



# JUNO BOOKS

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**RIVERSEND** by SYLVIA KELSO

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362 Pages

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## **The Stunning Sequel to the Highly Acclaimed *Amberlight***

Fighting doubt and convention, beset with great challenge and facing profound change, Tellurith leads her displaced House to a new beginning and a different life in Iskarda—a life that includes men and women as equals. But the traditionalist Iskardans are outraged by Tellurith’s policies and appalled by her love for two husbands: Alkhes—the rough, dark Outlander who brought *Amberlight* its doom—and golden Sarth, epitome of the urbane men of the *Amberlight* Towers. To achieve Tellurith’s dream, both must re-shape their lives. To preserve the dream, all three must journey to Dhasdein’s imperial capital of Riversend and face deadly menace and perilous machination.

### **Praise for *Amberlight***

**Finalist: Best Fantasy Novel, 2008 Aurealis Award**

“Australian fantasy author Kelso mimics the flavor and feel of her homeland in the rhythms of her prose, the descriptions of the landscape, and the tough, resilient nature of her characters.”—*Library Journal*

“This quasi-medieval society of women, ruled by women, gradually comes into focus, but not in a women-would-rule-better-than-men scenario. Rather, this is a novel about economic forces, geopolitical supply and demand, and the human price an unfettered market extracts. It is also about trust and love. By the end, the story flows like a river in flood, rewarding the reader with a resonant conclusion.”—*Washington Post*

“ [An] intriguing exploration of sexual politics and the difficult calculus of leadership.  
—*Publishers Weekly*

“...a strong novel, with a lot to recommend it to readers looking for high quality fantasy. The world and situation is well realised, and the plot engages the reader quickly and keeps the interest throughout, enhanced by concern for believable and strong characters... Kelso’s prose is layered and sometimes lyrical, but never difficult to follow. This novel deserves to be widely read.”—*As If*

“Sylvia Kelso’s *Amberlight* features one of the most detailed fantasy worlds of the genre....The setting, plot, and characters of *Amberlight* are entrancing...*Amberlight* is imaginative and original. It embodies many genuine societal ills within a fictional capacity one can observe from a safe distance. It offers both romantic escape and intellectual stimulation.”—*Breenibooks*

“*Amberlight* is peopled with vivid characters that stormed up off the page into permanent residence in my mind and memory, in a unique world, and driving an original plot. If some writers’ prose sings, Kelso’s is an opera.”—Lois McMasters Bujold

“Sumptuous, sensuous, and passionate, *Amberlight* is completely delightful. Sylvia Kelso is a master of world-building, beautiful prose, and sheer romance.”—Delia Sherman, co-author of *The Fall of the Kings*

### **About the Author**

Sylvia Kelso was born and lives in North Queensland, Australia, where she was telling stories almost before she could write. She has published poetry in Australian literary magazines and a national anthology, and has a Creative Writing MA for an alternate history/SF novel set in alternate North Queensland. Her two previous fantasy novels, *Everran’s Bane* and *The Moving Water* were published in 2005 and 2007. Her fantasies most often use an analogue Australian landscape, where bushfires and gum-trees appear along with dragons, mages and bards. In the Riverworld of *Amberlight* the gumtrees are less obvious but landscape draws on more southern Australian states. Sylvia teaches at James Cook University in her hometown, and has published academic articles on science fiction and fantasy. She lives in a house with a lot of trees but no cats, and likes to play Irish whistle, and sometimes fiddle, with her friends.

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