



Sword and Verse

Kathy MacMillan

Download now

Read Online [➔](#)

Sword and Verse

Kathy MacMillan

Sword and Verse Kathy MacMillan

Raisa was only a child when she was kidnapped and enslaved in Qilara. Forced to serve in the palace of the King, she's endured hunger, abuse, and the harrowing fear of discovery. Everyone knows that Raisa is Arnath, but not that she is a Learned One, a part of an Arnath group educated in higher order symbols. In Qilara, this language is so fiercely protected that only the King, the Prince, and Tutors are allowed to know it. So when the current Tutor-in-training is executed for sharing the guarded language with slaves and Raisa is chosen to replace her, Raisa knows that, although she may have a privileged position among slaves, any slipup could mean death.

That would be challenging enough, but training alongside Prince Mati could be her real undoing. And when a romance blossoms between them, she's suddenly filled with a dangerous hope for something she never before thought possible: more. Then she's approached by the Resistance—an underground army of slaves—to help liberate the Arnath people. Joining the Resistance could mean freeing her people...but she'd also be aiding in the war against her beloved, an honorable man she knows wants to help the slaves.

Working against the one she loves—and a palace full of deadly political renegades—has some heady consequences. As Raisa struggles with what's right, she unwittingly uncovers a secret that the Qilarites have long since buried...one that, unlocked, could bring the current world order to its knees.

And Raisa is the one holding the key.

Sword and Verse Details

Date : Published January 19th 2016 by HarperTeen

ISBN : 9780062324610

Author : Kathy MacMillan

Format : Hardcover 384 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Romance, High Fantasy, Did Not Finish

 [Download Sword and Verse ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Sword and Verse ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Sword and Verse Kathy MacMillan

From Reader Review *Sword and Verse* for online ebook

Brittany Cavallaro says

YOU GUYS.

Since I was a teen, I've loved fantasy novels. The really epic ones, with fierce, smart, flawed female MCs, beautiful world-building, and complex challenges. More than anything else, I think fantasy novels (by Tamora Pierce and Mercedes Lackey and Marion Zimmer Bradley and now Kathryn Purdie and KATHY MACMILLAN) have taught me how to be a good person in a difficult world.

But one issue I've had, one and off, is that I'm not particularly a physical person, and while I love fighting and girl-knights, I also love books that show us different ways for a heroine to be strong. Raisa, in *SWORD AND VERSE*, is one of those heroines. This story finds her using reading as a weapon, while she's enslaved in the ruling class's palace as the prince's tutor. She's the most realistic choice on the inside to be asked to lead a rebellion, and the person too who would be the most conflicted about it. Her life is comfortable. She's falling in love with the prince, who loves her back. The dudes in the rebellion are jerks when they reach out to you; they hate you for your privilege and your complicity. What do you do?

The answer is given in a smart, well-paced plot, a complicated romance with power issues and believable misunderstandings, and a bunch of well-drawn supporting characters. My favorite was Jonis, Raisa's contact in the rebellion, who isn't very nice, or ethical, who's doing what he has to to survive. And (view spoiler)

This is lots of fun and so smart. Recommended.

(I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review.)

Ruth Lehrer says

I was lucky enough to receive an ARC of this book. Get ready for 2016 - What a super story! A brave heroine, a caste system, gods involved in humans' lives - what more could you want? A surprise ending, that's what! The intricate descriptions of the different writing systems made me sure that they truly existed and that MacMillan was simply telling us about research she had done in some far off part of the world. I loved our Raisa, who is a scholar as opposed to a soldier and who does not wait for men to save her. I loved the idea that there are Goddesses who look after writers. We sure could use them.

Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to HarperCollins and Edelweiss.)

“I never knew Tyasha ke Demit, but her execution started everything.”

This was an okay fantasy story, although I lost interest a little at the end.

Raisa was a bit of an infuriating character, because she kept making bad decisions. It seemed like even though she knew what she should and shouldn't be doing, she kept doing these things anyway, and I just wanted to smack her at times to see if it would knock some sense into her.

The storyline in this followed Raisa as she began training to be a new tutor, and learning the symbols of the different languages. She was approached by the resistance and asked to do things for them, and also began a bit of a romance with the Prince, and seemed once again to not make the best choices. The pace was quite slow in this, although it did hold my attention pretty well in the first half of the story.

The ending to this was okay, although my attention had lapsed a bit by the end. This story wasn't quite what I was expecting though, as I expected this to be a bit more high fantasy, and instead there was quite a lot about the writing and the romance.

6.5 out of 10

Emily May says

"Days in the Adytum fell into a dreamlike pattern: we talked, we kissed, occasionally we even did our work."

DNF - 50%

I forced myself to the halfway mark just so I could say I gave this book a decent chance to become good... but when someone was murdered around 50% through and it affected me about as much as if someone had coughed - that's when I decided it was time to move on to other things.

Sometimes when I don't enjoy a book I can still understand what the publisher was thinking - fantasies full of lusty romance might make me roll my eyes but I also know they're an easy sell to the market - though I am clueless with Sword and Verse. **Not only is it heavy on the romance and low on the fantasy, but it is also painfully boring.**

The first 50% of this book is almost solely made up of Raisa copying symbols down or crushing on Prince Mati. **The romance is so dry and uninteresting.** Raisa's crush is clear from the very first chapter (it already exists prior to the novel's timeline so there's no build or tension) when she blushes every time Mati breathes:

Mati also didn't have the rather unfair disadvantage of having to study next to himself.

Realizing how close we sat on the bench, I scooted away from him and swung my hair forward to hide my blush.

Perhaps a more skilled romance author might drag this out into something thrilling - will they/won't they? - but here it is as simple as Raisa having a crush, which is then reciprocated a couple of chapters later. Cue repetitive making out scenes.

I suppose world-building might come later, after the 50% point, but in those pages I read, it was like the Raisa/Mati plot existed in a vacuum. There were some mentions of scrolls and slaves, but that is far from the story's focus. And while some might find it unfair to criticize a book's plot without actually finishing it, I'm of the opinion that some kind of interesting story should have formed by the halfway point.

Raisa's narrative is so indistinct and forgettable. I have no doubt I will have forgotten all about her by tomorrow. In fact, all the characters blended together in a stream of boredom. Just so... bland.

[Blog](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Youtube](#) | [Pinterest](#)

Khanh, first of her name, mother of bunnies says

DNF at 40%

This book wasn't overwhelmingly romantic. The main character wasn't overwhelmingly stupid. I guess the word "overwhelming" is the key here, because it's what this book wasn't. It was completely underwhelming and mind-numbingly boring, and I think that's reason enough for my rating.

I didn't enjoy it. It was about a slave girl who's chosen for some reason to be a royal tutor, and all of a sudden the prince falls in love with her. Like wtf? I don't even know what happened. All of a sudden around the 20% mark, they started kissing, leaving me scratching my head because damn, that escalated quickly.

I mean, if a minor resistance plot, a dreamy romance, and reading about learning to read and write floats your boat, good for you. But to me, there are more interesting things in life than this book. Like watching my laundry dry.

Alyssa says

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog

Sword and Verse by Kathy MacMillan

Publisher: Harper Teen

Publication Date: January 19, 2016

Rating: 5 stars

Source: eARC from Edelweiss

Summary (from Goodreads):

Raisa was just a child when she was sold to work as a slave in the kingdom of Qilara. Despite her young age, her father was teaching her to read and write, grooming her to take his place as a Learned One. In Qilara, the Arnathim, like Raisa, are the lowest class, and literacy is a capital offense. What's more, only the king, prince, tutor, and tutor-in-training are allowed to learn the very highest order language, the language of the gods. So when the tutor-in-training is executed for teaching slaves this sacred language, and Raisa is selected to replace her, Raisa knows any slipup on her part could mean death.

Keeping her secret is hard enough, but the romance that's been growing between her and Prince Mati isn't helping matters. Then Raisa is approached by the Resistance—an underground army of slave rebels—to help liberate Arnath slaves. She wants to free her people, but that would mean aiding a war against Mati. As Raisa struggles with what to do, she discovers a secret that the Qilarites have been hiding for centuries—one that, if uncovered, could bring the kingdom to its knees.

What I Liked:

Sword and Verse was one of those books that I knew I would enjoy, upon reading only the synopsis. I remember seeing the title, and then the synopsis, and then the cover... I remember discovering that the author was a fellow Baltimorean, which is REALLY exciting. Of all of Harper's 2016 Winter and Spring debuts, Sword and Verse was the one I wanted to read the most. You probably already saw my top five reasons why I think you should read this book, but this will be a more in-depth and coherent log of my thoughts on the book - which was superb!

Note: I will not do this book justice, with this review. I couldn't do it with my Top Five Reasons post (which you should check out, it's slightly more condensed), and I know I can't do it here. There are some books that are that great that I just want to say, "TRUST ME AND READ IT!" and be done with the review. Still, I hope I can write a nice review (and not spoil things).

As a child, Raisa was chosen to be the next tutor, and so she began to learn to read and write alongside the crown prince of Qilara, Mati. Years later, Raisa's feelings for Mati have grown, and she has also become a very accomplished Tutor, mastering the language and symbols with ease. Raisa and Mati know they shouldn't feel anything towards each other... but they do. When war breaks out against Qilara, Raisa will help the Resistance or stay loyal to Qilara - there is no easy way out of her past, present, or future.

This book is written from Raisa's POV, and it starts in the past, when Raisa is small. She wasn't always a distinguished tutor-in-training - she used to be a slave in the kingdom. As an Arnath child, she never felt welcome in Qilara anyway. Raisa is a different heroine from what we typically see in YA fantasy these days. She isn't bent on saving the world, or wielding swords, or defying royalty. She's loyal to Mati, and she doesn't forget her people, but she doesn't want to necessarily help the Resistance when it could mean hurting Mati (indirectly). Raisa is a mentally and emotionally strong young woman, which is just as important as being physically tough. She is intelligent and kind, and has to work through an incredible amount of emotional burden throughout the book.

Mati is the male protagonist of the book, and a very important character in the story. He has to lead Qilara for various reasons, and the learning curve is steep. He never wanted to be a part of the conflict and war that Qilara is deeply entrenched in, but he takes steps to ensure Qilara's success. Mati is selfless and clever, which is one of the reasons why I think him and Raisa are a great pair.

So much of this book revolves around language and writing and symbols. The Resistance is desperate to have Raisa helping them because she can read and write, and she is in the palace. Raisa's role as Tutor will

be to teach Mati's children how to read and write, as well as train the next Tutor.

So you see that Raisa and Mati's roles were clearly defined from that start... but it didn't stop either of them from falling for each other from the start. We know that Raisa has feelings for Mati since she was little, and we find out that he has feelings for her too. The romance is a strange one; no love triangle, but it isn't like any romance I've read. There was a point in the book that broke my heart, and it was less than halfway through. This book takes place over a year (maybe a little over a year?), not including the prologue. A LOT happens during that time, in terms of the romance (and in terms of the entire story). This book is a fantasy novel through and through, so there are certain elements of the story that intersect with the romance that really only occur in fantasy novels... you'll have to read the book to know what I mean, but the romance in this book is very unconventional.

And I say all of that and mean it in a GOOD way. I absolutely love how MacMillan constructed the romance, how it developed. The romance wraps up in a satisfying way, and there is no love triangle. NO LOVE TRIANGLE. None. The romance is one of my favorite aspects of this book. So. Good. Lots of swoon and fangirling from me, I will assure you.

MacMillan also does a great job with the world-building. Sometimes high fantasy novels seem to blur together, in terms of the worlds. I didn't find it the case with this book; the emphasis on language and symbols made this book highly distinctive, as well as the structure of the court and kingdom, and the role of religion.

The ending is stunning, in my opinion. The book takes its time for the most part, in terms of pacing, but the climax picks up speed and the ending is eye-opening. I love the pacing of the book overall, and I really liked how the ending felt. Everything comes together, and the ending wraps up all the loose threads. I was really happy with the ending, especially in the last few pages.

This book is a standalone, and the ending is perfect for it. It's not as tightly wrapped as I would have hoped (there are one or two things that I thought were open-ended), but I have it on good authority that things will be addressed in the future - but not as a series. So. Standalone for the win!

What I Did Not Like:

This book was really satisfying for me, so I don't think I have complaints. One of the things that I mentioned above was that I found that there were a few things that were open-ended. Usually this would be a complaint of mine if the book is a standalone (which this one is), but if those elements will be addressed in future companion novels, then by all means!

Would I Recommend It:

I highly recommend this novel. Fantasy fan, YA fan, someone who enjoyed Kristin Cashore's books, or Alexandra Bracken's *Brightly Woven*, etc. It's a standalone with an incredible and totally unique romance, and high-stakes action, and unforgettable world-building. This stunning debut did not disappoint on any level!

Rating:

5 stars. <--- That's a rare rating from me. I like it when I build a novel up in my head for forever, and then the novel turns out to be really, really wonderful. If you get a chance to read this book, do it! Don't miss this

book!

Heh. This one did not disappoint. We can totally compare it to *Fire* by Kristin Cashore - which happens to be my favorite book of all time. *Sword and Verse* was BEAUTIFUL!

See five great reasons why you should read *Sword and Verse*!

And here's a swoony excerpt, if you needed further convincing. :D

SUPER EXCITED GUYS!

Just confirmed that I will be presenting at @KidLitCon with @Alyssa_Susanna in October!
Can't wait!

— Kathy MacMillan (@kathys_quill) August 9, 2015

Damaris (GoodChoiceReading) says

Yessssssss!!!! I got a little worried for a minute there, but in the end this book was everything I was hoping for and more!!!!!! The romance between the Prince & Raisa.... *sigh* my poor heart....

Awesome story! Full review to come!!!

----- FULL REVIEW 12/31/2015

Sword and Verse takes readers on an unforgettable adventure. Not only is this book amazing from the first word to the very last, it is also unpredictable, and has the PERFECT romance.

When I first saw the cover to this book I immediately knew I had to get my hands on it. Then I read the blurb and I was sold! I knew it would be one of those books that would keep me up all night reading, and would leave me with that craving for more. I honestly did not expect to be so into the story, and completely captivated with the characters like I was. It was all I thought about. Every single time I had to put the book down, I would get upset. I could not wait to dive back into Raisa's story. It is THAT good.

One of the biggest things I love most about this story is the way the author wrote it. The story starts with

Raisa as a young girl, and ends with her as a grown smart woman. I did not get lost once with the timeline. The author did an excellent job piecing it all together. For some reason this was a huge plus for me. The way the characters grow, the romance between Raisa & the Prince, the suspense whenever Raisa and the rebels were together, it was just flawless!

I will say that a little more than half of the story is romance. Of course, me being a romance junkie, this just made me fall in love with the book ten times more! I can't describe the emotions I felt. Prince Mati & Raisa's feelings for one another bled off the pages and I absorbed every bit of it! At one point, the author had me worried. I wasn't sure what was going to happen to them as a couple, and was about ready to scream, but in the end I was happy with the outcome. Every detail, event, emotion, all happened at the right time, and all flowed together like putting the pieces to a puzzle together.

SWORD AND VERSE is a GOOD CHOICE FOR READING! It's a story that you will devour and never forget. At least it was for me. Kathy MacMillan is officially on my MUST-READ list. If her other books are written anything like this one, it will be a sure read!

C.G. Drews says

I'm in a strange little muddle at the moment because this book had *so* many aspects that made me grind my teeth, **but yet I STILL REALLY LIKED IT!?!?** So who knows. Maybe I'm just craving epic fantasy with good world building and this truly had that. And also that cover. C'mon. THAT COVER. Plus it featured *writing* and I think that's awesome. Because I quite like writing. As you can note by my obsession with writing aaaall the reviews.

ANYWAY!

I really appreciated the world!! It's all gods and temples and writing is so so sacred that no one else is allowed to do it except the king and the high people. And the world felt really dusty, almost like it had a Greek/Roman vibe maybe? I just envisioned all the temples like Greek ones. I DON'T REALLY KNOW IF THAT'S RIGHT OR NOT, BUT THERE YOU HAVE IT. **And it's all masters vs slaves. And the masters were pretty brutal.** The story didn't get *really* graphic because a lot of the brutality was off-page. But it still was a pretty vicious world and I, a lover of darker fantasy, APPRECIATED THAT.

But whenever you have a masters vs slaves situation...omg. I get so attached to the tragic abused rebels. It's nearly a problem. #JonisTheDarlingGrape

Let's just pretend that **the protagonist, Raisa, wasn't a little ball of deluded whining.** Because all the other characters were MY PRECIOUS BABY DARLINGS. But seriously, Raisa? Her personality was: whine and cheese. I can't understand how she could be a slave for like 85% of her life and yet BE SO DARN NIAVE. She's having a passionate fling with the *prince*. THE P.R.I.N.C.E. And then gets shocked when she realises he's betrothed to a princess? I mean. C'mon. Woman, you need to grow a brain. But I did appreciate that (A) Raisa was no special snowflake, and (B) despite being a naive mulberry of delusion, tears, and frequent whine sessions: she was kindhearted and that's nice.

But the secondary characters?!? LOVED THEM SO MUCH. Mati is the king and he's a bit of a sap, but A CUTE SAP. I really loved him. And noooo triangle. NONE WHATSOEVER WOOO. Because I started to get scared when the leader of the rebels, Jonis, strutted into the scene with his little sneers and his scars and

his adorableness. But this is perfect because (A) it proved a protagonist can interact with a male and NOT FALL IN LOVE [wow], and (B) I can have Jonis. <33 **Least to say 90% of everyone was tragic and I love tragic sneering metal rebel boys.** Not to mention the adorable little 5-year-old Jera who's being trained as a Tutor and all the powerful women characters who just quietly were supreme.

As for the plot? Okay. Confession: it's like 78% kissing. Which annoyed me. Like after 100-pages I was getting nervous *that there would be no plot.* BUT THERE WAS. IT JUST WAS IN AMONGST THE KISSING. So be ye warned: **very heavy focus on the romance.** And usually I would be stabbing myself in the eye with the pretty cover...but I shipped the ship and I loved the world SO YAY FOR THAT AT LEAST.

There is also **stabbing and explosions and plots and spying** so that's all fun. Good times.

Not to mention LIBRARIES. Although the library was like the secret kissing area....I mean. Dude. Go read a book, where are your priorities here. (Reading will get you killed but whatever.)

I also like how it honestly feels like a standalone! Apparently there's a sequel in 2018? (Whyyyyyy so far away?) But you could read this and totally be satisfied with it alone. WHICH IS AWESOME. We need more fantasy books that stand (relatively) on their own. Plus it had no info dumps but managed to build a compelling world.

BLESSINGS ON THIS BOOK.

ALL IN ALL: I had a lot of fun reading this! I honestly didn't expect to love it due to reading a ton of negative reviews beforehand. But I think having zilch expectations really helped! The romance was afjdksalfd adorable and I really rooted for Mati and Raisa to stop lying to each other and BE FANTASTIC. The world was *just* dark enough to keep my little heart beating excitedly. And did I mention TRAGIC SCARRED SECONDARY CHARACTERS OF AWESOME? Because those too.

Aly's Bookish Wonderland says

I cannot wait to have this puppy in my hands.

LOOK AT THAT COVER.

LOOK AT THAT BLURB.

^ My face.

Sarah Ahiers says

I was lucky enough to read an early version of this book and if you like YA high fantasy in the veins of Rae Carson, then you will LOVE this book.

Raisa is raised as a slave in the palace, one of only two who are taught the language of the gods--writing--in order to tutor the prince and council him when he one day becomes king. But Raisa doesn't plan for falling in love with him, nor that he would return her love. Or that the slave resistance will pressure her to help them, even as it threatens the life and safety of both herself and the prince.

When it all comes to a head, it seems only the gods will be able to save everyone.

This story is filled with romance and wonderful, deeply realized characters. Raisa is sympathetic and believable, and Mati is swoon-worthy and kind, which I particularly love, since I'm kind of over the bad boy romance thing.

The language and religion is fully developed and it's clear MacMillan spent a lot of time and energy getting it just right. And the ending explodes with action and drama and tension and moments that literally made me gasp in surprise. Which is really the best thing I can ever hope for when reading a book.

Traci Chee says

I was lucky enough to get my hands on an early version of this novel, and let me just say I'm deeply impressed. As someone who loves reading, writing, and all things bookish, I couldn't get enough of this world where, in no uncertain terms, literacy = power. I love how MacMillan plays with storytelling, using myths to set up expectations or dash them, to create suspense and foreshadow conflicts to come. The setting is sharp, so realistically drawn that it's easy to forget this is fantasy, and I haven't just wandered into some long-forgotten and magical era of our own past, and the characters, at once naive and endearing, strong and vengeful, pious and heretical, aren't historical figures but beautiful fictions that live only in the imagination.

Jessica Cluess says

I received a copy of this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

This will probably be one of my favorite debut fantasies of 2016. The world building on display is simply phenomenal. The system of slavery in this world felt both heart breaking and authentic, and the places and people felt fully fleshed out and realized. Raisa is an utterly compelling heroine. I loved that she took time to grow into her strength and courage, to experience both love and heartbreak. She's one of the most relatable YA protagonists I've come across. The writing itself is lyrical and breathtaking. I think my favorite aspect of this world is the mythology. Each chapter begins with a section of the gods' creation story, and it absolutely felt like something I could have learned in the antiquities department of a university. This book has some of the richest world building I've ever read, and I loved it.

I massively recommend this book, and I'll keep recommending it come January.

Emily says

Wow, okay, I adored this book. It surprised me so much, and so pleasantly. I just finished and am still thrumming with the happy energy of a truly satisfying ending. The pacing was interesting to me--the first half very much serves as an establishing of the world, the rules, the characters, the stakes, and the conflict.

Which is to say that I was at first hooked based solely on the romance, while everything else was being set into place. Then, as the action was building, I felt a bit of a lull toward the middle but no sooner did I have that thought than everything exploded into action and the last third to half was an absolute ROLLERCOASTER. For me, this transition from steady to break-neck pacing worked perfectly because at that point, I was SO invested in the characters that I felt every beat of their wild ride exactly as McMillan intended me to do. While I read a ton of contemporary fantasy, it's not uncommon for me to struggle to connect with characters in high fantasy. There are authors I think handle this brilliantly (Bardugo, Maas, etc.) but a lot of times the unfamiliar world and the elevated way of speaking can leave characters feeling cardboard or unrelatable, but here I was so far from having that problem.

I've seen some other reviews that called Raisa shallow but I honestly found her refreshingly complex and human. She is very much torn between her love for one specific person and her knowledge of right and wrong. Her struggle made me consider what I would do if I were forced between protecting the man I love and protecting a group of innocent people who I don't know. I think if we're honest this is a much more difficult decision than it should be and I loved that Raisa continuously struggled with it, that she fought so hard to do what she needed to do. And because I felt I knew her so much, it just made her turmoil over whether she was trusting the wrong people that much more palpable. I found myself desperately hoping she was right, afraid of the heartbreak she would face if she was wrong.

The ending was so, so surprising, and I suspect it won't be for everyone, but for me personally, it was perfect. It was big, epic, magical, exciting, and dark. I highly recommend this book and if you start it and get to that "lull", I implore you to finish it because I think there's a good chance you'll be, like me, way more than satisfied!

Jillian (bookishandnerdy) says

I received an ARC from HarperCollins/EpicReads as part of their early readers group in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own.

so i'm going to throw in the towel for this book. unfortunately, this book was just too dull and there's instalove. i made it about 25% through and there is literally no plot yet. whatever hints of plot there are it's not compelling enough. the characters are also just so flat and too tropey. i did get this for review from epic read early readers group so i feel a bit bad, but this book just isn't for me at all. *shrugs* ooooooh well.

Melanie says

Wow! This was a fantasy power read for me--meaning, I read half one day and half the next, stopping only to sleep because the time change made me feel like 6pm was actually midnight!

SWORD AND VERSE is a richly-imagined fantasy set in a world where words are sacred, and writing is permitted only to Scholars. Raisa is an Arnath slave selected to study the written language as Tutor to the Qilarite royals, whom she comes to know and care for despite the deep, painful divide between their peoples. Raisa's story begins as that of a girl trying to find her place in between two worlds--slave and not slave, Tutor and not Qilarite--but over time, the veil between these worlds drops, and Raisa begins to question all

that she knows to be true.

Perhaps the richest part of this story is how Raisa's own journey to understanding and action mirrors that of the ancient gods in this world. At the start of each chapter, we are treated to a tiny snippet of the Gods' story, and these snippets are just as captivating as the central narrative. Readers will love understanding how the worlds of the Gods and mortals collide, even when the characters do not.

There's something in *SWORD AND VERSE* for every reader: a true and fraught romance, secret alliances and risky choices, truth and lies. The literary qualities and complex world building will appeal to fans of *FINNIKIN OF THE ROCK* (Marchetta) and *THE DEMON KING* (Cinda Chima), while the themes speak strongly to issues facing us in today's modern world. Highly recommend!

(I received an ARC of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review)
