



# King of Thorns (The Broken Empire)

By Mark Lawrence

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**King of Thorns (The Broken Empire)** By Mark Lawrence

**In book two of the Broken Empire trilogy, the boy who would be king has gained the throne—but the crown is a heavy weight to bear...**

At age nine, Prince Honourous Jorg Ancrath vowed to avenge his slaughtered mother and brother—and to punish his father for not doing so. At fifteen, he began to fulfill that vow. Now, at eighteen, he must fight for what he has taken by torture and treachery.

Haunted by the pain of his past, and plagued by nightmares of the atrocities he has committed, King Jorg is filled with rage. And even as his need for revenge continues to consume him, an overwhelming enemy force marches on his castle.

Jorg knows that he cannot win a fair fight. But he has found a long-hidden cache of ancient artifacts. Some might call them magic. Jorg is not certain—all he knows is that their secrets can be put to terrible use in the coming battle...

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## **King of Thorns (The Broken Empire) By Mark Lawrence Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

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It's been four years since Prince Jorg avenged his mother's death by killing his uncle and taking his throne. In that time, the young prince has matured mentally and physically and has prepared his small mountain kingdom for war. Opening with the arrival of an army of more than 20,000 soldiers and Jorg's hasty wedding to a young princess, the novel is split between the war in the present and lengthy flashbacks to earlier years; the source of the flashbacks is a mysterious copper box that Jorg keeps with him at all times. The box, which holds the king's memories, is designed to keep his past safe from his dream-walking enemies. Lawrence masterfully builds tension here, using the few frantic days of battle as the framework for his larger story. Readers who first met Jorg in *Prince of Thorns* (2011) will cheer for the return of one of fantasy's most violent, yet strangely likable, antiheroes, and those new to his story will find it easy enough to start here (but they will be eager to jump back to book 1). Set hundreds of years in the future after a disaster ended the time of the Builders, this is epic fantasy only lightly touched by science fiction, and the combination of dark fantasy, male characters, and plenty of violence makes it a perfect read-alike for fans of Brent Weeks and Joe Abercrombie. --Jessica Moyer

Review

"Definitely a series that will hit with a bang."

*Falcata Times*

"Mark Lawrence's wonderful prose is vivid without being flowery, succinct without being plain. He pulls you in and doesn't let go."

*New York Times* bestselling author Peter V. Brett

About the Author

**Mark Lawrence** is a research scientist working on artificial intelligence. He is a dual national with both British and American citizenship, and has held secret-level clearance with both governments. At one point, he was qualified to say, "This isn't rocket science—oh wait, it actually is." He is the author of the Broken Empire trilogy (*Prince of Thorns*, *King of Thorns*, and *Emperor of Thorns*), the Red Queen's War trilogy (*Prince of Fools*, *The Liar's Key*, and *The Wheel of Osheim*) and the Book of the Ancestor series (*Red Sister*).

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