

Reviewer: Thom Cantrall

Staff Reviewer

Title: "Path of a Hero"  
 ISBN: 1-60813-058-4  
 Publisher: Publish America, LLLP, www.publishamerica.com  
 Genre: Science Fantasy  
 Author: E.S. Brenwalt

Reviewer: Thom Cantrall

"Path of a Hero" is a novel of five hundred and ninety-five pages set in a land of Fantasy... of the Samurai and Honor.

Main characters include Cyankazu Orimondi, a young samurai in training, Magus, his animal companion and various teachers, associates and enemies

From out of the chaos that swept the Three Kingdoms there arose an unlikely hero. Cyankazu Orimondi was the Samurai-in-training son of the great Samurais, Kenju and Mythera Orimondi. Time, consequence and necessity conspired to thrust young Cyan into a position where fate would pave his path and determine his role in the world's order... if he was capable...

The war, for Cyan, began in the Green Kingdom and spread to the Kingdom of Fog and then to the Crystal Kingdom. As the world's situation grew more desperate, young Cyan, from his twelve year old beginning, grew in stature and competence. Learning his lessons well, his abilities exceeded his age, causing him no end of problems with those who refused to see in him that special fire which marked him as unique. The invading armies were monsters... literally... Orcs and Behemoths, Ogres and Daemon Lizards, Lamia and Dominus Beast were all there.

I found this book to be an especially enjoyable read. Although fantasy is not my usual choice of genre, I found myself caught up in Cyankazu's journey from vengeance to justice... from personal retribution to salvation for his people. Mr. Brenwalt did a very good job of advancing the reader through a succession of personal growth achievements while introducing a cadre of well-developed supporting characters who ranged from his teachers to a wise-cracking, enchanted rat who came very close to stealing the spotlight. From protagonist to antagonist, from friends to the enemy, all of these entities played pivotal roles in creating the ultimate Samurai wielding the ultimate weapon in the best Excaliburian tradition.

The only negative I found was a pronounced need for a good editor and proofreader. I have noticed and catalogued in this day of the spell-checker god and increase in homonymic errors throughout literature. This author must surely realize that while "past" and "passed" do, indeed, sound alike, they are not interchangeable in their use.

This fact notwithstanding, I would heartily recommend this book to all fans of Science Fantasy. If special creatures, magic spells, stories with a moral and true heroes are your genre, you will heartily enjoy Cyankazu Orimondi as he threads his way along the "Path of a Hero.

Thomas D. "Thom" Cantrall Reviewer



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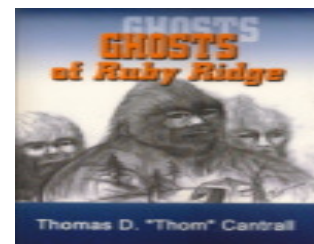
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Author  
 Tom Cantrall

Email

[twanggl@yahoo.com](mailto:twanggl@yahoo.com)

Website

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