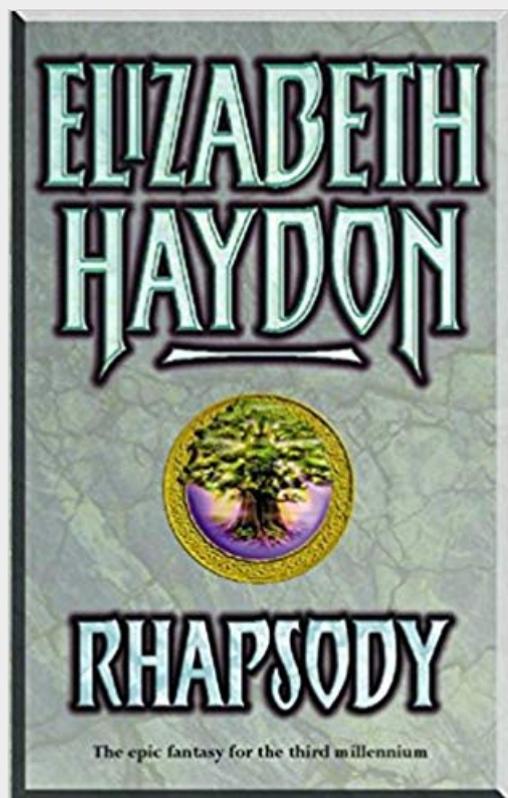


## Rhapsody: Child of Blood by Elizabeth Haydon



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**Author:** Elizabeth Haydon

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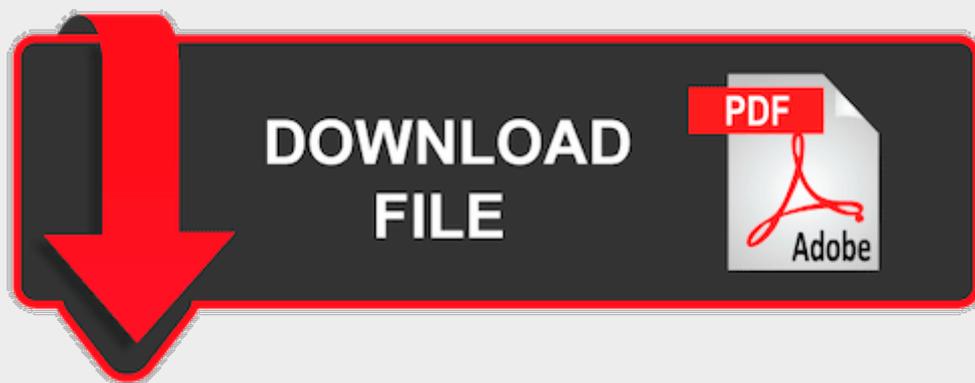
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## Reviews of the **Rhapsody: Child of Blood** by Elizabeth Haydon

### 1. Mataxe

I stumbled across this book years ago, and I haven't stopped reading it since. It is the embodiment of epic and fantasy, and while I openly admit there are flaws...Rhapsody being so unspeakably perfect, and yet having no idea that she is?...but that has never in any way marred the enjoyment of the book. It's just been something I've had to suspend disbelief for. It is

an epic adventure filled with magic, mystery, and darkness. The magic system, in fact, is one of my favorite aspects. While not entirely unique, it is a captivating twist on an old concept, and I love that Rhapsody doesn't start the book out with all her powers. She grows into them slowly, at a believable pace.

There are few epic fantasies I've ever read that handle the plot so well, and I've read them nearly as many times as David Edding's Elenium series.

## 2. Fast Lovebird

Amazing book. In my opinion, one of the two best Trilogy starter books I've ever read. I read Rhapsody/Prophecy/Destiny as I was growing up, loved it. Would think of it off and on. I read it again in college and it was just as amazing. I was frustrated because there had been two more books published but still no conclusion. Now as an adult I was thrilled to find these books available on Kindle and I love them just as much now as I did then. Each read I pick up more and more nuances and plot twists and subtle plays that I missed the first two times around. I look forward to finally (maybe?) finishing the series since I've been in suspense waiting for the epic conclusion for years. Out of all the books out there, this one should totally be turned into a movie. It's just stellar.

## 3. mr.Mine

I have read all six of the books in this series. I absolutely LOVE them. They are every geeky, female, fantasy lover's dream. It abounds with female perspective, heart warming relationships and hot guys as well as truly amazing fantasy story lines. It is also every male reader's dream due to the extreme hotness of the main character and the very detailed sexual content!

The story is quite complicated so it benefits from repeated readings. The main part of the story is so riveting that it is worth trying to get your mind

around it. The main character, Rhapsody, is a strong yet very feminine woman who manages to kick ass and look pretty while she's doing it. We follow her as she journeys to a strange world where her talents as a Namer and keeper of Lore will help her to find her place in Time. These talents will aid her as she and her companions seek to heal the world as they find it and to hunt down an evil force which has followed them through time. The other major players are fascinating in their alien oddness and yet they engender so much sympathy (despite their obvious flaws) that you cannot help but root for them. One of the marks of an excellent story, in my opinion, is that the characters are not stark black and white. There are definitely "good guys" and "bad guys" but do not assume you know who they are right away. Also, other than the F'dor which is the perfectly evil source of all of the badness in the story, the characters on both sides have very realistic struggles and flaws.

This book begins the saga with a sweet love story that seems to be forgotten in the next chapter. Never fear! Those characters will reoccur in later books with wonderful and satisfying results. We meet Achmed and Grunther in this book who, along with Rhapsody, will be our mainstays throughout the series. Each character has talents/powers which will serve them well through many harrowing adventures. You may get stuck, as I did, during the "traveling along the root" segment. I think that section is long in order to give us the feeling of how long it took from their perspective. The story does seem to drag there a bit, but HANG IN THERE. In my opinion, the story never lags again for the entirety of the six books. Keep your eye on the character called "Meridian". He seems very confusing and disjointed from the story for an extremely long time, but the payoff comes eventually and it is a great one!

Only one caution: There is some seriously racy content here. This is not "young reader" material despite how the blurb on the back cover may sound. There is plenty of coarse (mostly sexual) language and several incidents of very graphic sexual descriptions. It is done in a much more classy style than the basic, cookie cutter bodice-ripper novel, but if you are offended by such things, you are warned.

If you enjoy this book, you will want to continue this fascinating story in the following books *Prophecy: Child of Earth*, *Destiny: Child of the Sky*, *Requiem for the Sun (Symphony of Ages)*, *Elegy for a Lost Star (Symphony of Ages)*, and *The Assassin King (Symphony of Ages)*. While this looks like two trilogies, it is actually all one saga. Enjoy!

#### 4. Ferri - My name

I must offer a sincere thank you to Mighty ThorJr . Received a book from him in a giveaway, the ninth of this series. Of course I needed to start at the beginning. Great book with many strange occurrences both in this book and I'm sure the rest of the series. Very strange in some ways while parts feel like an extremely fleshed out folk tale. Really enjoyed it and felt great emotions concerning the main characters. Can't wait to read the second....and best of all, eight books await me, fully written!

#### 5. Perdana

Rhapsody starts with an amazingly compelling introduction. I-- a veteran of Jordan, Goodkin, Lawhead, Weiss & Hickman, etc-- was immediately drawn into the series by the 'Overture' section. Had the book continued at the level of the 'overture', the book would've warranted more than 5 stars. Instead, it bogs down in a few places, shows a 'Goodkin' tendency to make 'supermen' out of the main characters, and doesn't have an overtly taught plot line.

Be that as it may, the book *is* a very good read.

I very much liked Rhapsody and Gunthor and, ultimately, Ashe. Achmed? Perhaps. Frankly, Haydon excels at inter-character banter and emotive descriptions. Achmed's soliloquies, though infrequent, near the end of the book seemed estranged. For example, I found myself asking, is he in love with Rhapsody? Or does he just love her as a Brother?

I suppose the uncertainty of knowledge is a good thing. It even ties into some of the thematic elements in the book.

The bottom line: As Haydon's first work, it's excellent. I'm looking forward to reading the remainder of the series. Buy it and read it today.

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