

Amber Hansford

polymath. writer. fantasist.

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short bio (~40 words)

Amber Hansford is the author of The Emari Chronicles, a Persian-inspired epic fantasy series, and a UX director based in Atlanta. She writes character-driven fiction about faith, power, and the brutal price of becoming who you choose to be. Member, SFWA.

longer bio (~90 words)

Amber Hansford is the author of The Emari Chronicles, an epic fantasy series rooted in Persian folklore and mythology, about faith, power, and the brutal cost of becoming who you choose to be. By night, she writes character-driven fiction welded from myth, politics, and intimacy. By daylight, she directs UX for companies.

When not drafting or behind a panel mic, she's spiraling down a music or history rabbit hole or manifesting her next passport stamp. She lives in Atlanta with too many notebooks and not nearly enough shelf space. Member, SFWA.

[AUTHOR PHOTOS & HEADSHOTS](#)
(Google Docs)

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long bio (~200 words)

Amber Hansford grew up moving up and down the U.S. coasts as a Navy brat, eventually landing in Atlanta, Georgia. Over the years she carved out a career in tech that spanned front-end development, design, and UX leadership. But through it all, she was writing.

In the early 2000s, after encouragement from IRC friends and a collective obsession with Methos, she posted her first Highlander fanfic to fanfiction.net. It's probably still out there. She asks only for kindness.

These days, Amber writes epic fantasy rooted in pre-Islamic Persian culture and mythology — stories about women who carry kingdoms on their backs, men who survive by being underestimated, and gods who have gone dangerously quiet. She is the author of *The Emari Chronicles*, with the third installment, *Embers of Tamidh*, forthcoming in 2026. She directs the Filk Music Track at Dragon Con and is a member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association.

When she's not drafting or revising, she's probably embroidering, falling down a history rabbit hole, or adding another stamp to her passport. She lives in Atlanta with too many notebooks and not nearly enough shelf space.

AUTHOR PHOTOS & HEADSHOTS

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the emari chronicles

series overview

Book 1

The Hand of Mashyana
released February 20, 2025

Book 2

The Veil of Takhsa
released August 12, 2025

Book 3

The Embers of Tamidh
releasing mid-2026

Book 4

Title TBD
releasing end 2026/start 2027

The Emari Chronicles is a four-book epic fantasy series rooted in pre-Islamic Persian culture, folklore, and mythology. Set in the kingdom of Emari, the series follows Farahnaz Rahnema — a woman forged into a weapon in service of a queen she believed in — and Yasher, a card shark who survives on luck and charm and is running out of both. Together, they uncover a kingdom rotting from the inside, gods who have stopped answering, and a darkness that doesn't announce itself before it takes hold.

The series is character-first. Built on loyalty tested to breaking, slow-burn relationships with real consequences, and the question of what it costs to become the person a broken world needs you to be. Readers who love Brandon Sanderson's Mistborn, Shelley Parker-Chan's She Who Became the Sun, or S.A. Chakraborty's The City of Brass will find familiar bones here, and something distinctly Hansford's own.



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the hand of mashyana

book 1
the emari chronicles

[BOOK COVERS &
PROMOTIONAL IMAGES](#)

Publication Details

- Release Date: February 20, 2025
- Formats: Paperback, eBook
- Publisher: Polymath Publishing LLC
- Ebook ASIN: B0DWLLDMYJ
- Paperback ISBN: 9798349247125

Book Description

Farahnaz Rahnema has spent her life in service to the Mashyana, queen of Emari — loyal, lethal, and certain of her purpose. That certainty ends the moment a divine messenger insists she join forces with Yasher, a charming card shark held together by luck and deflection. As they chase ancient relics across a kingdom built on secrets, Farah begins to wonder if the queen she serves is saving Emari or consuming it.

The Hand of Mashyana is an epic fantasy of power, betrayal, and two people who shouldn't trust each other — and can't afford not to.



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the veil of takhsha

book 2
the emari chronicles

[BOOK COVERS &
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Publication Details

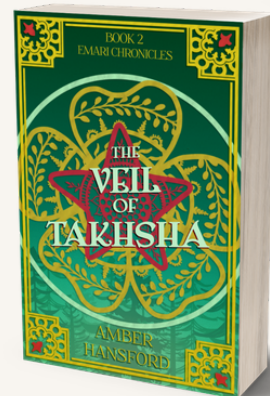
- Release Date: August 12, 2025
- Formats: Paperback, eBook
- Publisher: Polymath Publishing LLC
- Ebook ISBN: 9798999747310
- Paperback ISBN: 9798218755317

Book Description

The kingdom of Emari stands on the edge of ruin. Farah Rahnema — once the feared Hand of the Mashyana — now walks a fragile line between redemption and collapse. Sent to investigate a coastal town gone unnervingly quiet, she finds not resistance but something worse: obedience that doesn't feel chosen, and a corrupted relic pulling at the darkness beneath the surface.

As Yasher fights to protect her even as trust fractures between them, and the gods fall silent, Farah must face a question no one is left to answer: when divine authority disappears, who decides what's just?

Power is never safe. Love is never simple. And no one walks away unscathed.



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press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Atlanta Author Amber Hansford Completes The Emari Chronicles' Devastating Middle Chapter with Embers of Tamidh, Forthcoming 2026

ATLANTA, GA — Amber Hansford, author of the Persian-inspired epic fantasy series The Emari Chronicles and member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association, announces the forthcoming publication of Embers of Tamidh (Book 3), expected mid-2026 from Polymath Publishing LLC.

Following the events of The Veil of Takhsha, Embers of Tamidh picks up the threads of Farahnaz Rahnema's story at its most fractured. Seven months have passed. The woman who once believed in her queen, her mission, and the man beside her has become something colder, sharper, and harder to reach. Yasher is holding himself together with charm and spite. And the darkness that has been gathering since Book 1 is no longer patient.

The Emari Chronicles draws on pre-Islamic Persian culture, mythology, and folklore to build a world that is both rigorously researched and emotionally immersive. The series has drawn comparisons to Brandon Sanderson's Mistborn trilogy and S.A. Chakraborty's Daevabad series for its blend of intricate magic systems, political complexity, and character-driven emotional arcs.

The Hand of Mashyana (Book 1) was published on February 20, 2025. The Veil of Takhsha (Book 2) followed on August 12, 2025. Both are available in paperback and eBook via Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Bookshop.org. Signed editions are available at amberhansford.com.

Hansford is available for interviews, podcast appearances, convention panels, and book club events.

Media inquiries: info@amberhansford.com

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interview talking points

On the world-building: The Emari Chronicles is built on years of research into pre-Islamic Persian culture — the Zoroastrian faith tradition, the political structures, the mythology, the material culture. It's not a retelling of any specific story; it's a world that grew from that soil. I wanted readers who know that history to feel it, and readers who don't to find it irresistible enough to go looking.

On the characters: Farah and Yasher are deliberately designed to be mirrors of each other's blind spots. She over-trusts institutions and under-trusts people. He over-trusts people and under-trusts everything else. Watching them collide — and eventually need each other — is the engine the whole series runs on.

On writing the “devastating middle book”: Book 3 is the Empire Strikes Back of this series, and I mean that with full commitment. I'm not interested in writing a middle book that treads water. Everything earned in Books 1 and 2 gets tested here. Some of it doesn't survive. That's the point.

On being an indie author in epic fantasy: Epic fantasy is a space where readers have very high expectations — for scope, for depth, for the long game. Publishing independently means I control everything from the cover to the release timing to how I talk about the work. That's a real advantage when you're writing a four-book series with a lot of moving parts and you need readers to trust that you'll see it through.

On the SFWA membership and the indie/trad conversation: SFWA's eligibility criteria for indie authors have evolved, and I think that reflects something real shifting in the industry. The walls between indie and traditional publishing are more permeable than they used to be. What matters is the work.

On Dragon Con and the fan community: I've been directing the Filk Music Track at Dragon Con for years, and that community — the overlap between fandom, music, and storytelling — is one of the most generous and weird and wonderful spaces I've ever been part of. It keeps me honest about why stories matter.