



Flux

Kim Fielding

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Ennek, the son of Praesidium's Chief, has rescued Miner from a terrible fate: suspension in a dreamless frozen state called Stasis, the punishment for traitors. As the two men flee Praesidium by sea, their adventures are only beginning. Although they may be free from the tyranny of their homeland, new difficulties await them as Miner faces the continuing consequences of his slavery and Ennek struggles with controlling his newfound powers as a wizard. In this sequel to Stasis, the fugitives encounter challenges both human and magical as they explore new lands and their deepening relationship with each other.

Flux Details

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From Reader Review Flux for online ebook

Arthur says

The second book in the 'series with GRE words as titles.'

Flux. A fluid situation, move, flow. Contrast that to Stasis.

As the title suggest, in this story Ennek and Miner are moving a lot. From the ship that brought them out of Praesidium, pirate ship, Chinese-like civilization, and the bode of a powerful wizard.

I like reading Ennek's moral dilemma when the wizard asked him to do something. At the end, he realizes that many big things in life may require collateral damage.

The MCs are likable, and more importantly, they don't do any reversed deus ex machina (i.e., doing stupid things) to create drama.

The love between Ennek and Miner is strong, and they are partners in various aspects.

The Chinese-like civilization is nice. As are the supporting characters.

The only flux I could have less is the MCs passing out. Both Ennek and Miner seem to experience that quite often.

Jeanne 'Divinae' says

Though Miner and Ennek escape and flee their homeland, they will encounter new challenges. In book two, Miner and Ennek's relationship grows. Miner is not stuck with the bond-slave collar. The solution of getting it off is with a person who is now in Stasis. Ennek travel to another land and Ennek is learning how to control his new powers as a wizard.

Ennek and Miner meet many new people. But just as in their homeland, not everyone is trustworthy. Miner ends up striking a deal with another wizard out of desperation to save Ennek's life. All he could think about was helping Ennek and they would suffer the consequences later. Ennek and Miner end up in a tiny village with a loving, caring people. Though, the can't stay. They still have to find a way to get the collar off Miner and they have to deal with the wizard who helped Miner.

The new wizard is a tyrant. She claims a piece of land between two nations who are at odds with each other. She gives Ennek two choices, neither very pleasant, for helping them out. Ennek and Miner must travel to one of the nation's to deal with the local leader. Neither Ennek nor Miner wish to hurt anyone if it isn't needed. Ennek is still learning to harness his powers. He drains very easily when he uses them and is frightened of what will become of him.

As Miner and Ennek are facing the new threats, they think about their homeland. They both wish to return to their new homeland to help bring good changes. That is if they are able to survive these the threats?

Stephanie GooglyEyes says

Joel Leslie. that is all

MLE says

An interesting, and well developed story. The love between Ennek and Miner is rich, and watching it grow over the course of the story. I enjoy how well they compliment each other without overshadowing the other. The magic is complex, and different from many other stories. I look forward to reading the conclusion to their story, but I will be sad to see them go.

A Girl Has No Name says

Flux is following Miner and Ennek on their escape from the Keep and it is as well written as the first book in the series. The characters and their background stories are developed further and make it easy to connect to both of them. Again, a lot of dangers are waiting for the lovers and there are many ups and downs. The suspense was definitely great, however I didn't feel the connection between Miner and Ennek as strongly as in the first book. It sometimes feel very difficult to picture out their relationship. Actually, all love scenes are more or less fading into black, not even kisses or touches are described, which might be the reason for the feeling I've got. All in all, the story was interesting and I want to find out how their story ends. 3 stars!

Bookwatcher says

It's his time to tell you a story... it's all his point of view...

Miner!

This fantasy book is non stop adventure, with a skilled writing and fantastic world building!

Now, differing from the first book (Stasis), you will see through Miner's eyes. He wants to be free, from his hurts and his memories... from his fears and apprehensions... from his physical limitations after 300 years of stasis. Miner wants to be strong, feared, brave... Miner wants... to be the man Ennek deserves to have as a partner.

Miner's love for his savior, Ennek, is heartbreakingly beautiful. Everything he wants is to live his life in tranquility with Ennek by his side. But unfortunately it's not so easy... so a slave and a powerful wizard have their dream coming true.

What I search in a fantasy book/series?

A brave hero, embarking on a journey, having to battle with villains.

Did I find it in this series up to now?

Absolutely not! because I found much more... I found, two wonderful heroes, embarking on a extraordinary journey, having to battle with abhorrent villains.

yes... it's an amazing series but to now, and I can't stop. Must read the third and last statement of Ennek and Miner adventures!

because I think... Miner potential is still immense... and maybe now, after this book, he will be...

...indomitable in his fight for freedom.

5 stars

Juxian says

It was a lovely book. Fast-paced and full of adventures and dangers for Ennek and Miner. It was nice to have Miner's point of view, to learn more about him and to see Ennek from aside. Their relationship is such a joy for me as a reader. Two wonderful characters and neither is even a bit of an asshole.

The book didn't dig really deeply into my heart, though. I enjoyed it a lot but I didn't feel the breathless delight like when reading the first book. Maybe it's because the trials of Ennek and Miner were a bit repetitive - (view spoiler). Maybe it's because Miner is a rather passive character, even though a lovely one. But it lacked intensity a bit.

Still, it was interesting and sweet and I liked it very much.

Optimist ?King's Wench? & MANTIES Champion says

Heartwarming

I really love the way Kim Fielding is building this AU story. *Flux* (I'm guessing) is set in an AU version of China after Ennek and Miner have fled Praesidium. The world building isn't overwhelming because it's tempered by the continued evolution of their relationship as well as numerous adventures.

Ennek's wizarding powers are the central theme of this installment-how he uses them, how should he use them, how extensive are they and how can he control them? These powers get him and Miner both into and out of predicaments. After saving Miner from pirates using said powers he's at death's door and Miner makes a decision that puts them both at the mercy of Akilina, air wizard and despot. The "favor" she asks sets in motion more adventure and some heartbreak moments that galvanize both of them.

What I liked best about this installment was the way they interact with each other, their casual intimacy. In

Stasis I watched them fall in love but in *Flux* that are settling into a relationship and how that will work. They are opposites and sometimes that's a hard sell for me, but these two have enough in common for me to invest in them as a couple with the potential for longevity. Mine (swoony nickname is swoony) cossets En and grounds him. He's the voice of reason to En's fiery demeanor and I loved that he's always combing the tangles out of his hair, washing his hair and genuinely enjoying those tasks. His quiet strength balances En's larger than life personality. En is very animated and is quite frequently the center of attention. He's oblivious to the effect his has upon others, of course, but Mine sees it and encourages those flames to burn brighter, believes in his power to influence others, to lead.

The generosity of most of the people they come into contact with on their travels I found reaffirming even in fictional characters. That's the power of reading, I guess. Mine and En are strangers who don't speak the language yet time and again they come across people willing to provide shelter, clothing, food, work without demanding recompense. They also never experience bigotry from these people.

As the story unfolded, I found myself smiling with a warm feeling suffusing me. I'm anxious to see where these two will end up now that En has a better sense of his powers and has Mine firmly by his side.

This isn't a standalone and won't make sense without having read *Stasis*.

I would recommend this series to AU fans who are more drawn to character development and storytelling as opposed to sex and heat.

A review copy was provided in exchange for an honest opinion.

Erin says

3.5 stars

DaisyGirl says

2.5 (3.0) Struggling Stars

I struggled with this one ... and I mean struggled. Book 2 was well on its way to receiving a measly 2-star rating from me, but for Luli and her family. Sadly, there were no other redeeming characters in this f*cked up world KF has created. Book 2 was pretty depressing and I found myself considering dnf'ing it more than once.

Bottom line: The dynamic (but clueless) duo are headed back to the cess pool that was their home. Not sure why and I don't know that I care to go along for that ride. (But I probably will.)

Joyfully Jay says

A Joyfully Jay review.

3.75 stars

Flux is the direct sequel to Stasis and this series must be read in order if you want the plot to make even an iota of sense. It takes up soon after Stasis ends. Miner and Ennek are on the run, but almost from the start they are beset by problems. All in all I felt that Flux was a stronger book than Stasis, which is unusual for the second in a series. The pacing was good and the action consistent. It reads very quickly and while it lacks some of the emotive depth of Stasis (i.e. the author's horrific descriptions of life in a Stasis reality), it has a natural flow that really works.

The characters are still somewhat flat and hard to connect with, but there was growth as well, especially on the part of Miner. We learn quite a bit more about his past and as a result many of his actions start to make more sense. It's still difficult to see why Ennek cares so much for Miner as he is somewhat lacking in emotion. But at this point, they work well enough as a couple that it's easier to forget about the why and simply enjoy them together. There is, towards the end of the novel, a bit of predestination involving a brand and their status as lovers, which is over the top, but it doesn't overshadow the rest of the story.

[Read Sue's review in its entirety here.](#)

M'rella says

[So much trouble could have been avoided by removing Miner's collar. It kind of irked me all the way through the book, but then again, maybe it saved his life in Donghe, where he was to be sold as a slave, rather than ki

Morgan Skye says

Wow. Kim does not want to let these guys catch a break! Ok... That's not true. She does. But she sure makes them work for it!

We left our guys escaping from Praesidium and poor Miner having to endure living on a boat while he's terrified of water. Well, he sure overcomes that! As though it weren't enough – all they've endured – in book two our poor MCs meet Pirates, evil slave masters and yet another evil magic user!

One thing that remains and, in fact, grows stronger, for these two – their love and respect for one another. That alone makes this an amazingly touching story to experience.

Audio:

Thank goodness for the narrator change! Joel Leslie brings this series to life! From an interesting, but maybe not quite so magical story (with the narration of book one) to a fairy tale full of captivating and enthralling characters. As fits with the “fairy tale” style, Ennek and Miner are given sort of British accents that absolutely suit them. Throughout their visits they encounter various peoples and Joel gives them their own unique accents to really bring home the “travel” and “exotic” nature of this part of the series. I LOVED the accent he chose for the evil magic user near the end – Akilina – it suited her perfectly!

This is ABSOLUTELY the best way to experience this story as it really adds some color to Kim’s dark tale.

This is absolutely a must for fans of book one, and this is a series that must be read in order.

4.5 of 5 stars overall

Serena Yates says

This is the second story set in a fantasy world of city-states, strict laws that can result in magic-induced stasis for the worst criminals, and slavery as punishment for any sort of infraction the leader deems serious. Ennek is a young man who is the ruler’s second son, but does not agree with some of the laws he is supposed to help uphold. In the first installment he was fascinated by one of the men in Stasis, ended up freeing Miner, and discovered his own abilities as a wizard. After managing to escape from Praesidium, they face a world they are not familiar with, untold dangers, Miner’s battle to be free, and Ennek’s struggle with magical powers that could easily overwhelm him.

There are two things I really liked – well, that is in addition to all the action, adventure, and magic. One factor is that this part of the story is told from Miner’s point of view. I kept wondering how he sees the world while Ennek was “talking” in ‘Stasis’, and ‘Flux’ is my answer. Miner has spent three hundred years in Stasis for the crime of falling in love with a man, then trying to kill the chief who ordered his lover executed. The world has changed for him, and some of his observations and actions reflect that. He is a quiet man who knows what is right and wrong, he is deeply in love with Ennek, and while his self-confidence is low, he saves both of them more than once.

Ennek has grown significantly since the early pages of the first book. Where he was almost passive before, except when really up against the wall, circumstances now force Ennek to make some very tough decisions. He has to learn how to deal with his magical abilities, and some of the dangers they bring with them are not easy to overcome. He loves Miner more than ever and trusts him bone-deep – which turns out to be a necessary prerequisite for their very survival.

If you like fantasy worlds with lots of magic, a quest full of action, adventure, and suspense, and if you’re looking for a read about young men who have to learn how to relate to each other while facing tough obstacles and some difficult moral choices, then you will probably like this novel. I definitely look forward to the final stage of Ennek’s journey!

NOTE: This book was provided by DSP Publications for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

ttg says

#2 in the Ennek series, and free right now on Amazon. (4/3/2013) Not sure for how long though...
