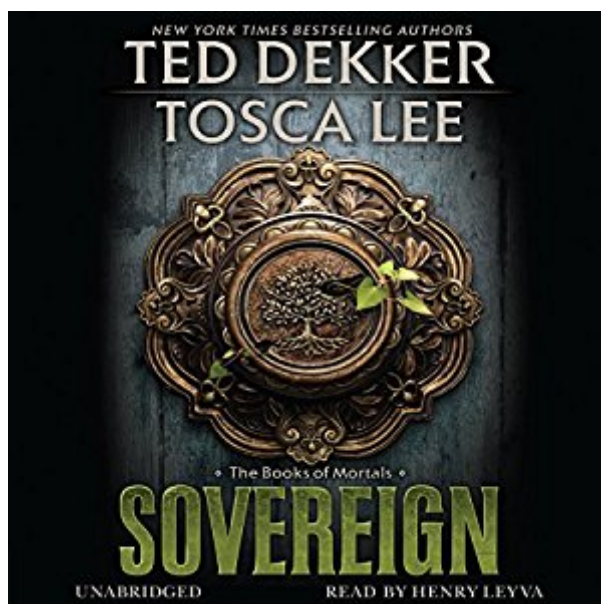


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Sovereign: The Book Of Mortals, Book 3



Synopsis

Nine years after Rom Sebastian was thrust into the most unlikely of circumstances as hero and bearer of an unimaginable secret, the alliance of his followers is in disarray. An epic battle with The Order has left them scattered and deeply divided both in strategy and resolve in their struggle to become truly alive and free. Only 49 truly alive followers remain loyal to Rom. This meager band must fight for survival as The Order is focused on their total annihilation. Misunderstood and despised, their journey will be one of desperation against a new, more intensely evil Order. As the hand of this evil is raised to strike and destroy them they must rely on their faith in the abiding power of love to overcome all and lead them to sovereignty. Sovereign wonderfully continues the new-testament allegory that was introduced in Forbidden and continued in Mortal.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Sovereign" is the 3rd and final book in Ted Dekker and Tosca Lee's "Books of Mortals" series. "Sovereign" picks up six years after the events of the second book "Mortal". Feyn is Sovereign and in the time since the last book has bred a vast army of dark blood warriors. Her desire is to eliminate both the Immortal and Sovereign people so that she can rule the world completely and uncontested. In the meantime, the Immortal people, have also flourished and stand ready to destroy any dark blood or Sovereign they come into contact with. Of the three groups, only the Sovereign have struggled. With their numbers dwindling by the day, they stand on the brink of extinction waiting for their beloved Johnathan to rescue them. "Sovereign" is much like the first two books. The plot is

fairly solid, with good progression of the story, and nice character development. What weakens this book (and the first two to a lesser extent) is that it sounds too much like Dekker's other works. The Books of Mortals is basically just a re-written version of The Circle Series. Sure, it has new characters, a new setting, and some plot differences - but anyone who has read Dekker's Circle masterwork will instantly recognize everywhere this book (and the series) is headed. I understand that this is a Christian allegory - heck, that's why I read it, but it's just too similar to the Circle to really stand apart. The scenes that describe the transformation when someone takes Jonathan's blood sound extremely similar to the "drowning" scenes from the Circle series. And when Jordin finally has her eyes opened by Jonathan near the end and he tells her that this physical world is really nothing more than a dream.....it sounded almost exactly like the explanation given in Dekker's last (and much better) book "Eyes Wide Open". The honest truth of the matter is that The Books of Mortals are not bad books by any means.....but they're not close to the magic that Dekker achieved with Black, Red, White, and Green. I believe that many fans over the years have begged Ted to "do another Circle series". I think that's exactly what he tried to give us with "Forbidden", "Mortal" and "Sovereign". He even enlisted the help of what I believe to be one of the most talented and underrated authors out there in Tosca Lee. But sometimes lightning can strike twice, and again, while these books aren't bad by any means.....they just can't live up to what is possibly the best Christian fiction series ever written.

QUICK HIT - The themes in the novel will stay with you long after you've turned the last page. And in typical Dekker fashion, although the series is over, Dekker and Lee hint that there might yet be more to come. It all began when Rom Sebastian was entrusted with a vial of blood and a cryptic message. Actually, it all began before that, when the world was nearly destroyed and to save it, an airborne virus was released that sapped humanity of all emotion, save fear. The vial of blood and the message were the keys to undoing the damage and releasing the walking dead into true life. That was nine years ago, as told in the book known as Forbidden. Rom has seen so many things since then. Salvation. Destruction. Friendship. Treachery. Life. Death. And living death. When Rom drank the blood, he found himself imbued with new life--he could feel, he was truly alive. Some time after, he discovered a boy named Jonathan, who was truly alive, and whose blood could also bring others to life. Jonathan was to be the true Sovereign, the true ruler of the world, but he was killed and his people divided. Mortal tells this story. Sovereign concludes the epic trilogy by picking up six years after Mortal concludes. Some of Jonathan's followers have understood his sacrifice and injected themselves with his spilt blood. Now imbued with a new awareness of life, characterized by

wisdom and knowledge, this small group struggles to survive in a hostile world, slowly losing hope that Jonathan will return to them. Those who rejected Jonathan's sacrifice in favor of their extended lives and heightened sensory perceptions call themselves Immortals and are led by Roland, formerly one of Rom's best friends. Lastly, there are the Dark Bloods, ruled by Feyn, who have in their veins a perverted form of emotions that makes them pure evil. As you can tell, *THE BOOKS OF MORTALS* is not for the faint of heart and *Sovereign* is not a novel that can be divorced from the previous two books in the series. Everything ties together, sometimes overtly, sometimes just implicitly, and it takes a careful eye to catch everything. Metaphors and imagery meet a fast-paced thrilling novel that serves to teach as well as entertain, to enlighten as well as enthrall, and to question as well as thrill. Yet, just like *Mortal*, I do have criticisms, about *Sovereign*. While Dekker and Lee did a good job diverting from the imagery used in Dekker's popular *Circle* series, there are times the imagery overshadows the story. There are a number of times you've left wondering why something happened a certain way (such as all the injections of blood), that aren't explained well in the book but are there for the metaphor to exist. And don't get me wrong, I love the metaphors and to me, the strength of a fantasy book lies in how it uses them, but the story must be central, and sometimes I felt that the message was pushed more than the story. That aside, *Sovereign* is an epic conclusion to what has been a solid series. Lee's lyricism combines powerfully with Dekker's plotting to create a beautifully written novel. The two authors have a definite synergy--you can't point to a part and say "This is Ted" or "This is Tosca," it truly is a collaboration. And though I felt the message was heavy-handed at times, the story that shines through it still a good one. In the end, though, *Sovereign* is a thinking person's novel. It's not a throwaway read. The themes in the novel will stay with you long after you've turned the last page. And in typical Dekker fashion, although the series is over, Dekker and Lee hint that there might yet be more to come.

This is the 3rd book in a series, the first book *Forbidden* I purchased not knowing this but by the end I couldn't wait to read *Mortal*, The last book *Sovereign* was not quite as compelling as the first two, but as it went on you couldn't wait to get to the end,, I loved the ending so clever how Mr. Decker ended it. The series is well worth reading but you must read them in order or you would be completely lost. There are alot of surprises in all 3 books I really enjoyed them. It explores how it is to not have feelings and what it is like to feel, Love Lust,, Joy, Peace, etc.. The emotion that is felt by all in the beginning of the series is Fear and other things are done without feelings. This series is not like the other Ted Dekker books I have read which tend to be on the dark side, It shows a different side to his writings.

for what it's worth, is that sovereign was kind of a let down. there were parts i really liked (not many) and parts i didn't like at all (more than i care to tell). perhaps i was expecting too much. maybe when i read the series again it will seem really good and well put together but on first reading the third book i wasn't too impressed. it was worth reading simply because it was the last of a series.

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