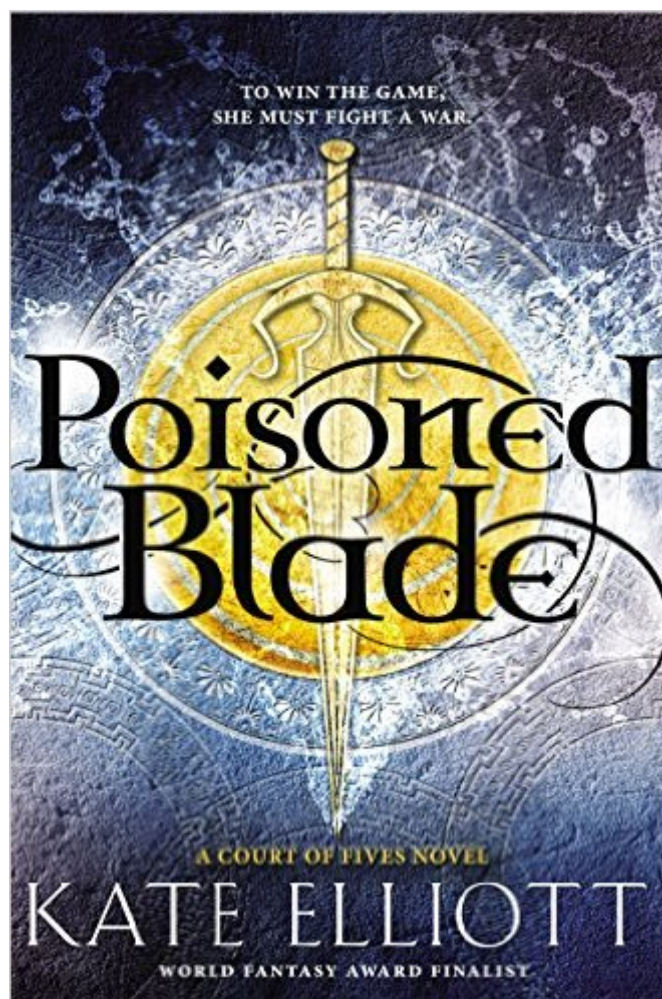


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Poisoned Blade (Court Of Fives)



Synopsis

In this thrilling sequel to World Fantasy Award finalist Kate Elliott's captivating young adult debut, a girl immersed in high-stakes competition holds the fate of a kingdom in her hands. Now a Challenger, Jessamy is moving up the ranks of the Fives--the complex athletic contest favored by the lowliest Commoners and the loftiest Patrons alike. Pitted against far more formidable adversaries, success is Jes's only option, as her prize money is essential to keeping her hidden family alive. She leaps at the chance to tour the countryside and face more competitors, but then a fatal attack on her traveling party puts Jes at the center of the war that Lord Kalliarkos--the prince she still loves--is fighting against their country's enemies. With a sinister overlord watching her every move and Kal's life on the line, Jes must now become more than a Fives champion.... She must become a warrior.

Book Information

Series: Court of Fives (Book 2)

Hardcover: 480 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (August 16, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316344370

ISBN-13: 978-0316344371

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.5 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #57,757 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice & Racism](#) #72 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports](#) #81 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism](#)

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Poisoned Blade by Kate Elliott is the sequel to Court of Fives. It's a similar series to that of Hunger Games, in regards to the lower class participating in a dangerous game that the elite take delight in observing. Let's start by saying this book is filled with plots within plots. All of them were not fleshed out, and some were kind of confusing when it came to characters involved. Also, not all of them

were resolved in this book, which is fine since there will be another book. One major plot is the plot with Gargaron and Jessamy. He has trapped her to his will by making her the face of Gargaron Palace as the newest Challenger adversary. Jessamy has spice and flare in the Court of Fives, and her dual identity as an Efean which is the lower class, and as a nobleman's daughter has the benefit to appeal to a wide range of people. In this plot we see Jessamy grow as a character and gain much of her voice. She tests the boundaries Gargaron has forced upon her and she finds ways to undermine him. For example, saving her mother and sisters from death when Gargaron left them to die in a tomb. Jessamy begins to see the power she has by being a popular adversary on the Court and the way her heritage influences people's perception of her. We don't see much of Prince Killiarkos which I honestly didn't mind. One thing I'm not totally sold on is their romance. Elliott can do a better job with making me love them as a couple. Killiarkos is upset at Jessamy for winning against him in the Court of Fives, which elevated her to the status of a challenger, and in turn caused him to be put in the military, which Gargaron ordered. I understand his anger but his anger coupled with his long absence in the book made me lose interest in him.

Review posted on The Eater of Books! blogPoisoned Blade by Kate ElliottBook Two of the Court of Fives trilogyPublisher: Little, Brown Books for Young ReadersPublication Date: August 16, 2016Rating: 4 starsSource: ARC sent by the publisherSummary (from Goodreads):Jessamy is moving up the ranks of the Fivesâ "the complex athletic contest favored by the lowliest Commoners and the loftiest Patrons in her embattled kingdom. Pitted against far more formidable adversaries, success is Jes's only option, as her prize money is essential to keeping her hidden family alive. She leaps at the chance to tour the countryside and face more competitors, but then a fatal attack on Jes's traveling party puts her at the center of the war that Lord Kalliarkosâ "the prince she still lovesâ "is fighting against their country's enemies. With a sinister overlord watching her every move and Kal's life on the line, Jes must now become more than a Fives champion...She must become a warrior.What I Liked:Wow! I'm pretty sure I liked this even more than I liked Court of Fives, which I really enjoyed. I remember feeling a little unsure about Court of Fives last year, if I should read it or not. I did read it and I liked it, and as it would turn out, the sequel was even better!At the end of Court of Fives, Jessamy beats Prince Kalliarkos to become a Challenger, which moves her up in the ranks of the Fives. By doing so, she betrays Kal, forcing him into a role in the army that she knew he wanted to avoid. Their relationship lies in ruins, and he leaves with her father to fight in the war. Jes continues to run the Fives, and she must garner enough attention and favor to continue to be successful.

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