



## *Pyre of Queens* - David Hair

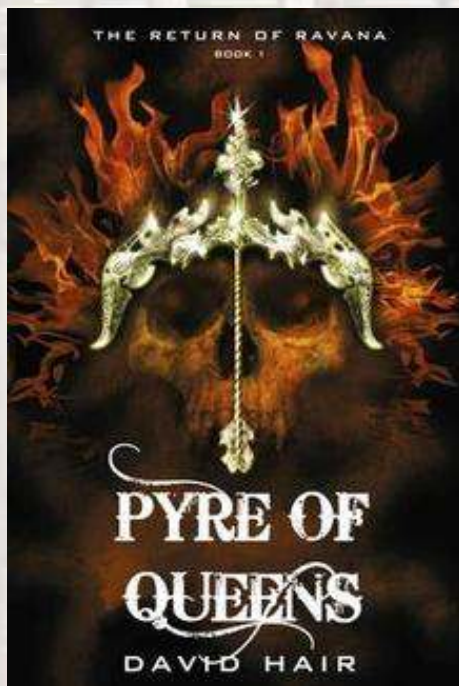
Published by Puffin, RRP \$24.99

Set in India 769 AD and 2010 this is the story of love loss, death and ghostly brides. Teenagers Amanjit, Deepika, and Vikram find themselves reliving the lives of a poet, a queen, and a guard from a time of peril and deceit in 769 AD Mandore. They have to relive their lives till they rectify the wrongs of the past, whether that is a dying on the pyre with the king or fighting to the death.

The first book in The Return of Ravana series had me engrossed from the first page. The story is based on the old poem The Ramayana, and is a fast paced and solid read. One that for the young teen boy readers out there will have them wanting to finish the series.

There have been many comments from book critics about outsiders writing about other cultures to which they are not familiar with, and yes I can see that there could have been things that were done slightly differently or better. But as a librarian who tries to get teens reading, I feel that this will fit the bill.

Reviewed Tauranga Teenage Services Librarian Amanda McFadden.



Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.