



## Bearers of the Black Staff: Legends of Shannara

By Terry Brooks

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**Bearers of the Black Staff: Legends of Shannara** By Terry Brooks

**BONUS:** This edition contains an excerpt from Terry Brooks's *The Measure of the Magic*.

### **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**

Five hundred years have passed since the devastating demon-led war tore apart the United States and nearly exterminated humankind. Those who escaped the carnage were led to sanctuary in an idyllic valley, its borders warded by powerful magic against the horrors beyond. But the cocoon of protective magic surrounding the valley has now vanished. When Sider Ament, the only surviving descendant of the Knights of the Word, detects unknown predators stalking the valley, he fears the worst. And when expert Trackers find two of their own gruesomely killed, there can be no doubt: The once safe haven has been made vulnerable to whatever still lurks in the outside wasteland. Together, Ament, the two young Trackers, and a daring Elf princess spearhead plans to defend their ancestral home. And in the thick of it all, the last wielder of the black staff and its awesome magic must find a successor to carry on the fight against the cresting new wave of evil.

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**Bearers of the Black Staff: Legends of Shannara** By Terry Brooks **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

The horrors of a war-ravaged world again invade a hard-won peace in Brooks's intense follow-up to 2008's *The Gypsy Morph*. Five hundred years have passed since Hawk led a tattered band of survivors into a valley protected by a magical barrier. Now the wall has been breached by demons. The last known Knight of the Word, Sider Ament, wields a powerful black staff that he hopes to pass to a new leader. After rescuing talented teen Trackers Panterra Qu and Prue Liss, Sider asks them to warn the Children of Hawk.

Unfortunately, their council leaders don't share Sider's certainty of an impending invasion. While Sider explores the other side of the barrier, the young Trackers find help from Arborlon Elves in this superlative Tolkien-style fantasy tweaked with a contemporary vibe.

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#### From Booklist

This first volume of *Legends of Shannara* opens five centuries after the worldwide holocaust that ended the *Genesis of Shannara* trilogy. Elves, humans, and other races are slowly restoring a modest civilization in a mountain valley protected by their combined magic. Now this sanctuary is threatened by the assault of monstrous creatures that seem to be either magic wielders or creations of magic greater than the valley's and of mysterious origin. Another stalwart band of heroes, the title characters, is drawn from all the races to fight—although this time they are not marching out on a quest but fighting in the last ditch. The forthcoming sequel, *The Measure of the Magic*, will, as it were, measure their degree of success—for the time being. The author's success needs no measuring anymore—it is enormous, thanks to a growing gift for characterization, pacing, and world building, not to mention magic that may not be supremely original in conception but manages to be increasingly enthralling to literally millions of readers over what is approaching two generations. --Roland Green

#### Review

"Terry Brooks displays the sure hand of a master. **Bearers of the Black Staff** is filled with iconic characters and heroes not diminished but made human by their flaws. A finely-wrought tale of sacrifice, adventure, betrayal, magic, loss, and a world on the precipice."--Brent Weeks, author of *The Way of Shadows*

*From the Hardcover edition.*

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**Donald Corbett:**

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