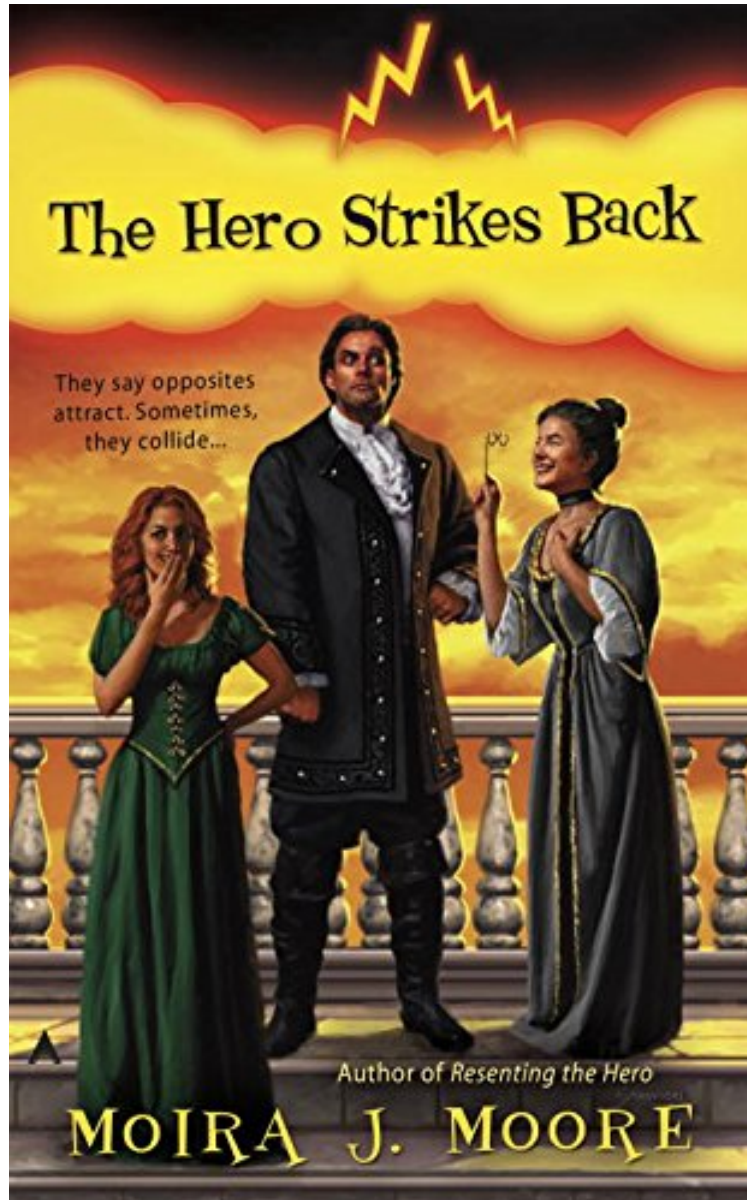


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The Hero Strikes Back

Moira J. Moore

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Moira J. Moore : The Hero Strikes Back before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hero Strikes Back:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sequel to Resenting the Hero By Cathy L. This book continues the misadventures of Lee and Taro, who have a more functional relationship this go round. This time they're dealing with

an extended period of very unusual weather that the Pairs can't do anything about (or can they?) but they get blamed for it anyway. Meanwhile someone's killing off nobles, and Lee is worried about Taro being the next victim. He may have renounced his title in the previous book (See? Nice guy), but the murderer may not know that, and he's still of noble blood. Add some meddling mamas--Lee's, the standard "Are you really happy? / What about settling down?" and Taro's, an absolute viper of a woman who's determined that he will take his duchy back--and you have a recipe once again for a light, fun summer read that isn't at all intellectually taxing. The cover designer should be fired, however, or advised to actually read the books. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Something wasn't quite right. By Happily_Reading Okay, I liked the book and the writing was good. I've read the first one and enjoyed it and was looking forward to this one for months. I wanted to get that out of the way before I started nitpicking. I wouldn't say I was disappointed, exactly, but something was wrong with the "ending" and I can't put my finger on it. One reviewer said that it was more like "the ongoing adventures of..." and maybe that's it. This felt more like a middle book in a series instead of standing on its own. It just didn't feel like an ending, I guess. More like a "stay tuned for the next installment". Yes, I know it's a series, but I felt I was left hanging, like maybe this was just a setup book for the next one. The other problem I'm having is the POV. It would be nice to get a chapter or two on what someone else (Taro, anybody?) is thinking or how they see events. Frankly, I'm getting a bit tired of Lee doing all the narration. I'd like to see what someone else is thinking and how they see some things that Lee is experiencing. In the beginning of the book, Lee and Taro act like lovers, but for the rest of the book they're more or less acting like really good friends. It was a bit confusing because their relationship was looking as if it progressed, then it went back to "I like you, but that's all" without explanation. It was... odd. Okay, I nitpicked. But only because I was expecting better. I'll still be waiting on the third one since I've read the other two but despite the sound of this review, I do like the books (I gave it 4 stars, didn't I?). They're very light and entertaining and the writing is good. This second book has its moments too, it's just that I'm a little disappointed. Like another reviewer said, read *Resenting the Hero* first. If you like it, you'll probably like this one too. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thoroughly enjoyable, Moira J. Moore is now on my MUST BUY list! By TigerLilium Great series and I hope it continues. Taro and Lee are real and likable. The humor is understated but intrinsic to the characters themselves. So far this series has proved to be a true "needle in the haystack" a rare find among all the clutter the publishers throw at us. Bravo!

In a realm beset by natural disasters, only the magical abilities of the bonded Pairs Source and Shield make the land habitable and keep the citizenry safe. The ties that bind them are far beyond the relationships between lovers or kin and last their entire lives. Whether they like it or not. The weather in the city of High Scape is off the charts. Its snowing in the middle of summer, and the townsfolk are desperate for Shield Lee Mallorough and Source Shintaro Karish to fix it which they can't do. But try explaining that to an angry mob. Meanwhile, there's a crazed killer targeting aristocrats. Karish has forfeited the Dukedom of Westsea to continue working as a Source, but Lee fears that technicality won't matter to the murderer. It certainly doesn't matter to Karish's mother, who's bound and determined that he take the title. Only by working together will Lee and Karish be able to figure out the weather, catch the killer before it's too late, and most importantly get rid of Karish's mother.

About the Author Moira J. Moore is a Canadian author whose works include *Resenting the Hero*, *The Hero Strikes Back*, *Heroes Adrift*, *Heroes at Risk*, *Heroes Return*, *Heroes at Odds*, *Heroes Reward*. She studied at Carleton University and Queens College. When not writing fantasy and adventure fiction, she practices law. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. With a mother like this; Karish was never meant to be the Duke. His older brother had had the title, and from what I learned had been thrilled to indulge in the aristocratic lifestyle, but he'd ruined everyone's expectations by dying before marrying or having children. That left it to his mother, the Dowager Duchess, to choose the new titleholder. For some reason, she'd chosen her second son, the Source she'd been happy to send away to the academy, the son who'd never had a moment of training in the duties of being a titleholder and a landlord, when there were several more qualified cousins clamoring to take the title. Karish hadn't wanted the title, for which I'd be forever grateful. He couldn't be both a Source and a Duke, with all the Duke's responsibilities. If he had taken the title, he wouldn't have been able to work as a Source, which would mean he'd have no use for me. Bonded to him, I wouldn't be able to work with any other Source. I would have been left with nothing to do. Karish pulled back and straightened his shoulders. The Empress obviously misunderstands the gravity of the situation and merely needs instruction. And the fact that pursuing the title could get you hanged, what about that? That's just the law. What is the law to her? Marvelous. The blasted woman was going to get us both killed.