

Jhereg Vlad Taltos 1 Steven Brust

The first seven of Steven Brust's Vlad Taltos novels have long been in print from Ace Books in a set of three trade paperback omnibuses. In Spring 2011, Tor put the next two Vlad books, *Dragon* and *Issola*, into print as a trade paperback entitled *The Book of Dragon*. Now we continue with the next two, collecting the New York Times-bestselling *Dzur* and *Jhegaala* into *The Book of Dzur*. In *Dzur*, Vlad is back in the great city of Adrilankha, with a price on his head. The rackets he used to run are now under the control of the mysterious "Left Hand of the Jhereg"—a cabal of women who report to no man. His ex-wife needs his help. His old enemies aren't sure whether they want to kill him, or talk to him and then kill him. A goddess appears to be playing tricks with his memory. And the Great Weapon he's carrying appears to have plans of its own.... In *Jhegaala*, Vlad decides to hide out among his relatives in faraway Fenario, in a papermaking town called Burz. At first it's not such a bad place, though the mill reeks to high heaven. But the longer he stays there, the stranger it becomes. Then a grisly murder takes place. And in its wake, far from Dragaera, without his usual organization working for him, Vlad has to do his sleuthing amidst an alien people...his own. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Okay, so maybe I've been living in the woods too long, where you can't even get a decent cup of klava first thing in the morning. So who should turn up but Lady Teldra, the courtly servant of my old friend the Dragonlord Morrolan? Teldra wants my help, because Morrolan and Alieria have disappeared, and according to Sethra Lavode, it looks like they may be in the hands of the Jenoine. Do I want to mess with them? The guys who made this place? And I thought I had problems before... Oh well, what's a little cosmic battle with beings who control time and space? It's better than hunkering down in the woods without even so much as a drinkable cup of klava. In *Issola*, Stephen Brust delivers another swashbuckling fantasy adventure for Vlad Taltos. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Over a millennium ago, Erna, a seismically active yet beautiful world was settled by colonists from far-distant Earth. But the seemingly habitable planet was fraught with perils no one could have foretold. The colonists found themselves caught in a desperate battle for survival against the fae, a terrifying natural force with the power to prey upon the human mind itself, drawing forth a person's worst nightmare images or most treasured dreams and indiscriminately giving them life. Twelve centuries after fate first stranded the colonists on Erna, mankind has achieved an uneasy stalemate, and human sorcerers manipulate the fae for their own profit, little realizing that demonic forces which feed upon such efforts are rapidly gaining in strength. Now, as the hordes of the dark fae multiply, four people—Priest, Adept, Apprentice, and Sorcerer—are about to be drawn inexorably together for a mission which will force them to confront an evil beyond their imagining, in a conflict which will put not only their own lives but the very fate of humankind in jeopardy.

House Jhereg, Dragaera's organized crime syndicate, is still hunting Vlad Taltos. There's a big price on his head on Draegara City. Then he hears disturbing news. Alieria—longtime friend, sometime ally—has been arrested by the Empire on a charge of practicing elder sorcery, a capital crime. It doesn't make sense. Everybody knows Alieria's been dabbling in elder sorcery for ages. Why is the Empire down on her now? Why aren't her powerful friends—Morrolan, Sethra, the Empress Zerika—coming to her rescue? And most to the point, why has she utterly refused to do anything about her own defense? It would be idiotic of Vlad to jump into this situation. He's a former Jhereg who betrayed the House. He's an Easterner—small, weak, short-lived. He's being searched for by the most remorseless killers in the world. Naturally, that's

exactly why he's going to get completely involved... In Iorich, Steven Brust has crafted a complex and intriguing Vlad Taltos adventure. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Staying just one step ahead of the government factions and magical family conspiracy that want him dead, James Cobham embarks on an adventure that takes him into every corner of mid-nineteenth-century English society. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.

Once the legendary knights of the Gabala defended the nine duchies. Their hearts were beautiful; their armor was beyond compare. They were greater than princes, more than men. But they were gone, disappeared through a demon-haunted gateway between worlds. Only one held back -- Manannan, whose every instinct told him to stay. Now he was the coward knight, and in torment. Murder and black magic beset the land. Rumors circulated that the king was enchanted, changed, that his soul was dead . . . and that a reign of terror was about to begin. Now Manannan realized he would have to face his darkest fears: he had no choice but to ride through that dreaded gate and seek out his vanished companions. And the secret he would learn there would tear his soul apart "A sharp, distinctive medieval fantasy. Dramatic, colorful, taut." -- Locus

The first three fantastical adventures of assassin Vlad Taltos—now in one volume. A welcome addition to any fantasy fan's library, *The Book of Jhereg* follows the antics of the wise-cracking Vlad Taltos and his dragon-like companion through their first three adventures—*Jhereg*, *Yendi*, and *Teckla*. There are many ways for a young man with quick wits and a quick sword to advance in the world. Vlad Taltos chose the route of assassin. From his rookie days to his selfless feats of heroism, the dauntless Vlad will hold readers spellbound—and *The Book of Jhereg* will take its place among the classic compilations in fantasy.

A snarky, irreverent tale of secret magic in the modern world, the first solo standalone novel in two decades from Steven Brust, the New York Times bestselling author of the Vlad Taltos series "Delightful, exciting, and sometimes brilliant." —Neil Gaiman on Steven Brust Donovan was shot by a cop. For jaywalking, supposedly. Actually, for arguing with a cop while black. Four of the nine shots were lethal—or would have been, if their target had been anybody else. The Foundation picked him up, brought him back, and trained him further. "Lethal" turns out to be a relative term when magic is involved. When Marci was fifteen, she levitated a paperweight and threw it at a guy she didn't like. The Foundation scooped her up for training too. "Hippie chick" Susan got well into her Foundation training before they told her about the magic, but she's as powerful as Donovan and Marci now. They can teleport themselves thousands of miles, conjure shields that will stop bullets, and read information from the remnants of spells cast by others days before. They all work for the secretive Foundation...for minimum wage. Which is okay, because the Foundation are the good guys. Aren't they?

Fantasy-roman.

Steven Brust's first three novels featuring assassin Vlad Taltos and his jhereg companion were collected in one volume as *The Book of Jhereg*. *The Book of Taltos* continues the adventure with books four and five in the series -*Taltos* and *Phoenix*. Vlad Taltos is an assassin unlike no other. Not only is he quick with a sword, but he also possesses a gift for witchcraft conjuring. The latest addition to his already formidable arsenal is a leathery-winged jhereg who shares a telepathic link with Vlad -making him twice as deadly The adventures chronicled in *Taltos* and *Phoenix* find Vlad accepting a job in the Land of the Dead, but a living human being cannot walk the paths of the dead and return, alive, to the land of men. Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on your point of view), the Demon Goddess is willing to rescue him - if Vlad is willing to grant her a favor in return.

Granted, walking around with two jhereg on your shoulders is not the best disguise for an ex-assassin wanted all over the Empire. But a

young boy saved his life and then needs help, Vlad Taltos pays his debt--even if it means uncovering a financial scandal big enough to bring down the House of the Orca and the entire Empire.

The long-awaited sequel to *The Phoenix Guards* and *Five Hundred Years After* Two hundred years after Adron's Disaster, in which Dragaera City was accidentally reduced to an ocean of chaos by an experiment in wizardry gone wrong, the Empire isn't what it used to be. Deprived at a single blow of their Emperor, of the Orb that is the focus of the Empire's power, of their capital city with its Imperial bureaucracy, and of a great many of their late fellow citizens, the surviving Dragaerans have been limping through a long Interregnum, bereft even of the simple magic and sorcery they were accustomed to use in everyday life. Now the descendants and successors of the great adventurers Khaavren, Pel, Aerich, and Tazendra are growing up in this seemingly diminished world, convinced, like their elders, that the age of adventures is over and nothing interesting will ever happen to them. They are, of course, wrong For even deprived of magic, Dragaerans fight, plot, and conspire as they breathe, and so do their still-powerful gods. The enemies of the Empire prowl at its edges, inscrutable doings are up at Dzur Mountain...and, unexpectedly, a surviving Phoenix Heir, young Zerika, is discovered—setting off a chain of swashbuckling events that will remake the world yet again. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Book of Jhereg Penguin

Vietnam 1967. Something monstrous has risen from the ashes of war... When the US marines enter the hidden village of Mau Giang, they unleash an ancient darkness from within its temple walls. A fearful secret kept for generations by the native Montagnard tribespeople.

Abraham Curtis travels to Vietnam to visit his sister Jenny, an aid worker in Saigon. Together they join a humanitarian convoy into the Central Highlands, where Jenny is to adopt a child orphaned by the conflict. But the influence of the breached temple is spreading its contagion across the combat zones of Vietnam like gangrene through flesh, and soon it will destroy Bram's world. Pursued by a bloodthirsty cult, he must search for his missing sister through the war-torn wastelands, his only companions deserters, rebel soldiers and a woman who may not be quite human. Across the world, protestors line the streets. The battle lines are drawn - war and peace, hawk or dove. Is this the apocalyptic coming of the Man of Blood, prophesied by Nostradamus?

Eli Monpress is talented. He's charming. And he's a thief. But not just any thief. He's the greatest thief of the age - and he's also a wizard. And with the help of his partners - a swordsman with the most powerful magic sword in the world but no magical ability of his own, and a demonseed who can step through shadows and punch through walls - he's going to put his plan into effect. The first step is to increase the size of the bounty on his head, so he'll need to steal some big things. But he'll start small for now. He'll just steal something that no one will miss - at least for a while. Like a king.

A member of a secret near-immortal society dedicated to slowly making the world a better place faces wrenching choices during a gathering in Las Vegas, where the survival of the society and the fate of the world has been put at risk by the increasingly unstable woman he loved. Co-written by the best-selling author of *Dzur*.

The time is the Beginning. The place is Heaven. The story is the Revolt of the Angels—a war of magic, corruption and intrigue that could destroy the universe. To Reign in Hell was Steven Brust's second novel, and it's a thrilling retelling of the revolt of the angels, through the lens of epic fantasy. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Chance and the reader's decisions will determine whether Hargen, a Dzurlord, can unravel the conspiracy behind the attempt to murder him.

Vlad Taltos tells the story of his early days in the House Jhereg, how he found himself in a Jhereg war, and how he fell in love with the wonderful woman, Yendi, who killed him.

Fresh from the collapse of his marriage, and with the criminal Jhereg organization out to eliminate him, Vlad decides to hide out among his relatives in faraway Fenario. All he knows about them is that their family name is Meress and that they live in a papermaking industrial town called Burz. At first Burz isn't such a bad place, though the paper mill reeks to high heaven. But the longer he stays there, the stranger it becomes. No one will tell him where to find his relatives. Even stranger, when he mentions the name Meress, people think he's threatening them. The witches' coven that every Fenarian town and city should have is nowhere in evidence. And the Guild, which should be protecting the city's craftsmen and traders, is an oppressive, all-powerful organization, into which no tradesman would ever be admitted. Then a terrible thing happens. In its wake, far from Draegara, without his usual organization working for him, Vlad is going to have to do his sleuthing amidst an alien people: his own. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

"In Dragon, Vlad finds himself in the last place any self-respecting assassin wants to be: the army. Worse, he's in the middle of an apocalyptic battle between two sorcerous armies, and everyone expects him to perform a role that they won't explain."

Vlad Taltos, sorcerer, sometime witch, and former assassin, and his faithful jhereg take on the biggest hitters of the House of the Jhereg. Original.

Full of swordplay, peril, and swashbuckling flair, New York Times bestselling author Steven Brust's fantasy series follows Vlad Taltos, a short-statured, short-lived human in an Empire of tall, long-lived Dragaerans. A Vlad Taltos Collection discounted ebundle includes: Dragon, Issola, Dzur, Jhegaala, Iorich, Tiassa, Hawk, Vallista "Watching [Brust] untangle the diverse threads of intrigue, honor, character and mayhem from amid the gears of a world as intricately constructed as a Swiss watch is a rare pleasure." --Roger Zelazny Vlad Taltos Series 1. Jhereg 2. Yendi 3. Teckla 4. Taltos 5. Phoenix 6. Athyra 7. Orca 8. Dragon 9. Issola 10. Dzur 11. Jhegaala 12. Iorich 13. Tiassa 14. Hawk 15. Vallista At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Steven Brust's first three novels featuring assassin Vlad Taltos and his jhereg companion were collected in one volume as The Book of Jhereg. The Book of Taltos continues the adventure with books four and five in the series—Taltos and Phoenix. Vlad Taltos is an assassin unlike no other. Not only is he quick with a sword, but he also possesses a gift for

witchcraft conjuring. The latest addition to his already formidable arsenal is a leathery-winged jhereg who shares a telepathic link with Vlad—making him twice as deadly... The adventures chronicled in Taltos and Phoenix find Vlad accepting a job in the Land of the Dead, but a living human being cannot walk the paths of the dead and return, alive, to the land of men. Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on your point of view), the Demon Goddess is willing to rescue him—if Vlad is willing to grant her a favor in return...

The first seven of Steven Brust's Vlad Taltos fantasy novels have long been in print from Ace Books in a set of three trade paperback omnibuses. Now Tor, publisher of the series from book eight on, continues the series of omnibuses with *The Book of Dragon*, which includes *Dragon* and *Issola*. In *Dragon*, Vlad finds himself in the last place any self-respecting assassin wants to be: the army. Worse, he's in the middle of an apocalyptic battle between two sorcerous armies, and everyone expects him to perform a role that they won't explain. Vlad may kill people for a living, but this is ridiculous. All he's got to rely on are his wits...and a smart-mouthed winged lizard. In *Issola*, Vlad's aristocratic friends Morrolan and Alieria have disappeared, and according to the eldritch (but affable) Sethra Lavode, they may be in the hands of the Jenoine—the mysterious beings who made the world of the Dragaera Empire and its surroundings, and who may have come from somewhere else. Oh, well, what's life without the occasional cosmic battle with beings who control time and space? At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Years ago, Vlad Taltos came to make his way as a human amidst the impossibly tall, fantastically long-lived natives of the Dragaeran Empire. He joined the Jhereg, the Dragaeran House (of which there are seventeen) that handles the Empire's vices: gambling, rackets, organized crime. He became a professional assassin. He was good at it. But that was then, before Vlad and the Jhereg became mortal enemies. For years, Vlad has run from one end of the Empire to the other, avoiding the Jhereg assassins who pursue him. Now, finally, he's back in the imperial capital where his family and friends are. He means to stay there this time. Whatever happens. And whatever it takes. Hawk is the latest in Steven Brust's New York Times bestselling Vlad Taltos series. "Watch Steven Brust. He's good. He moves fast. He surprises you. Watching him untangle the diverse threads of intrigue, honor, character and mayhem from amid the gears of a world as intricately constructed as a Swiss watch is a rare pleasure." —Roger Zelazny At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Vlad Taltos, an assassin, takes the side of the Teckla, peasants who are in revolt against the Empire and his own family, the House of Jhereg.

In which Vlad Taltos finds himself, much to his surprise, at the fateful Battle of Baritt's Tomb Marching through mud just isn't as much fun as they say. After years of surviving in Adrilankha by practicing the trade he knows best—killing people for a living—suddenly Vlad Taltos finds himself in the last place any self-respecting assassin wants to be: the army. Worse, he's right in the middle of a apocalyptic battle between two sorcerous armies, and everyone expects him to play a role they won't explain. All Vlad's got between him and the worst kind of death is his wits. Oh, and a smart-mouthed winged lizard... *Dragon* is Steven Brust at

his best—a swashbuckling fantasy adventure. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

From the vaults of Dragaeran history and the mind of master fantasist Steven Brust—a tale of betrayal and vengeance that is not at all a retelling of *The Count of Monte Cristo* Reader, you will undoubtedly have had the misfortune of consuming the rotten fruit of fallacies that we—Paarfi of Roundwood (esteemed historian of House of Hawk and exquisite artisan of truths)—“borrow” our factual recount of Dragaeran history from some obscure fellow who goes by the name *Al Dumas* or some silly nomenclature of that nature. The salacious claims that *The Baron of Magister Valley* bears any resemblance to a certain nearly fictional narrative about an infamous count are unfounded (we do not dabble in tall tales. The occasional moderately stretched? Yes. But never tall). Our tale is that of a nobleman who is betrayed by those he trusted, and subsequently imprisoned. After centuries of confinement, he contrives to escape and prepares to avenge himself against his betrayers. A mirror image of *The Count of Monte Cristo*, vitrolic naysayers still grouse? Well, that is nearly and utterly false. Also by Paarfi of Roundwood: *The Khaavren Romances* 1. *The Phoenix Guards* 2. *Five Hundred Years After* 3. *The Paths of the Dead (The Viscount of Adrilankha I)* 4. *The Lorde of Castle Black (The Viscount of Adrilankha II)* 5. *Sethra Lavode (The Viscount of Adrilankha III)* At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Vlad Taltos est un Oriental, autant dire un rien du tout dans la cité d'Adrilankha dirigée par les Dragaeran, créatures quasi immortelles aux ancêtres reptiliens. Pourtant, il est parvenu à intégrer la Maison Jherég, moins regardante sur ses origines humaines, et où ses talents d'assassin et sa pratique de la sorcellerie font merveille. Mais la mission qui vient de lui être confiée pourrait bien être la dernière : tuer un ex-grand conseiller de la Maison Jherég réfugié chez un noble de la Maison du Dragon. Pris entre les feux de ces deux grandes Maisons, ennemis ancestraux prêts à déclencher une guerre de plus de cinq cents ans, Taltos risque de ne pas peser très lourd. Premier volume des *Aventures de Vlad Taifas*, l'oeuvre la plus connue de l'auteur - une dizaine de volumes écrits à ce jour, pouvant se lire indépendamment -, Jherég est un livre haletant, plein d'humour, mêlant habilement les codes de la fantasy et du roman noir.

In which Vlad Taltos confronts the Left Hand of the Jherég...and discovers the game has more players than he thought Vlad Taltos, short-statured, short-lived human in an Empire of tall, long-lived Dragaerans, has always had to keep his wits about him. Long ago, he made a place for himself as a captain of the Jherég, the noble house that runs the rackets in the great imperial city of Adrilankha. But love, revolution, betrayal, and revenge ensued, and for years now Vlad has been a man on the run, struggling to stay a step ahead of the Jherég who would kill him without hesitation. Now Vlad's back in Adrilankha. The rackets he used to run are now under the control of the mysterious "Left Hand of the Jherég"—a secretive cabal of women who report to no man. His ex-wife needs his help. His old enemies aren't sure whether they want to kill him, or talk to him and then kill him. A goddess may be playing tricks with his memory. And the Great Weapon he's carrying seems to have plans of its own... Picking up directly where *Issola* left off, *Dzur* gives us Vlad Taltos at his best—swashbuckling storytelling with a wry and gritty edge. At the Publisher's

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Bastard's Eve is a night of celebration for most residents in the canal city of Lodi—but not for sorcerer Learned Penric and his Temple demon Desdemona, who find themselves caught up in the affairs of a shiplost madman, a dangerous ascendant demon, and a very unexpected saint of the fifth god. This novella falls between Penric's Fox and Penric's Mission in the internal chronology of the Penric & Desdemona tales.

The Book of Jhereg and The Book of Taltos collected the first five novels of Steven Brust's highly imaginative fantasy series that Locus praised as "entertaining and worth reading." The Book of Athyra features books six and seven in the series—Athyra and Orca. Vlad Taltos is a sorcerer and assassin without peer—as deadly at spell casting as he is with sword wielding. Accompanying him on his journeys are two leathery-winged jhereg who share a telepathic link with Vlad—and triple his chances against even the most powerful of enemies... In Athyra, Vlad finds he's ready to retire himself and his jhereg companions, but the biggest hitters of the House of the Jhereg have something else in mind. In Orca, Vlad must repay a debt to a boy who saved his life—even if it means breaking a financial scandal big enough to bring down the House of the Orca, and possibly the entire Empire...

Khaavren of the House of Tiassa is a son of landless nobility, possessor of a good sword and "tolerably well-acquainted with its use." Along with three loyal friends, he enthusiastically seeks out danger and excitement. But in a realm renowned for repartee and betrayals, where power is as mutable as magic, a young man like Khaavren, newly come from the countryside, had best be wary. His life depends on it. And so does the future of Draegara. Set in the same world as Stephen Brust's beloved Vlad Taltos books, The Phoenix Guards is a fantasy rewrite of The Three Musketeers—a swashbuckling tale of adventure. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Back in print after a decade, Brokedown Palace is a stand-alone fantasy in the world of Steven Brust's bestselling Vlad Taltos novels. Once upon a time...far to the East of the Dragaeran Empire, four brothers ruled in Fenario: King Laszlo, a good man—though perhaps a little mad; Prince Andor, a clever man—though perhaps a little shallow; Prince Vilmos, a strong man—though perhaps a little stupid; and Prince Miklos, the youngest brother, perhaps a little—no, a lot—stubborn. Once upon a time there were four brothers—and a goddess, a wizard, an enigmatic talking stallion, a very hungry dragon—and a crumbling, broken-down palace with hungry jhereg circling overhead. And then... At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

In which our heroes are reunited a mere five centuries later... just in time for an uprising that threatens to destroy the Imperial Orb itself! This is the story of the conspiracy against the Empire that begins in the mean streets of the Underside and flourishes in the courtly politics of the Palace where Khaavren has loyally served in the Guards this past half-millennium. It is the tale of the Dragonlord Adron's overweening schemes, of his brilliant daughter Alieria, and of the eldritch Sethra Lavode. And it is the tale of four boon companions, of love, and of revenge...a tale from the history of Dragaera, of the events that changed the world. This action-packed fantasy epic continues the story of The Phoenix Guards, from bestselling author Steven Brust. At the Publisher's

request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Full of swordplay, peril, and swashbuckling flair, Steven Brust's Vallista is a treat for longtime fans of this popular fantasy series, a deep dive into the mysteries of Dragaera and all within it. Vlad Taltos is an Easterner—an underprivileged human in an Empire of tall, powerful, long-lived Dragaerans. He made a career for himself in House Jhereg, the Dragaeran clan in charge of the Empire's organized crime. But the day came when the Jhereg wanted Vlad dead, and he's been on the run ever since. He has plenty of friends among the Dragaeran highborn, including an undead wizard and a god or two. But as long as the Jhereg have a price on his head, Vlad's life is...messy. Meanwhile, for years, Vlad's path has been repeatedly crossed by Devera, a small Dragaeran girl of indeterminate powers who turns up at the oddest moments in his life. Now Devera has appeared again—to lead Vlad into a mysterious, seemingly empty manor overlooking the Great Sea. Inside this structure are corridors that double back on themselves, rooms that look out over other worlds, and—just maybe—answers to some of Vlad's long-asked questions about his world and his place in it. If only Devera can be persuaded to stop disappearing in the middle of his conversations with her... Vlad Taltos Series 1. Jhereg 2. Yendi 3. Teckla 4. Taltos 5. Phoenix 6. Athyra 7. Orca 8. Dragon 9. Issola 10. Dzur 11. Jhegala 12. Iorich 13. Tiassa 14. Hawk 15. Vallista At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Continuing the swashbuckling epic begun in *The Paths of the Dead Journeys!* Intrigues! Sword fights! Young persons having adventures! Beloved older characters having adventures, too! Quests! Battles! Romance! Snappy dialogue! Extravagant food! And the missing heir to the Imperial Throne! In the swashbuckling, extravagant manner of *The Phoenix Guards*, *Five Hundred Years After*, and *The Paths of the Dead*, this is an old-fashioned adventure--moving at a twenty-first-century pace. The Interregnum is over. To everyone's astonishment, Zerika, a very young Phoenix, has coolly emerged from the Paths of the Dead, carrying with her the Orb, which everyone had thought was lost in Adron's Disaster. The Orb is the heart of the Dragaeran Empire, the source of all its magic--and the infallible sign that Zerika is the new Empress. But not everyone is happy to hear the news. It's been 250 years since Adron's Disaster, and power vacuums never stay that way for long. Kâna, a Dragonlord, has been expanding his holdings. He now controls almost half the area that was once the Empire -- in effect, the Empire re-created, with himself on the throne. Among those opposing him is a young Dragonlord named Morrolan - the same Morrolan familiar to every reader of the Vlad Taltos adventures. Until recently, Morrolan was an orphan raised among Easterners, unaware of his lineage, but it has belatedly come to his attention that he's a high-ranking Dragonlord, and now he means to act like one. And from Sethra Lavode he has received a gift of immense significance and power: Blackwand, a magical artifact in the form of a sword. He'll find plenty to do with it. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Brust presents the latest novel in his "New York Times"-bestselling Vlad Taltos series.

Cowboy Feng's Space Bar and Grille serves the best matzoh ball soup in the Galaxy, and hires some of the best musicians you'll ever hear. It's a great place to visit, but it tends to move around—just one step ahead of whatever mysterious conspiracy is reducing whole worlds to radioactive ash. And Cowboy Feng's may be humanity's last hope for survival. Steven Brust's time-

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traveling, science fiction thriller is a rollicking, fun read. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

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