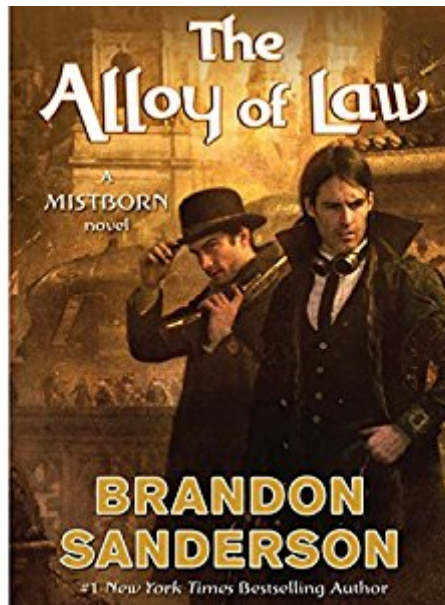


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The Alloy Of Law: A Mistborn Novel



Synopsis

Fresh from the success of *The Way of Kings*, Brandon Sanderson, best known for completing Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time*™, takes a break to return to the world of the best-selling *Mistborn* series. Three hundred years after the events of the *Mistborn* trilogy, Scadrial is now on the verge of modernity, with railroads to supplement the canals, electric lighting in the streets and the homes of the wealthy, and the first steel-framed skyscrapers racing for the clouds. Kelsier, Vin, Elend, Sazed, Spook, and the rest are now part of history-or religion. Yet even as science and technology are reaching new heights, the old magics of Allomancy and Feruchemy continue to play a role in this reborn world. Out in the frontier lands known as the Roughts, they are crucial tools for the brave men and women attempting to establish order and justice. One such is Waxillium Ladrian, a rare Twinborn, who can Push on metals with his Allomancy and use Feruchemy to become lighter or heavier at will. After 20 years in the Roughts, Wax has been forced by family tragedy to return to the metropolis of Elendel. Now he must reluctantly put away his guns and assume the duties and dignity incumbent upon the head of a noble house. Or so he thinks, until he learns the hard way that the mansions and elegant tree-lined streets of the city can be even more dangerous than the dusty plains of the Roughts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have read most of Brandon Sanderson's novels, including his *Wheel Of Time* additions. I am a big fan of his, and the genre in general, and read almost excessively. After having read the original

Mistborn trilogy, I was very excited to hear this one announced. I only recently got to this book on my list, and having completed it in a single day I come away with mixed feelings. Pros: It is a Sanderson book, and he seems to be turning into quite the masterful fantasy storyteller. He manages to come up with great new magic systems for each of his books, while also developing excellent characters and believable worlds. He manages to make you care about what is happening. This book is no exception. The characters read as real people, with distinct personalities, habits and mannerisms that charm or annoy you, weaknesses and strengths you can appreciate, et cetera. He manages to make you love or hate characters without making them absolutely good or evil. Specific to this book, you find that even the worst beings within have a sense of humanity about them. There is a sense of what makes them tick. Even if you despise the character, they feel human and you can understand their motives. Brandon Sanderson manages to avoid the typical pure evil "no knowing his mind" character for an antagonist. Likewise, the protagonists are never flawless knights in shining armor. They aren't titans who never show weakness or fault. They are people who are trying to do good or to achieve high goals, but do not always make it. This book advances an excellent story that began in the trilogy. I would not recommend this unless you have read the Mistborn trilogy, and I will not get into explaining the world. This book advances the world to an era similar to our late Victorian period.

UPDATE 8/01/12: Brandon Sanderson posted a blog entry today, mostly about the final Wheel of Time book, but he also had something to say about The Alloy of Law. YES, there will be a sequel. So for all the people that didn't like the unfinished ending - there WILL be more! Yay! Wax is a lawman living in the Roughts where most folks think law optional. It's a rough place, but for the last 20 years it's the place Wax called home. But when his uncle dies, he is called back to the city of Elendel to become the head of the noble house of Ladrian. But once a lawman, always a lawman, and when a string of robberies are committed by a crew dubbed 'The Vanishers', Wax can't help but start investigating. And once he starts he finds himself pulled in entirely. Picture a Mistborn Western and you'll get The Alloy of Law. I'm not at all interested in Westerns, but I LOVED Mistborn, so there was no doubt in my mind that I HAD to read this book. The beginning was a little slow and the setting quite like that of the Old West. But as soon as the story moves to the city, things start getting exciting and more Mistborn like. There are several references to characters and events from the original series, though you might not recognize them at first considering you are hearing about them from characters who are living three hundred years after the end of the original trilogy. Things get changed over the years and three hundred years is a long time. I thought it was really cool how that

was woven in. Keep an eye out for Spook's weird speech pattern at one point (I laughed when I understood what it meant when it called it High Imperial). The characters were really interesting.

It has been a while since I have had the pleasure of returning to a Brandon Sanderson book. Having read all of his published works over the span of a few months (excluding his Wheel of Time books), I was having Sanderson withdrawal. Enter *The Alloy of Law*, a Mistborn book during an industrial revolution period. Considering I have yet to read a Sanderson book that I have not thoroughly enjoyed, I was psyched for this book and having just finished it, my expectations were met and darn it, I want more! I love the Mistborn universe. It provides a fantastic setting incorporating an enjoyable and unique magic system that is well thought out and given great attention. The original trilogy had a typical fantasy setting, pretty much devoid of any semblance to the present. So when I found out *The Alloy of Law* was going to have industrial technology and have a Western feel, I did not feel one bit of trepidation. I typically avoid Westerns because I do not like the setting, but this was Brandon Sanderson, my favorite author, the same guy that did not disappoint me with any of his books that I read. If anyone could take an environment that I care little about and make it enjoyable to read, he could. And he did, masterfully I might add. A wonderful blend of imagination and science that further enhances the story and provides an entertaining experience. Sanderson has a knack for witty and humorous characters (Sanderson's Alcatraz series is full of them). While Waxillium, the main character, more or less fits a typical hero mold, he is a noble and cunning hero that you feel compelled to like and follow. Conflicted, determined and thorough, Wax is good at what he does and it was a fun ride watching him do his thing.

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