

Steward of Song

Wednesday, 11 April 2007

Last Updated Saturday, 08 September 2007

Steward of Song was very challenging to write. Though it is a sequel to Singer of Souls, it is a very different book. It has two viewpoint characters instead of one, and represents my first full-length foray into the third-person limited point of view. Additionally, I suffered a bit from the "sophomore curse" in writing a second book, and the death of my father in March of 2006 rendered me incapable of writing for 6-8 months.

Difficult.

As of this writing, I have turned in the first draft. but not yet heard back from my editor at Tor, the very capable, but not overly speedy, Patrick Nielsen-Hayden.

One of the fun things about this book for me was the experimentation I was able to do. Every two chapters I threw in little 800 to 1k interludes from many of the side characters viewpoints. As some of the side characters were faeries, witches, vampires, native spirits, and more, I got to play with a lot of different writing styles. And since the sections were short, I could get pretty far outside if I wanted. Hopefully, they've worked and serve to enhance the main storylines rather than detract from the flow. We'll see.

Update 7/25/07

I have gone over the copyedit of and sent it in. I'm always excited as things roll toward actual publication. The wee germ of an idea I had a year or two ago is going to be an honest-to-god book! Again! It still amazes me when it happens, and I hope that it still will many years from now. Seeing as how my mother seems as amazed that she wrote and got published book number two-hundred and eighty(or whatever she's up to) as she was with book number one, ten, or twenty, I assume I will continue to be joyful and astonished.

Update 9/8/07

Got the advance proofs and everything looks good to go. Release date is March of 08.

Oh, and the comment below may be the greatest comment ever ;)