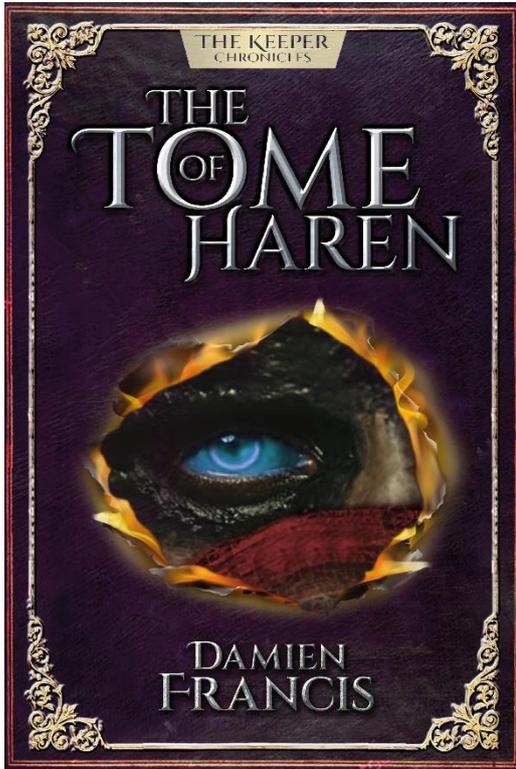


THE TOME OF HAREN

DAMIEN FRANCIS



THE TOME OF HAREN, A POWERFUL BOOK, MADE FROM MAGIC, WITH VAST STORES OF KNOWLEDGE, THAT COULD SHIFT THE BALANCE OF A WAR BREWING AT THE CITY OF NAREAN'S BORDERS...AND ONE YOUNG MAN WILL BECOME THE KEEPER FOR ALL TO SURVIVE...

The nation of Narean is vulnerable.

There hasn't been a Keeper to protect and defend its people for over 150 years.

As rumours of war grow, Narean needs a Keeper more than ever. Orphaned since birth, Aidor has no expectations for life except surviving day to day, so when a legend from old stories claims that he is to be the next Keeper, the powerful champions entrusted with defending Narean, Aidor must journey farther than he ever imagined in search of an artefact long thought lost, The Tome of Haren.

Now Aidor must contend with elite mercenaries, called Blooders, hired to retrieve the Tome for their mysterious dark master.

As the challenges mount and time draws nearer to the war to come, Aidor questions whether he can live up to the legacy of the Keepers and save the nation of Narean...

"A modern classic for lovers of awesome fantasy fiction and great characters amongst glorious backdrops of worlds within our minds...wonderful work..." Taylor, indiebook reviewer

AUTHOR BIO

Damien is an Australian author living in Canberra. He has had a love and passion for writing, reading, and telling stories since he discovered the joy of escaping into fantastical worlds from a young age.

He considers his faith, family and friends to be the most important things in the world and strives hard to honour all three.

When he's not writing, he can be found enjoying a wide variety of film, television shows, music, and video games.

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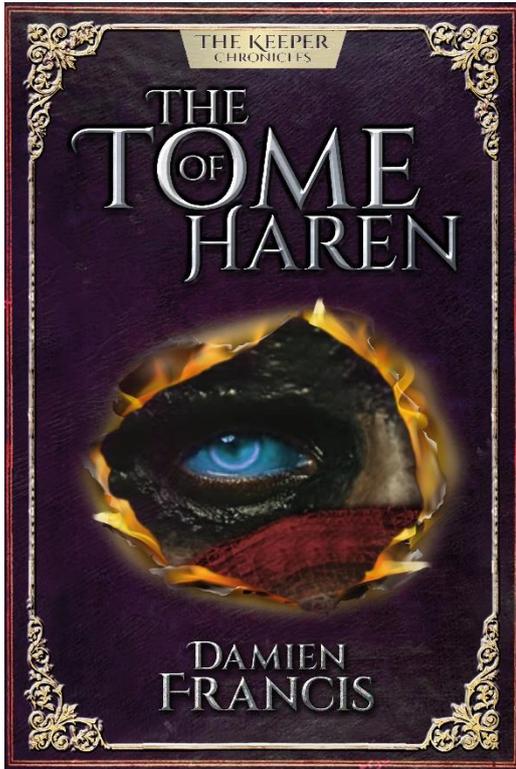
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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE 'THE TOME OF HAREN'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

Since about twelve years old, I have always wanted to write and tell stories. And fantasy was the first genre that really gripped me. From children's books like Deltora Quest by Emily Rodda to The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien, I loved fantasy. But the more I read, and the wider I read, the more I enjoyed any sort of story and I used everything I read to help influence what kind of story I wanted to tell. As I grew older, I realised I wanted to tell my own fantasy story and I started to play around with what that story might look like. It initially changed from one book to a trilogy. Then from a trilogy to five books. Then from five to seven and finally from seven books to eight. I had it all planned and plotted, including almost all of the characters. Some characters were added later as the series became more complex, I realised that the characters had to match the complexity.

This book and series is something I started while I was still very young and it has changed so much that there are only a couple of things that remain from those early ideas as a young teenager. But in essence it is the same story. I wanted to write this book and the others in the series to finish something I've been working on for such a long time of my life.

FOR WHOM DID YOU WRITE IT AND WHY?

I wrote this book for adults, particularly from the ages between 20 and 30. Even though a majority of the characters are between 16 and 17, the novel is not written for people in that age group.

It's a kind of story about beginning life as an adult and what that looks like. What responsibilities are expected of adults in society? And how are you meant to navigate parts of adulthood if you've never been taught them.

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE WHEN WRITING THE BOOK?

While there were a few major challenges while writing the book, the biggest challenge was making sure each character's point of view fit within the rest of the world's timeline and what other characters were seeing. As the novel follows six individuals, I had to make sure that everything slotted together like a perfect puzzle. But this is easier said than done and it took me a long time to make sure this was all correct.

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