



Lord of Emperors: Book Two of the Sarantine Mosaic (Sarantine Mosaic (Paperback))

By Guy Gavriel Kay

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From the renowned author of *Sailing to Sarantium*, *Children of Earth and Sky*, and *The Last Light of the Sun*

In the golden city of Sarantium, the renowned mosaicist Crispin seeks to fulfill his artistic ambitions and his destiny high upon a dome intended to be the emperor's enduring sanctuary and legacy. But the emperor is plotting a conquest of Crispin's homeland to regain an empire. And with his fate entwined with that of his royal benefactor, Crispin's loyalties come with a very high price.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

For whatever reason, Guy Gavriel Kay just insists on getting better and better. *Sailing to Sarantium* outshone the already excellent *Lions of Al-Rassan*, and now *Lord of Emperors*--the stunning second half of the Sarantine Mosaic--somehow surpasses even its predecessors.

Emperors picks up the story of the overwhelmed but still tenacious Crispin, now Imperial Mosaicist to Valerius II and thoroughly steeped in the machinations of Sarantium--not to mention being personally entangled in the lives of the emperor, the empress, and now his own queen, the exiled Gisel. *Lord of Emperors* also sends a new protagonist sailing into Sarantium, an unassuming country doctor who--like Caius--has found himself thrust into a position of great potential and peril, a victim of both circumstance and his own competence and moxie. The two struggle to stay afloat in Sarantium's swirling intrigues, as Valerius prepares for war in Crispin's homeland and unexplained, ghostly fires flicker around the city.

A touching, literate, and doggedly intelligent book, *Lord of Emperors* continues to prove Kay's mastery of historical fantasy (Sarantium being a well-researched analog to sixth-century Byzantium under Justinian and Theodora), as he gracefully spins a rich, convincing weave of legend and history. While other fantasy titles might have us imagine our lives as great heroes, Kay leaves a far more lasting impression by celebrating the heroics and passions of ordinary people who possess extraordinary character and spirit. --*Paul Hughes*

From [Booklist](#)

The second volume of the Sarantine Mosaic continues the adventure of the provincial mosaic-maker Crispin in the imperial capital Sarantium, a fantasy-fiction version of Byzantine Constantinople. At center stage is Crispin's involvement with Rustem of Bassania and his family, who, after saving the Bassanian emperor's life, have been sent to Sarantium as spies. (This is a reward?) When Rustem enters the city, his bodyguard is killed, and he becomes part of the circle that includes Crispin, Crispin's rescued slave-girl mistress, the exiled queen of Antae, and a fine and authentically limned lot of soldiers, chariot racers, ordinary people, and members of the imperial household. Half the fun of the book is seeing how Kay turns the Byzantine reign of Justinian and Theodora to the uses of his own story, and a good part of the rest is exploring the early history of the same fantasy universe he used in *The Lions of Al-Rassan* (1995). Kay is fulfilling the promise of *Sailing to Sarantium* (1999) magnificently. *Roland Green*

From Kirkus Reviews

This second installment of Toronto-resident Kay's latest fantasy epic, following *Sailing to Sarantium* (1999, not reviewed), brings to a conclusion the story of Crispin, the mosaicist. Desiring only to practice his art in the city that has captured his imagination, he finds he cannot remain aloof from the swirling mysteries and intrigues that sustain Sarantium. Essential reading for all Kay fans. -- *Copyright ©2000, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Destiny Hunt:

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for us to understand everything in the world. Each guide has different aim as well as goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time to read a book. They are really reading whatever they acquire because their hobby will be reading a book. Why not the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book after they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will want this Lord of Emperors: Book Two of the Sarantine Mosaic (Sarantine Mosaic (Paperback)).

Larry Brackett:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the time or they will get great deal of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , whenever we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not only a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the book you have read is actually Lord of Emperors: Book Two of the Sarantine Mosaic (Sarantine Mosaic (Paperback)).

Christine Smith:

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