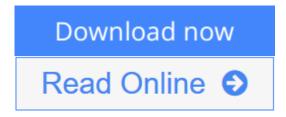
Cordelia's Honor



By Lois McMaster Bujold



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When enemies become mare that friends they win. In her first trial by fire, Cordelia Naismith captained a throwaway ship of the Betan Expeditionary Force on a mission to destroy an enemy armada. Discovering deception within deception, treachery within treachery, she was forced into a separate peace with her chief opponent, Lord Aral Vorkosigan he who was called 'The Butcher of Komarr' and would consequently become an outcast on her own planet and the Lady Vorkosigan on his. Sick of combat and betrayal, she was ready to settle down to a quiet life, interrupted only by the occasion ceremonial appearances required of the Lady Vorkosigan. But when the Emperor died, Aral became guardian of the infant heir to the imperial throne of Barrayar and the target of high-tech assassins in a dynastic civil war that was reminiscent of Earth's Middle Ages, but fought with up-to-the minute biowar technology. Neither Aral nor Cordelia guessed the part that their cell-damaged unborn would play in Barrayar's bloody legacy. Publisher's Note: Cordelia's Honor is comprised of two parts: Shards of Honor and Barrayar. Together they form a continuous story following the life of Cordelia Vorkosigan nee Naismith from the day she met her then-enemy Lord Aral Vorkosigan through the boyhood of her son Miles. Barrayar won the Hugo Award for best science fiction novel of the year.

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Cordelia's Honor By Lois McMaster Bujold Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From the Author *Author's Note*:

The Vorkosigan Saga Reading Order Debate: The Chef Recommends

Many pixels have been expended debating the 'best' order in which to read what have come to be known as the Vorkosigan Books, the Vorkosiverse, the Miles books, and other names, since I neglected to supply the series with a label myself. The debate now wrestles with some fourteen or so volumes and counting, and mainly revolves around publication order versus internal-chronological order. I favor internal chronological, with a few caveats.

I have always resisted numbering my volumes; partly because, in the early days, I thought the books were distinct enough; latterly because if I ever decided to drop in a prequel somewhere (which in fact I did most lately with *Captain Vorpatril's Alliance*) it would upwhack the numbering system. Nevertheless, the books and stories do have a chronological order, if not a strict one.

It was always my intention to write each book as a stand-alone so that the reader could theoretically jump in anywhere, yes, with that book that's in your hand *right now*, don't put it back on the shelf! While still somewhat true, as the series developed it acquired a number of sub-arcs, closely related tales that were richer for each other. I will list the sub-arcs, and then the books, and then the caveats.

Shards of Honor and *Barrayar*. The first two books in the series proper, they detail the adventures of Cordelia Naismith of Beta Colony and Aral Vorkosigan of Barrayar. *Shards* was my very first novel ever; *Barrayar* was actually my eighth, but continues the tale the next day after the end of *Shards*. For readers who want to be sure of beginning at the beginning, or who are very spoiler-sensitive, start with these two.

The Warrior's Apprentice and *The Vor Game* (with, perhaps, the novella "The Mountains of Mourning" tucked in between.) *The Warrior's Apprentice* introduces the character who became the series' linchpin, Miles Vorkosigan; the first book tells how he created a space mercenary fleet by accident; the second how he fixed his mistakes from the first round. Space opera and military-esque adventure (and a number of other things one can best discover for oneself), *The Warrior's Apprentice* makes another good place to jump into the series for readers who prefer a young male protagonist.

After that: Brothers in Arms should be read before Mirror Dance, and both, ideally, before Memory.

Komarr makes another good alternate entry point for the series, picking up Miles's second career at its start. It should be read before *A Civil Campaign*.

Borders of Infinity, a collection of three of the five currently extant novellas, makes a good Miles Vorkosigan early-adventure sampler platter, I always thought, for readers who don't want to commit themselves to length. (But it may make more sense if read after *The Warrior's Apprentice*.) Take care not to confuse the collection-as-a-whole with its title story, "The Borders of Infinity".

Falling Free takes place 200 years earlier in the timeline and does not share settings or characters with the

main body of the series. Most readers recommend picking up this story later. It should likely be read before *Diplomatic Immunity*, however, which revisits the "quaddies", a bioengineered race of free fall dwellers, in Miles's time.

The novels in the internal-chronological list below appear in italics; the novellas (officially defined as a story between 17,500 words and 40,000 words, though mine usually run 20k - 30k words) in quote marks.

Falling Free Shards of Honor Barrayar The Warrior's Apprentice "The Mountains of Mourning" "Weatherman" The Vor Game Cetaganda Ethan of Athos Borders of Infinity "Labyrinth" "The Borders of Infinity" Brothers in Arms Mirror Dance Memory Komarr A Civil Campaign "Winterfair Gifts" Diplomatic Immunity Captain Vorpatril's Alliance (upcoming in late 2012) **CryoBurn**

Caveats:

The novella "Weatherman" is an out-take from the beginning of the novel *The Vor Game*. If you already have *The Vor Game*, you likely don't need this.

The original 'novel' *Borders of Infinity* was a fix-up collection containing the three novellas "The Mountains of Mourning", "Labyrinth", and "The Borders of Infinity", together with a frame story to tie the pieces together. Again, beware duplication. The frame story does not stand alone, and generally is of interest only to completists.

The Fantasy Novels

My fantasy novels are a bit easier to order. Easiest of all is *The Spirit Ring*, which is a stand-alone, or aquel, as some wag once dubbed books that for some obscure reason failed to spawn a subsequent series. Next easiest are the four volumes of *The Sharing Knife--*in order, *Beguilement*, *Legacy*, *Passage*, and *Horizon--*which I broke down and actually numbered, as this was one continuous tale divided into non-wrist-breaking chunks.

What have come to be called the Chalion books, after the setting of its first two volumes, were also written, like the Vorkosigan books, to be stand-alones as part of a larger whole, and can in theory be read in any order. (The third book actually takes place a few hundred years prior to the more closely connected first two.) Some readers think the world-building is easier to assimilate when the books are read in publication order, and the second volume certainly contains spoilers for the first (but not the third.) In any case, the publication order is:

The Curse of Chalion Paladin of Souls The Hallowed Hunt

Happy reading!

-- Lois McMaster Bujold.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jean Smith:

This Cordelia's Honor is great reserve for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who also always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it information accurately using great coordinate word or we can point out no rambling sentences included. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but hard core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having Cordelia's Honor in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no reserve that offer you world with ten or fifteen second right but this guide already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt that?

Luisa Johnson:

Reading a book to get new life style in this yr; every people loves to read a book. When you examine a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read publications, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, these us novel, comics, along with soon. The Cordelia's Honor provide you with a new experience in looking at a book.

Emma Berkey:

Many people spending their time frame by playing outside along with friends, fun activity along with family or just watching TV the whole day. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by looking at a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book will surely hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It okay you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like Cordelia's Honor which is having the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's notice.

Gloria Pruitt:

Reading a guide make you to get more knowledge as a result. You can take knowledge and information coming from a book. Book is written or printed or highlighted from each source which filled update of news. With this modern era like right now, many ways to get information are available for you actually. From media social just like newspaper, magazines, science publication, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Do you want to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just trying to find the Cordelia's Honor when you essential it?

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