be consider whenever those information which is within the former life are challenging to be find than now could be taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you obtain the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information you will see huge disadvantage for

you. All those possibilities will not happen throughout you if you take The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) as your daily resource information.

Barbara Jackson:

Hey guys, do you wishes to finds a new book to see? May be the book with the concept The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) suitable to you? The particular book was written by renowned writer in this era. The particular book untitled The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) is the one of several books this everyone read now. This particular book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this book you will enter the new shape that you ever know before. The author explained their thought in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily to recognise the core of this publication. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world in this book.

Abel Cooke:

Beside this kind of The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) in your phone, it could possibly give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or details. The information and the knowledge you might got here is fresh from the oven so don't be worry if you feel like an previous people live in narrow village. It is good thing to have The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles) because this book offers to you readable information. Do you often have book but you don't get what it's about. Oh come on, that would not happen if you have this inside your hand. The Enjoyable option here cannot be questionable, such as treasuring beautiful island. So do you still want to miss it? Find this book as well as read it from at this point!

Crystal Thomas:

Within this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you are related is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of several books in the top record in your reading list is usually The Rose and the Thorn (The Riyria Chronicles). This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Slopes can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking upward and review this book you can get many advantages.

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