



Antrax (The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara)

By Terry Brooks

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A new novel by Terry Brooks is always a cause for celebration. For more than twenty years, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the classic Shannara epic has proven himself one of the modern masters of fantasy, winning the hearts and minds of devoted readers around the world. In his last acclaimed novel, *Ilse Witch*, a brave company of explorers led by the last Druid, Walker Boh, traveled across unknown seas in search of an elusive magic. Yet perhaps Boh and his team were lured there for sinister, unforeseen purposes . . .

Now in *Antrax*, as the crew aboard the airship *Jerle Shannara* is attacked by evil forces, the Druid's protégé Bek Rowe and his companions are pursued by the mysterious Ilse Witch. Meanwhile, Boh is alone, caught in a dark maze beneath the ruined city of Castledown, stalked by a hungry, unseen enemy.

For there is something alive in Castledown. Something not human. Something old beyond reckoning that covets the magic of Druids, elves, even the Ilse Witch. Something that hunts men for its own designs: Antrax. It is a spirit that commands ancient technologies and mechanical monsters, feeds off enchantment, and traps the souls of men.

With the *Jerle Shannara* under siege and Antrax threatening the bold and unwary, the Ilse Witch finds herself face-to-face with a boy who claims to be the brother she last saw as an infant. Now a young man, Bek wields the magic of the wishsong and carries the Sword of Shannara upon his back. Unsure whether to trust Bek or to slay him, the Ilse Witch takes him prisoner. One has come pursuing truth, the other revenge. Yet both seek Walker Boh—with the fate of the Four Lands hanging in the balance.

Return to the world of beloved novelist Terry Brooks, where creatures drift up from the earth like mist, a hypnotic song can kill, a sword can cut through a veil of lies—and one man, the true heir of an ancient magic, must choose between betrayal and redemption.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Antrax is the second book in the *Voyage of Jerle Shannara* trilogy, part of an epic started by famed fantasy writer Terry Brooks more than two decades ago with *The Sword of Shannara*. In this installment, we join the Druid Walker Boh and his companions in the search for Antrax--a powerful and malevolent technological guardian. Walker believes Antrax's magic is potent enough to help restore the Druid council to the Four lands, a struggle that has consumed his life. But while the unlikely heroes journey in the Jerle Shannara across the Blue Divide to the city of Castledown, the Druid's archnemesis--the Ilse Witch--and her band of Mwellrets closely follow in an airship of their own. The race is on, and the prize is the power of Antrax. Meanwhile, Bek Rowe discovers that his destiny is inextricably linked with the Ilse Witch herself.

Mixing several subplots into the main story, Brooks cooks up a satisfying stew of fantasy with just a taste of science fiction. Brooks quickly reels the reader in with nonstop action, and, in classic style, leaves the reader yearning for the third and final installment, *Morgawr*. --Robert Leavengood

From Publishers Weekly

Continuing the saga begun in *The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara: Ilse Witch* (2000), bestseller Brooks opens this slick, lightweight fantasy with our band of heroes (Druids, elves, shape-shifters, Rovers, etc.) trapped on an island ruled by the evil artificial intelligence Antrax. Antrax has lured this disparate crew to its underground lair in order to use their assorted magics to expand its influence across the world of Shannara. The expedition's leader, the Druid Walker, wants to steal Antrax's ancient technology, but to gain it, he must engage in deadly combat with the machine. The treacherous seer, Ryer Ord Star, and the young, frightened elven prince, Ahren Elessedil, join the fight. Meanwhile, Bek Ohmsford, a protégé of Walker's who's been left mostly in the dark about his own magical potential, must try to convince his sister, the dangerous Ilse Witch, that his version of their shared past is true, as he struggles to keep her from killing him or his friends. Also complicating the plot are the battles of the Rovers to reclaim the group's airship the only means for the adventurers to return home. Some emotionally painful encounters occur with former friends who have been enslaved by Antrax, turned into cyborgs and forced to do the nasty AI's bidding. Brooks's fans are sure to be pleased with this action-packed yarn, which neatly weaves the many plots and characters into a coherent whole. Those readers looking for more depth or less predictability are unlikely to have started on this series in the first place. 12-city author tour.

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From Library Journal

Caught in a desperate race to discover a powerful form of ancient magic before it can fall into the hands of the Ilse Witch, Druid Walker Boh and his companions make their way to the city of Castledown. There, in the darkness below the city, Walker and the Ilse Witch meet in a confrontation that will change their world forever. Brooks continues his latest "Shannara" series in fine form, blending old and new characters and introducing a new element of eldritch magic to his tale of ordinary people gifted with the guardianship of their world. Libraries may wish to purchase multiple copies to meet patron demand.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jimmy Maiden:

This Antrax (The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara) are generally reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The reason of this Antrax (The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara) can be among the great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple studying food but feed anyone with information that possibly will shock your prior knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it everywhere and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed ones. Beside that this Antrax (The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara) forcing you to have an enormous of experience including rich vocabulary, giving you test of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Maria Green:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book is usually option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the e-book untitled Antrax (The Voyage of the Jerle Shannara) can be good book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Nicholas Williams:

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