



Guy Gavriel Kay

The Lions of al-Rassan
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At the sweetly-phrased request of the editor supervising this reprint of **The Lions of Al-Rassan**, I wanted to take a minute to express my pleasure at seeing the book so handsomely reissued by Eos.

As the Warner Brothers/Edward Zwick film production of LIONS moves through script-development there is, inevitably, more of a buzz about the book. Beyond that, it is always pleasing for any author to have his work available in a handsome edition.

I'm staying out of the public casting couch debates (though I do tend to agree that Madonna, Jim Carrey, and Danny DeVito, talented as they are, would be wrong for the leads in LIONS!) but some of the best of the suggestions (and worst) can be found at brightweavings.com in the Forums there. I do check in - and I also know that when the time comes, the casting directors always have a look at these sites, too. If you REALLY want Russell Crowe in Al-Rassan, put a word in ...

Leaving cinema aside, let me add one thing: I doubt I've ever written a novel with more nuances or resonances for the present day. LIONS is a book where I tried to write, as a reviewer once said, 'the kind of escape that brings you home.' Fantasy has range, scope, potential far beyond what is usually acknowledged. I truly hope new readers who come to **The Lions of Al-Rassan** in this very fine reissue will feel the same way.

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