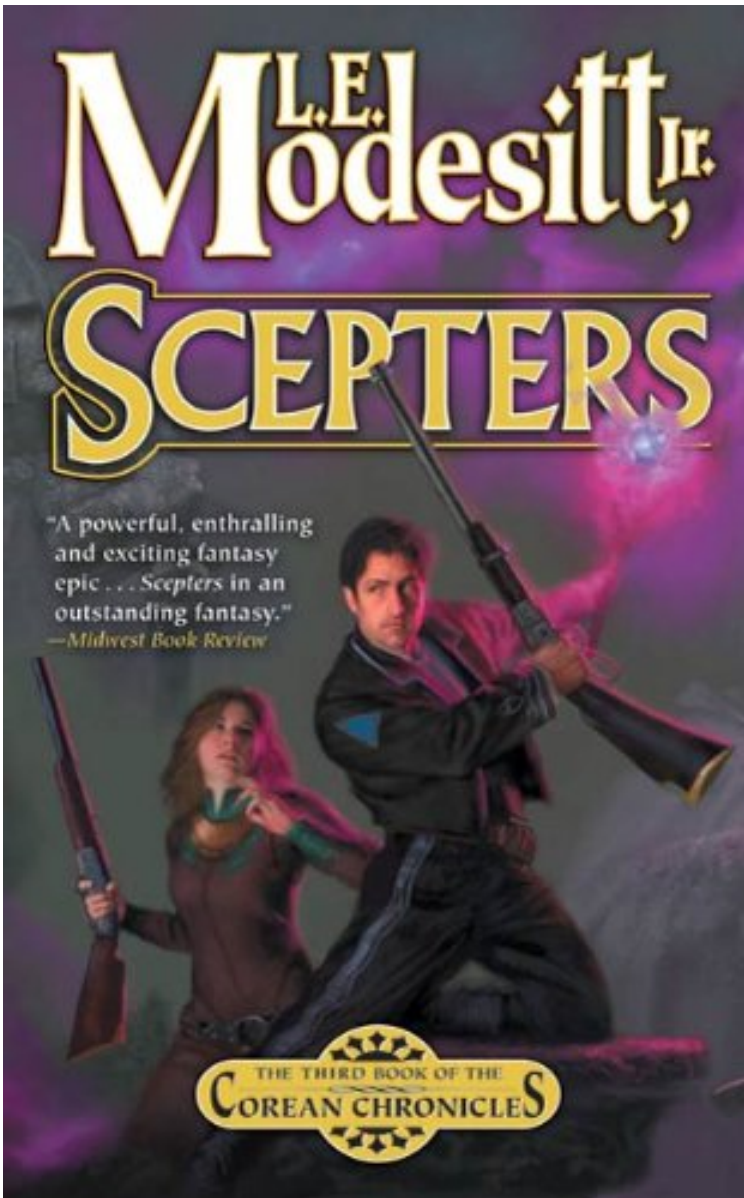


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Scepters: The Third Book of the Corean Chronicles



Par L. E. Modesitt Jr.

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Description : Description du produit from the popular creator of Recluce and the Spell-song world of Liedwahr, comes a whole new fantasy world to explore. Alucius, hero of Legacies and Dark-nesses, returns in this exciting third volume of the Corean Chronicles, to face the greatest challenges yet to both his courage and his magical Talent. Alucius is happy back on his nightsheep stead with his beloved wife Wendra, who is expecting their first child. But the country is beset by enemies-both overt and hidden-on all sides. He finds he has no choice but to answer the call to return to active duty. Newly promoted to higher rank, and given command of a combined force of the Northern and Southern Guards, Alucius must quell a strange

religiously-inspired rebellion, destroy the powerful weapons of ancient design again being used by the forces of Madrien, and confront the alien evil that seeks to enslave the whole world of Corus in the guise of bringing back a lost golden age. Only the timely assistance of the mysterious ancient Soarers and the addition of Wendra's Talent to his own give him any hope of success. *Scepters* is a stirring climax to the first Corean trilogy.

Presentation de l'auteur L. E. Modesitt, Jr., author of the bestselling *Saga of Recluce* fantasy series, opens the door into a marvelous new world. Millennia ago, a magical disaster caused the fall of a great worldwide civilization, the end of a golden age. New civilizations have fought their way up from the ancient destruction and chaos, knowing little of the lost world that preceded them or the details of its fall. Corus today is a world of contending countries, of humans, but also of strange animals and supernatural creatures. It is a place of magical powers, and of a few people who are talented enough to use them. Alucius is pulled away from his beloved wife, Wendra, and into another war. He must first quell a strange religiously-inspired rebellion and then find a way to destroy the powerful weapons of ancient design, again being used by the forces of Madrien. When a different, covert enemy threatens, only the timely assistance of the mysterious ancient Soarers and the addition of Wendra's Talent to his own, give him any hope of success. The Corean Chronicles: *Legacies*, *Darknesses*, *Scepters*, *Alectors*, *Choice*, *Cadmians*, *Choice*, *Soarers*, *Choice*, *The Lord-Protectors*, *Daughter*, *Lady-Protector*, *Other* series by this author: *The Saga of Recluce*, *Imager Portfolio*, *The Spell Song Cycle*, *The Ghost Books*, *The Ecolitan Matter*. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied. From Publishers Weekly: The concluding volume in Modesitt's Corean Chronicles trilogy (after *Legacies* and *Darknesses*), an intriguing blend of martial fantasy and SF, gets off to a slow start, then picks up steam once the vivid and inventive magic starts flying. The Lord-Protector of Lanachrona calls the supernaturally "Talented" but oh-so-reluctant hero, Alucius, back to duty as commander of the Northern and Southern Guard to quell rebels determined to reinstate the True Duarchy. Meanwhile, his beloved wife, Wendra, who's just given birth, is abducted by a mysterious Ancient One, an angelic soarer who teaches her about "the threads of life, and how they may be mended and unravelled." Wendra also learns the importance of destroying the alien ifrits, who seek to reactivate all pre-Cataclysm "Tables" (which serve as conduits between vast distances) to invade the land of Corus. Romance clearly isn't Modesitt's forte (there's a one-sentence love scene), and Wendra is a little boring until she takes her baby along to fight the ifrits, but male readers age 15 and up should enjoy the ride after they get past some tedious dialogue and superfluous military detail. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Booklist: With this volume, Modesitt concludes, at least for the nonce, the story of Alucius the nightsheep herder and his battles on the world of Corus. Although released from the military for meritorious--indeed, world-saving--service at the end of *Darknesses* [BKL S 1 03], Alucius now becomes a commanding officer for a homeland facing enemies on all sides. Madrien has reconstructed some of its deadly weapons that Alucius destroyed in *Legacies* (2002), and a strange religious movement claims to have the power to restore the glories of a legendary golden age. Even worse, secret foes aim to drain the life from all Corus to benefit aliens from another world. In the trilogy, collectively entitled the Corean Chronicles, Modesitt has portrayed Alucius' development as both man and soldier and created a world original in its details but familiar in the cussedness of its inhabitants, human and nonhuman. It's a notable achievement, best read in sequence. Frieda Murray Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved