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Praise for the Rogue Mage Novels

BloodRing

“A bold interpretation of the what-might-be. . . .With a delicate weaving of magic and scripture, Faith Hunter left me wondering: What’s a woman to do when she falls in love with a seraph’s child?”—Kim Harrison

“Entertaining . Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel . . outstanding supporting characters . . . the Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel strong cliff-hanger of an ending bodes well for future adventures.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“The cast is incredible. . . . Fans of postapocalypse fantasies will appreciate this superb interpretation of the endless end of days.”—*Midwest Book Review*

“Hunter’s distinctive future vision offers a fresh though dark glimpse into a newly made postapocalyptic world. Bold and imaginative in approach, with appealing characters and a suspense-filled story, this belongs in most fantasy collections.”—*Library Journal*

“It’s a pleasure to read this engaging tale about characters connected by strong bonds of friendship and family. Mixes romance, high Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel fantasy, apocalyptic and postapocalyptic adventure to good effect.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Hunter’s very professionally executed, tasty blend of dark fantasy, mystery, and romance should please fans of all three genres.”—*Booklist*

“Entertaining . . . a promising new series. . . . Steady pacing, dashes of humor, and a strong storyline coupled with a great ending neatly setting up the next adventure make this take on the apocalypse worth checking out.”

—*Monsters and Critics*

“Enjoyable . . . a tale of magic and secrets in a world gone mad.”—*Romantic Times*

Seraphs

“The world [Hunter] has created is unique and bleak. . . . *Seraphs* is an action pick, exciting science fiction thriller.”—*Midwest Book Review*

“Continuing the story begun in *BloodRing*, Hunter expands on her darkly alluring vision of a future in which the armies of good and evil wage their eternal struggle in the world of flesh and blood. Strong characters and a compelling story.”—*Library Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel Journal*

“This thrilling dark fantasy has elements of danger, adventure, and religious fanaticism, plus sexual overtones. Hunter’s impressive narrative skills vividly describe a changed world, and she artfully weaves in social commentary . . . a well-written, exciting novel.”

—*Romantic Times*

Host

“Hunter’s world continues to expand in this highly original fantasy with lively characters where nothing can ever be taken for granted.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Hunter has created a remarkable interpretation of the aftermath of Armageddon in which angels and devils once again walk the earth and humans struggle to find a place. Stylish storytelling and gripping drama make this a good addition to most fantasy collections.”

—*Library Journal*

“Readers will admire [Thorn’s] sacrifice placing others before herself. ... Fans will enjoy reading about the continuing end of days.”—*Midwest Book Review*

“With fast-paced action and the possibility of more romance, this is an enjoyable read with an alluring magical touch.”—*Darque Reviews*

The Rogue Mage Novels by Faith Hunter

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HOST

ROC

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To my Renaissance Man

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Then I looked, and behold, in the firmament that was over the head of the cherubim there appeared above them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne.

And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of God Almighty when he speaketh.

And I looked, and behold, four wheels beside the cherubim, one wheel beside one cherub, and another wheel beside another cherub; and the appearance of the wheels was like unto a beryl stone.

As for the Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel wheels, they were called Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel in my hearing, the whirling wheels.

And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of the cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third face the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

And when the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the wheels also turned not from beside them.

—Ezekiel 10:1, 5, 9, 13-14, 16

Chapter 1

I stared into the hills as my mount clomped below me, his massive hooves digging into snow and ice. Above us a fighter jet Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel streaked across Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel the sky, leaving a trail Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel that glowed bright against the fiery sunset. A faint sense of alarm raced across my skin, and I gathered up the reins, tightening my Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel knees against Homer's sides, pressing my walking stick against the huge horse.

A sonic boom exploded across the peaks, shaking through snow-laden trees. Ice and snow pitched down in heavy sheets and lumps. A dog yelped. The Friesian set his hooves, dropped his head, and kicked. "Stones and blood," I hissed as I Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel rammed into the saddle horn. The boom echoed like rifle shot. Homer's back arched. If he bucked, I was a goner.

I concentrated on the bloodstone handle of my walking stick and pulled the horse to me, reins firm as I whispered soothing, seemingly nonsense words no one would interpret as a chant. The bloodstone pulsed as it projected a sense of calm into him, a use of stored power Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel that didn't affect Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel my own drained Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel resources. The sonic boom Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel came back from the nearby mountains, a ricochet of man-made thunder.

The mule in front of us hee-hawed and kicked out, white rimming his eyes, lips wide, and teeth showing as the boom reverberated through the farther peaks. Down the length of the mule train, other animals reacted as the fear spread, some bucking in a frenzy, throwing packs into drifts, squealing as lead ropes tangled, trumpeting fear.

Homer relaxed his back, sidestepped, and danced like Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel a young colt before planting his hooves again. He blew out a rib-racking sigh and shook himself, ears twitching as he settled. Deftly, I repositioned the supplies and packs he'd dislodged, rubbing a bruised thigh that had taken a wallop from a twenty-pound pack of stone.

Hoop Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel Marks and his assistant guides swung down from their own mounts and steadied the more fractious stock. All along the short train, the startled horses and mules settled as riders worked to control them. Homer looked on, ears twitching.

Behind me, a big Clydesdale relaxed, shuddering with a ripple of muscle and thick winter coat, his rider following the wave of motion with practiced ease. Audric was a salvage miner, and he knew his horses. I nodded to my old friend, and he tipped his hat to me before repositioning his stock on Clyde's back.

A final echo rumbled Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel from the mountains. Almost as one, we turned to the peaks above us, listening fearfully for the telltale roar of avalanche.

Sonic booms were rare in the Appalachians these days, and I wondered what had caused the military overflight. I slid the walking stick into its leather loop. It was useful for balance while taking a stroll in snow, but its real purpose was as a weapon. Its Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel concealed blade was deadly, as was its talisman hilt, hiding in plain sight. However, the bloodstone handle-hilt was now almost drained of power, and when we stopped for the night, I'd have to find a safe, secluded place to draw power for it and for the amulets I carried, or my neomage attributes would begin to display themselves.

I'm a neomage, a witchy-woman. Though contrary rumors persist, claiming mages still roam the world free, I'm the only one of my kind not a prisoner, the only one in the entire world of humans who is unregulated, unlicensed. The only one uncontrolled.

All the others of my race are restricted to Enclaves, protected in enforced captivity. Enclaves are gilded cages, prisons of privilege and power, but cages nonetheless. Neomages are allowed out only with seraph permission, and then we have to wear a sigil of office and bracelets with satellite GPS locator Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel chips in them. We're followed by the humans, watched, and sent back fast when our services are no longer needed or when our visas expire. As if we're contagious. Or dangerous.

Enclave was both prison and haven for mages, keeping us safe from the politically powerful, conservative, religious orthodox humans who hated us, and giving us a place to live as our natures and Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel gifts demanded. It was a great place for a mage-child to grow up, but when my gift blossomed at age fourteen, my mind opened in a unique way. The thoughts of all twelve hundred mages captive in the New Orleans Enclave opened to me at once. Bloodring: A Rogue Mage Novel I nearly went mad. If I went back, I'd go quietly—or loudly screaming—insane.

Bloodring A Rogue Mage Novel

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