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The Wall Of Storms (The Dandelion Dynasty Book 2)



Synopsis

In the much-anticipated sequel to the magnificent fantasy epic • (NPR) Grace of Kings, Emperor Kuni Garu is faced with the invasion of an invincible army in his kingdom and must quickly find a way to defeat the intruders. Kuni Garu, now known as Emperor Ragin, runs the archipelago kingdom of Dara, but struggles to maintain progress while serving the demands of the people and his vision. Then an unexpected invading force from the Lyucu empire in the far distant west comes to the shores of Dara and chaos results. But Emperor Kuni cannot go and lead his kingdom against the threat himself with his recently healed empire fraying at the seams, so he sends the only people he trusts to be Dara's savvy and cunning hopes against the invincible invaders: his children, now grown and ready to make their mark on history.

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Customer Reviews

Ken Liu's 'The Wall of Storms' is the second novel in a steampunk fantasy series derived from the worldview and legends of ancient China. It is filled with plot twists, misunderstandings, betrayals, and fierce loyalties in the context of an empire under an attack based loosely on the Mongol invasions of China. There are Gods, dragons, impossible weather and technological advances all in

the service of a convoluted saga of empire. The Dandelion Dynasty of Dara is a new empire built on rebellion against the prior empire. Dara comes under attack by the Lyucu, a fierce and implacable people modelled on the Mongol hordes. The Lyucu fly on a dragon-like creature, the garinafin, a huge fire breathing herbivore. The wall of storms of the title refers to an impenetrable wall of typhoons separating the worlds of Dara and Lyucu, a wall that is only occasionally and briefly broken. The emperor is a well meaning and skillful leader, man of the people, who earned his position by loyalty, grit and the help of supremely talented friends and lovers. His reign is hampered by veneration of custom and an arrogance based on the sophistication of their intellectual, moral and technological culture. The dynasty is also crippled by political machinations. The greatest defenders of the empire are the former war-lord, and her former lover, an itinerant scholar, his brilliant former student, a girl from a peasant family who achieves success in the civil service examinations modeled on the ancient Chinese, and the daughter and heir apparent of the emperor. The Lyucu are lead by their ruthless warrior-chieftain and his brilliant and similarly ruthless daughter. The Gods play their part, but it is clear that humans cannot trust or rely on them for aid.

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