



The Silver Branch

Patricia Kennealy-Morrison , Patricia Kennealy

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In this novel of Patricia Kennealy's galaxy-spinning mythos of the Keltic race, she draws us back to an earlier age, just prior to the setting of *The Copper Crown* and *The Throne of Scone*—a time of transition when the people of the Keltic worlds have not yet reestablished contact with their distant brethren of Earth.

In this era, the enemies of the Keltic worlds are already beginning to dream of destroying this mighty space empire hidden behind its seemingly impenetrable magic-fueled Curtain Wall. And chief among these foes of Keltia is Bres, lord of Fomor, who, betrayed by his own queen, has sworn an eternal vow of vengeance. Yet it will be many long years before Bres can hope to carry out his threats, years of uneasy peace during which Aeron Aoibhell, heir to the throne of Keltia, will grow to adulthood and to the fulfillment of her prophesied powers of sorcery—powers which will change the destinies of friends and foes alike when war finally explodes across the starways.

The Silver Branch is Aeron's tale—from the events long before her birth, which would shape the worlds and the burden she would inherit...to her first discovery of the magic that could move the very sun from its path...to the dangerous rites of passage that would make her sorcerer, warrior, avenger, and ultimately queen. It is a recounting of forbidden passion and of honor betrayed, of jealousies that will plant the seeds of future treachery, of love and loyalty tested to the very limits of the great Abyss.

The Silver Branch Details

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Author : Patricia Kennealy-Morrison , Patricia Kennealy

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From Reader Review The Silver Branch for online ebook

Jessamine Price says

One of my favorite books of all time. I love Aeron and she is my favorite heroin. She is just so bad ass.

Ciaran says

Very interesting cross of sci-fi technology with Celtic mythology. Having both magic and advanced technology combined together definitely made it worth reading. Would recommend reading this before the copper crown, even though it was in fact written later.

Kristine (fezabel) says

I have been interested in these books since I first heard about them several years ago. I finally bought The Silver Branch and decided to give them a try. I finished the book in record time and immediately went hunting for the rest of Patricia Kennealy-Morrison's books.

This story is amazing. It's not just the plot, although that gets my highest praise for being so intricate and well-written. But, the world that has been created around the plot is so stunning and beautiful that I can't describe it. You just have to go there for yourself.

Dianne says

A well written mix of fantasy and science fiction with compelling characters. I would like to live in this world

Kimmy says

Part of one of my favorite trilogies of all time.

May says

Such nice stories!

Jes Phillips says

For fans of the earlier books in the Keltaid series, this prequel offers some awesome insight into how Queen Aeron developed into the person she is. Readers who delight in Kennealy-Morrison's exquisite detail of this fantasy world will love this tale, which takes readers on a tour of Aeron's training as a Fian and Ban-droi.

Judith Weshinsky-Price says

O ;ove this trilogy. The characters are larger than life and still experience some of the negatives as wel as the positives. There is technology, magic, logic, and intuition all thrown in together.

Kristine says

it is a great book for Keltic fans.

Jodi says

I probably read this series once every 18 months or so. Likely my favorite book series. It has the additional benefit of portraying my religion in a way that is accurate while accessible.

Kerry says

We managed to find space in our fairly small house for some extra bookcases recently. It was lovely to get some of my favourite books out of storage and have them accessible on shelves. I'm hoping to fit in some rereads of old favourites now I can just pull them off the bookcase.

This is one of those. I reread the first two in the last few years and this has been one of the ones I've been wanting to get to read again. I'm also cross stitching the cover as a very, very long term embroidery project and since I'm working on it now, it seemed the right time to get back to this book.

I've given it 10/10 because I love the series and the characters in that "these could have been written for me" kind of way. That said, it's a prologue to the first two books and therefore it skims through the years for a degree of "telling" mixed in with its "showing". I don't think it's the best place to begin the series, but I loved rereading it.

Michael D. says

It took me the better part of the year to finish this, nibbling on it since January, four pages here, ten pages there, until I finally finished the story. Interestingly, the novel started with an offense against a rival by the

father of the heroine and ended with the heroine becoming queen of an intergalactic kingdom made up of the descendants of Celtic emigrants who left earth to escape religious and cultural persecution.

Of greater impact is the novel I am nibbling on now, *The Copper Crown*, in which the Kelts encounter the first earth spacefarers since they left the planet in the fifth century. But this novel was written after *The Copper Crown* to fill in the backstory explaining how Aeron Aoilbhell became queen of the Kelts.

It was a good read. It would have been a better read had I paced myself a little more quickly. Little bits and pieces at a time as I have been forced to read lately have been horrible for my staying engaged in the narrative. But despite that, the depth of the story, the relationships between Aeron and her friends as she grew up to become a Fianna warrior, ban-droia, and finally queen of the Kelts, brought together a pretty organic story that would lead to the next novel in the series.

I am not going to review in terms of narrative here. I will say that the novel is quite thick in linguistic construction. Celtic words and morphings are sprinkled throughout. To help those of us who are not savvy with the Celtic language, the author provides a glossary of commonly used words to help us understand them. This is essential to any Kennealy-Morrison novel, as she makes extensive use of these words to provide a sense of strangeness and fantasy. Kennealy also provides appendices to explain the backdrop, as the tales take place in a well established universe full of peoples called Kelts, Fomors, and Coranians. And it is essential to know who these peoples are to understand how they relate to one another.

Iamshadow says

The Silver Branch wasn't what I expected, in that I expected it to be historical Celtic fantasy and it turned out to be futuristic Anne McCaffery-esque interplanetary struggles. Unfortunately, the similarity didn't end there, and it also possessed some very McCaffery-esque failures in writing style. Nowhere near enough descriptions of places and scenery, and a 'rushed' attitude to Aeron's early life to get up to the bits that Kennealy more wanted to write about. Things that with a bit of time could have been fascinating instead are hurried over and become unsatisfyingly vague, and the plot had a tendency to drift into overly romanticised mills-and-boon predictability. In another's hands, or even if Kennealy had shown more discipline in writing, this concept could have become something really great, instead of just a mediocre, forgettable effort.

Lisa says

Really good fantasy. I enjoyed the first 2 books more, but this book was still good.

Stacey Gallimore says

The Arthurian Legend in Space - sounds ridiculous, makes me cry every time!!

I just love this series, and I can see it isn't to everyone's tastes, but these books are ones I re-read and recommend.

Just wish my copy of the latest one didn't look so much like a romance novel!

