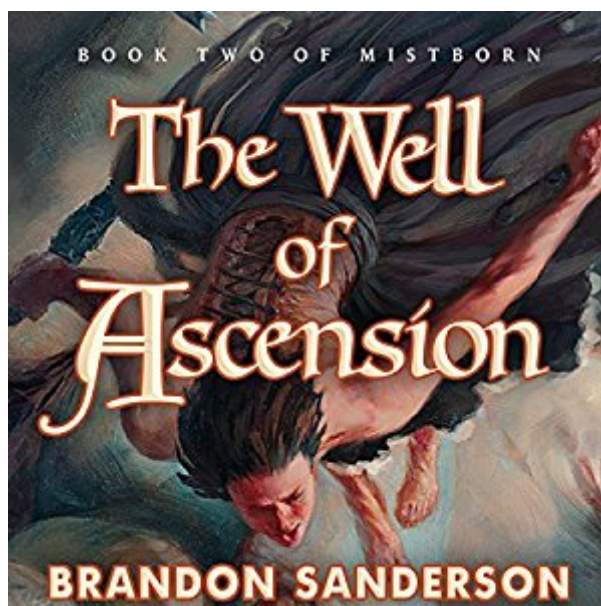


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# The Well Of Ascension: Mistborn, Book 2



## Synopsis

From #1 New York Times bestselling author Brandon Sanderson, the Mistborn series is a heist story of political intrigue and magical, martial-arts action. The impossible has been accomplished. The Lord Ruler -- the man who claimed to be god incarnate and brutally ruled the world for a thousand years -- has been vanquished. But Kelsier, the hero who masterminded that triumph, is dead too, and now the awesome task of building a new world has been left to his young protégé, Vin, the former street urchin who is now the most powerful Mistborn in the land, and to the idealistic young nobleman she loves. As Kelsier's protégé and slayer of the Lord Ruler she is now venerated by a budding new religion, a distinction that makes her intensely uncomfortable. Even more worrying, the mists have begun behaving strangely since the Lord Ruler died, and seem to harbor a strange vaporous entity that haunts her. Stopping assassins may keep Vin's Mistborn skills sharp, but it's the least of her problems. Luthadel, the largest city of the former empire, doesn't run itself, and Vin and the other members of Kelsier's crew, who lead the revolution, must learn a whole new set of practical and political skills to help. It certainly won't get easier with three armies -- one of them composed of ferocious giants -- now vying to conquer the city, and no sign of the Lord Ruler's hidden cache of atium, the rarest and most powerful allomantic metal. As the siege of Luthadel tightens, an ancient legend seems to offer a glimmer of hope. But even if it really exists, no one knows where to find the Well of Ascension or what manner of power it bestows.

Other Tor books by Brandon Sanderson

The Cosmere

The Stormlight Archive

The Way of Kings

Words of Radiance

Edgedancer (Novella)

Oathbringer (forthcoming)

The Mistborn trilogy

Mistborn: The Final Empire

The Well of Ascension

The Hero of Ages

Mistborn: The Wax and Wayne series

Alloy of Law

Shadows of Self

Bands of Mourning

Collection

Arcanum Unbounded

Other Cosmere novels

Elantris

Warbreaker

The Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians series

Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians

The Scrivener's Bones

The Knights of Crystallia

The Shattered Lens

The Dark Talent

The Rithmatist series

The Rithmatist

Other books by Brandon Sanderson

The Reckoners

Steelheart

Firefight

Calamity -- This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

While the novel felt light on any actual plot (it's a bridge book, after all), I enjoyed it even more than the first book because I actually got to start caring about the characters. The first book did a good job taking all these familiar tropes and making them do something fun, but they still felt one-dimensional to me. This book did a good job fleshing them out and making them feel more like people. Breeze has risen and rapidly become my favorite character in the Brandon Sanderson universe. I'm going to have to go with [...] Ray's review of Sanderson's last Stormlight book though, that Sanderson seems to get fairly formulaic in his plotting. I don't see that as a bad thing since knowing what's going to happen doesn't necessarily ruin my personal enjoyment of a story, but the way he's setting up his events all feels very similar. While I'm enjoying Mistborn and Stormlight, I doubt I'll pick up anything else from his universe. I don't feel I'll gain anything new.

The second book in the mistborn series accomplished everything I was hoping it would and made me immediately purchase the third book. The character development in this book is far greater than the first book and there are parts where certain characters amaze me. With that being said, I feel like there are parts that characters actions don't match their personalities. Although just a few parts, I think it unnecessary. Also unnecessary are the constant reminders of the things Vin can do. I get sucked into these intense battles explaining the sequence of moves and what's going on only to be completely taken out of the moment by the mention that Vin can pierce copper clouds or use allomancy in some different way than others. We already know, stop mentioning it a thousand times. Following along the same subject, the whole part 1 of the book is explaining the magic system and the events of book 1. Again unnecessary. If you haven't read book one of a series, don't read book 2. Even with those criticisms, the book had me in a trance reading constantly until I finished it. Several clever plot twists and touching moments. The part where Sazed chooses a religion for clubs is amazing and I don't even think most people even realize it. Overall a very good book with an

ending that'll make you pick up book 3 immediately.

-- "A man can only stumble for so long before he either falls or stands up straight." This is what I think the central theme to the entire book is. All of the characters are stumbling through their new positions and lives in a new world without the Lord Ruler. After being repressed for so long each member of Kelsier's remaining crew and Elend the new King are trying to build a better country. That in itself is hard enough but a new challenge arises when Lord Straff besieges the city in hopes of ousting his son Elend. The Well of Ascension is more of a political intrigue than Mistborn was. It is a lot harder to build up a new nation than it is to tear one down. The shift is noticeable in the pacing and although this moves along a little slower and there is less action than in Mistborn it sets up nicely. It takes a sometime for some of our characters to really grow into their roles. This is more of a thinking book than the first in the series. Elend is King, but he is struggling with the balance of power and remaining true to himself. He has great ideas but the execution of them is not going as well as he would like. -- "A man can only lead when others accept him as their leader, and he has only as much authority as his subjects give to him. All of the brilliant ideas in the world cannot save your kingdom if no one will listen to them." Elend must learn how to be a King and all the books in the world are not going to help him with that. Vin is a Mistborn but she is struggling with her place in the Kingdom. She has a strange religious following since she is the closest thing The Survivor's had to an heir. She is also seeing strange shadow in the Mist and there is another Mistborn who makes her question her role to the city and to Elend. Vin is a little lost without Kelsier, he was the closest thing to family she had and now he is gone too. The broken little girl inside her still is not sure how to trust and she has a hard time believing in herself. She and Elend are in love but Vin doesn't trust it and is sure he deserves better. They both needed this book to grow into their respective roles. Even though I got a little frustrated with them at times I understand where both came from and how both needed to grow and trust themselves before the relationship between them could become stronger. Good thing Sazed is there to be the philosophical voice of reason when we need it. -- "At first glance, the key and the lock it fits may seem very different," Sazed said. "Different in shape, different in function, different in design. The man who looks at them without knowledge of their true nature might think them opposites, for one is meant to open, and the other to keep closed. Yet, upon closer examination, he might see that without one, the other becomes useless. The wise man then sees that both lock and key were created for the same purpose." I again loved all the side characters. Sazed is always a favorite but Oresuer also took the spotlight away and I loved learning

more about the Kandra and enjoyed the budding friendship between he and Vin. Breeze was wonderful, he is such a breath of fresh air whenever he is on the page and his PoVs were enlightening. Straff is a wonderful bad guy and I wanted him dead most of the time which = great villain. There were some betrayals I saw coming and others I didn't. Sanderson does always do such a good job of keeping me guessing. Even when one thing goes right others go completely wrong and it all gets deliciously messy at times. Just because there wasn't as much action as in Mistborn doesn't mean it wasn't just as interesting. There was more magic to learn about and in true Sanderson fashion the last 20% is just packed full of suspense and action. The feelings I had were so intense. Not everyone lives, the spy was not who I thought it was and the Well of Ascension, that was a complete surprise. I totally enjoy the world and characters built here and can't wait to see how it all works out. I love that Sanderson has a way of telling a great story with fantastic characters and even when you are sure you know what will happen next, you are blissfully wrong and the story is all the better for it. It is a great achievement for any author, which is why he is one of my favorites.

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