

tale of an ingenuous hero whose instincts for truth and unfolding knowledge of magic bring him ever closer to his destiny. The author's accomplished storytelling and

trouble in his wake. Bowes's first novel, a reworking of a decade's worth of short stories, describes the sometimes poignant, sometimes disturbing life of a man who

olence, explicit sex, and a prohibitive price tag may limit the audience for this macabre novel. Large libraries may want to wait for a trade paperback edition.

Modesitt, L.E., Jr. **Colors of Chaos.**

Tor. Jan. 1999. c.720p. ISBN 0-312-86767-0. \$27.95.

FANTASY

When the tension between the lands governed by the mages of chaos and the ruled Isle of Recluce escalates into full-fledged war, Cerryl-newly ordained as full mage of the White Order discovers his true calling as reconciler. A direct sequel to ***The White Order* (LJ 3/15/94)**, set at the same time as the events portrayed in ***The Magic Engineer* (LJ 3/15/94)**, Modesitt's latest novel in his "Recluce" series views the conflict from the other side, as Chaos struggles to prevent the forces of Order from gaining ultimate victory. The author's skills portraying the humanity of characters who possess the power to destroy others with a thought adds a level of verisimilitude and immediacy rarely found in grand-scale fantasy. A strong addition to fantasy collections.