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The Highlander (The Rise Of The Aztecs Book 1)



Synopsis

Born in the Highlands, Kuini thought his life was simple. You hunt and you fight, defending your towns against the raids of the Lowlanders and then raiding their lands in turn. His father was the Warriors' Leader, and he wanted to be just like him. Yet, Texcoco, the mighty Capital of the Lowlands, seemed incredibly beautiful, sparkling, its pyramids magnificent. A friendship with the Lowlander boy, the First Son of the Texcoco Emperor, seemed harmless in the beginning. They were just boys, and their clandestine meetings were always fun, providing great entertainment. However, on the day Kuini agrees to finally enter the magnificent city, it would all change. He expected to get into trouble, but he could not foresee the extent of the trouble and, worst of all, he did not expect to uncover hidden secrets concerning his own family.

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Customer Reviews

Zoe Saadia has a profound way of letting us see historical fiction at its best. She has a talent of opening up worlds long lost to us. In this book, Coytl and Kuini are constant companions. They try to live up to the expectations of their families, but when the great city of Texcoco tempts the boys, Coytl is dragged into an unexpected adventure with his Highlander friend. War is brewing and while the

companions feel themselves being drawn in, Kuini realizes that he is on both sides of the fighting, and also on none. This is very well written and as you follow the adventure, you step back in history in the time of the Aztecs. The details are amazingly accurate and the characters that you meet along the way all fit in the time-frame.

Almost a coming of age tale about two different boys from two different tribes. It gave some insight into how these people formed alliances with each other or tried to destroy each other. Not very different from our modern time.

Zoe Saadia sets her story in the ancient Aztec world. It was a refreshing change to read a story from a time and place most authors never venture to. The story surrounds two young men, both are sons of the leaders of their people. Their friendship is unlikely because of who they are, but it becomes stronger as the boys start to grow into men. I loved the main characters and the twists and turns of the plot. I intend to dive into the next book in the series as soon as I can.

A continuation of many of her other stories. Like the first book I read of hers, *The Young Jaguar*, this story was elegant and masterfully written. The descriptions just seem to come alive as I read the story. I am a devotee of mesoamerican cultures and I simply enjoy reading her books. Even if you do not know much about the cultures, it is still engaging and wonderfully written.

The book is an interesting read and gives a unique look at one of our past civilizations. I recommend it for those who have an interest in pre-European history.

The Aztecs and their neighbors, friendly and unfriendly, and the places where they live, can have convoluted and hard-to-remember names. As I proceeded thru the book, I jotted down each one and its significance if I knew it. This helped tremendously. The book itself was quite riveting. Although not always easy to read, I enjoyed it and would recommend it..

This book started a little slow but soon I couldn't put it down. The only problem is that I have gift the next book now to see how the characters develop further. Good for kids and adults with any interest in historical fiction regarding Mexico.

I enjoyed the story a lot, however reading through and remembering all the names and tribes and

putting them together was a little difficult for me to grasp. But keep on writing Zoe Saadia, about the Rise of the Aztecs and who knows, one day I'll catch another of your fascinating stories. I'm curious also as to where plot will lead to!

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