



Uneasy Alliances

*Robert Lynn Asprin (Editor) , Lynn Abbey (Editor) , C.J. Cherryh (Contributor) , Jon DeCles (Contributor) ,
Chris Morris (Contributor) , Robin Wayne Bailey (Contributor) , Diana L. Paxson (Contributor) , C.S.
Williams (Contributor)*

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Welcome to Sanctuary, a city of outlaws and adventurers in a world of war and wizardry, peopled with colorful characters created by today's top fantasy adventure talents, including:

Robert Lynn Asprin
Robin W. Bailey
C.J. Cherryh
John DeCles
Chris Morris
Diana L. Paxson

In this brilliant eleventh volume, the citizens of Sanctuary face the awesome task of putting their lives back together after the war. As some try to salvage order from the chaos, others see their opportunity to settle old debts at the point of a sword.

Contents:

- * Dramatis Personae - Lynn Abbey
- * Introduction - Lynn Abbey
- * Slave Trade - Robert Lynn Asprin
- * The Best of Friends - C.J. Cherryh
- * The Power of Kings - Jon DeCles
- * Red Light, Love Light - Chris Morris
- * A Sticky Business - C.S. Williams
- * The Promise of Heaven - Robin Wayne Bailey
- * The Vision of Lalo - Diana L. Paxson

Uneasy Alliances Details

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From Reader Review Uneasy Alliances for online ebook

Brett says

Most enjoyable of this series in quite awhile.

Patrick Collins says

Last and maybe least. There is a reason the series faded away...

Mark says

Readability 8. Rating 6. Date estimated. One of the Thieves' World series of books, which collect short stories from a range of science-fiction and fantasy writers. The interesting aspect of these stories is the common setting (the City of Sanctuary) and the overlapping of characters and events. At it's best, the series provides multiple viewpoints in very different styles of events that impact each character's life to varying extents. The series also does an excellent job of maintaining a historical flow throughout the series. At this point (I am writing this well after the time I read the books), I cannot differentiate among the early books in this series. Note also, that this is the second reading for the first eight in the series.

Kurt Vosper says

see book 1

Redsteve says

Like Aftermath (#10), this one is showing a much calmer (albeit still dangerous) Sanctuary than in previous books where the city is being torn apart by gods, mages and witches, mercenaries and death squads. None of the tales are strictly stand-alone, even the ones that introduce new characters, although some have satisfying endings (even C.J. Cherryh's - well, in that case, ending-ish). Overall a good collection of short stories, but not fantastic. You can feel that the series is winding down at this point.

Charles says

This was an attempt to keep the series going and to introduce new themes. There were quite a few new writers. But I really missed Janet Morris and Lynn Abbey's writing. There are some good stories, though.

Bill says

Great!

Timothy Boyd says

Good shared world book series. The variety of writers keeps the stories fresh. Recommended

Shannon Appelcline says

The best volume of Thieves' World in quite some while. That's in large part because the interminable witch wars and civil wars are finally over, and instead people are able to write about characters and even start pushing on new plot threads. The result is very quiet, without a lot happening in the big picture, but it still pays off in several of the stories.

Introduction (Abbey). This intro has a lot more depth than the ones in the previous books, and it shows: we get a more insightful look into the beysib here than in the last several books combined [8/10].

Slave Trade (Asprin). More a scene than a story, but it's nice to see Hanse and Jubal here, and Asprin writes them both well [6/10].

The Best of Friends (Cherryh). Over the years, Cherryh's stories have become a soap opera: they're about the continuing lives of a handful of characters, and those stories rarely have beginnings or endings. Worse, I've never warmed to half of her cast: I like Strat and Crit (though I always find their similar names troublesome), I'm indifferent to Ischade and Stilcho, and I don't like Moria and Mor-am. So, I always approach Cherryh's stories with trepidation at this point, and am rarely enthused by the result. This, I liked better than most: its biggest focus is on Crit and Strat and it *feels* like the ending provides a notable turning point for them. Though we'll see if they go right back to where they were in the next book (my guess would be yes). [7/10].

The Power of Kings (DeCles). It's good to have a new cast of characters in DeCles' players. It's also amusing to see their views of Sanctuary. The story itself is a bit slow, and most of the ending is obvious from early on. Still, it's an interesting read [6/10]

Red Light, Love Light (Chris Morris). More new characters and a story that's intriguing for its mysteriousness. I feel like we didn't get an ending, but I want to know what comes next ... presumably in the next and last book [6+/10].

A Sticky Business (Williams). Cholly the Gluemaker is yet another fun new character, though much as the players' troupe in "The Power of Kings" I don't feel that he has the depth of some of Sanctuary's classic characters. Overall, this is a fun story that drags a bit, but has a terrific ending [6+/10].

The Promise of Heaven (Bailey). I liked Bailey from the moment she introduced Chenaya, but this story impressed me even more, because she managed to tell a good story using her larger cast, even without Chenaya there. One of the best aspects of this story is that Bailey definitively makes a character out of

Daphne, someone who received almost no attention before Bailey showed up. Overall, an enjoyable read [7+/10].

The Visions of Lalo (Paxson). And finally a Lalo story that starts off slow, but gains interest toward the end and has a terrific ending. It's really nice to see a big turning point for Lalo -- one that would also be an appropriate ending point for him if he's not in the next (and last) book [7/10].

Dave Peticolas says

Daniel says

The decline continues in this anthology, as though the stories and writers knew the end was near. It was as interesting as always, but as a reader the dread of the end came with it. We all know a series has to end, and it sucks. Sometimes we curse the authors for taking too long to finish a book or a series, not being understanding of the feat it has taken to write this medium in which we indulge in. By the time you have enjoyed eleven sets of short stories with a connected theme and characters, it is like thinking about the loss of an old friend, but it happens. Still there were some pretty good stories in this book and I just couldn't stop yet.

Danny
