

The Vacant Throne



By Joshua Palmatier

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

One time guttersnipe Varis is now Mistress of Amenkor. Having survived famine and an attack by the Chorl, a mysterious race from across the western sea, she faces the challenge of restoring or replacing the throne. Could there be a second throne with the same power as the one long in Amenkor? And there is a concern that the Chorl are planning further incursions on the mainland.

Palmatier continues his masterful world building, creating a place that seems real and believable. The magic and supernatural aspects of the story fit right in and seem real. He also is very adept at creating subtle and different personalities, as well as uniquely different cultures, which adds to the enjoyment of reading this tale.

This is the final installment of the *Throne of Amenkor* trilogy, which is now available as a single combined volume. He has written two other trilogies set in different regions, and perhaps at different times, on this same world. This reviewer secretly hopes that maybe a future work will tie elements of these stories together.

If you likes epic, believable, and well-written fantasy, this story, and others from the same author need to be at the top of your *to be read* list. And for those who, like me, re-read books from time to time, *The Vacant Throne* is a prime candidate.