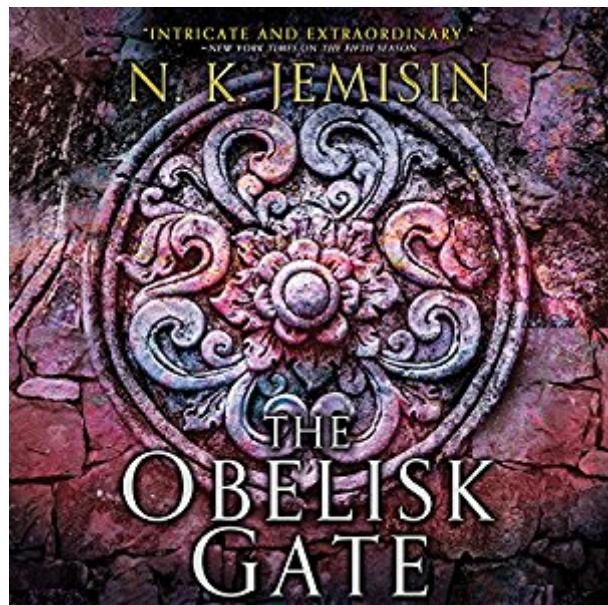


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The Obelisk Gate: The Broken Earth, Book 2



Synopsis

This is the way the world ends, for the last time. The season of endings grows darker, as civilization fades into the long cold night. Essun - once Damaya, once Syenite, now avenger - has found shelter, but not her daughter. Instead there is Alabaster Tenring, destroyer of the world, with a request. But if Essun does what he asks, it would seal the fate of the Stillness forever. Far away, her daughter Nassun is growing in power - and her choices will break the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The sequel to the Hugo Award winning The Fifth Season, N.K. Jemisin's The Obelisk Gate returns to the Stillness as the aftermath of its latest natural disaster takes hold. Essun, the earth-manipulating orogene from TFS, has chosen to stay in the settlement of Castrima to help them with (for lack of a better word) "doomsday preparations" and to train with her former mentor Alabaster Tenring. What is Alabaster's mission for her? A staggering feat that, if successful, could seal the fate of their world. Meanwhile, Essun's 10-year-old daughter Nassun, who was kidnapped in TFS, journeys with her volatile father to a community rumored to "cleanse" orogenes of their powers. Yet Nassun's gifts rapidly mature, and she learns to use them in unimaginable ways - with consequences that could weigh just as heavy as those from her mother's task. I'm sure that summary will confuse people who haven't read this series yet. But it's difficult to say more without revealing too much of The Obelisk Gate's incredible world-building and the story itself. We learn much more about the Stillness, especially the obelisks and the stone eaters. Questions that were posed during TFS are answered, and more mysteries arise. There were also moments when I

ached for Essun, Nassun, Alabaster, and Essun's stone-eater friend Hoa. (That Hoa scene in particular nearly made me cry.) All the emotional investment and immersion made The Obelisk Gate impossible to put down - and when I was forced to put it down, I couldn't stop thinking about it. Normally I'd use this space for criticisms... But I have none. Sure, The Obelisk Gate is intricate in its plotting and unorthodox in structure (e.g., Jemisin still uses second-person narration for Essun's chapters).

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