

The Dark Sword is ultimately a story about survival, healing, hope, chosen family, and love. However, the characters' journeys include difficult and sometimes intense material.

This guide is intended for readers who would prefer more detailed content information before beginning. **It contains minor spoilers.**

The Dark Sword contains themes and scenes involving:

- Domestic abuse and coercive control (referenced)
- PTSD, trauma recovery, dissociation, panic attacks, and nightmares
- Depression, grief, and bereavement
- Shame, self-loathing, and identity loss following trauma
- Captivity and torture-related material
- On-page fantasy violence, combat, blood, and death
- On-page injuries, wound care, and medical treatment
- Accidental injury of a loved one during a trauma response
- Drugging, kidnapping, physical restraint, and loss of bodily autonomy
- Claustrophobic settings and imprisonment
- Child endangerment
- References to child abuse and the deaths of children
- Systemic persecution, discrimination, and genocide
- Supernatural horror, including death magic, ghosts, corpses, human remains, body horror, and burial imagery
- Consensual open-door sexual content, including sexual intimacy during trauma recovery
- References to sexual coercion and threats of sexual violence (no sexual violence takes place between the main characters)

Please take care of yourself while reading. If **any** of this content makes *The Dark Sword* unsuitable for you, you are always welcome to decline or stop reading the ARC at any time.