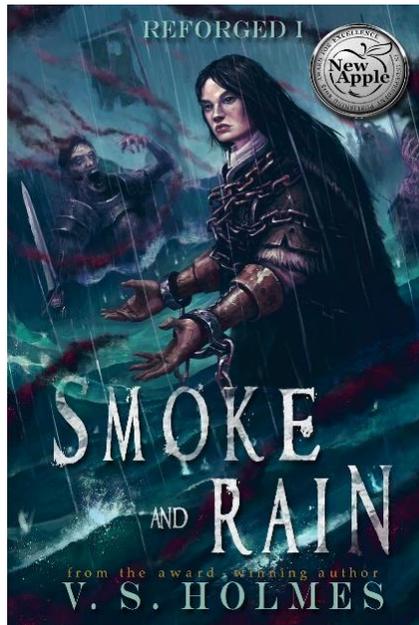


Smoke and Rain



To save their world, she must destroy her own.

“I expected a hero to save us all. Turns out, I was thinking of the wrong part of the story. In the beginning, we aren't saved. There are only fragments and grief. The pieces must be gathered and flames kindled before I'm reformed. I don't know what shape I will take. Those pieces might become a hero...

...or a monster.”

A mad king’s genocide destroyed Alea's home and left her sanity in tatters. Caught in the crossfire between the gods and their creators, Alea realizes the darkness inside her is the only thing that can end the bloodshed. Horrified by the blood on his hands, bastard lieutenant Brentemir Barrackborn must choose between the gods he worships and newfound family if he has any hope of redemption—or surviving the war.

What happens when heroes are as broken as the world they must reforge?

Winner of New Apple Literary's 2015 Excellence in Independent Publishing Award

“Holmes’s writing style is somehow both lyrical and direct, and I was impressed with her patient attention to detail. If you’re looking for a fantasy series to invest yourself in, this is it!”

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“Holmes didn’t disappoint with dropping tidbits of emotion, character growth, and internal struggle among all the action and war-time maneuvers.”

– **Kathrin Hutson, author of *Gyenona’s Children***



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Smoke and Rain

Lightning and Flames

Madness and Gods

Blood and Mercy (out 2020)

“The Tempest” (Anthology: *Out of the Darkness*)

V. S. Holmes is a gender-queer science fiction and fantasy author. She writes the Nel Bently books and the Reforged series, the first of which won New Apple Literary's Excellence in Independent Publishing Award in 2015. She has also published numerous short stories. When not writing, she works as a contract archaeologist doing Cultural Resource Management throughout the northeastern U.S.