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The (Sort Of) Dark Mage: Waldo Rabbit Series, Book 1



Synopsis

The (Sort of) Dark Mage is the story of a young man named Waldo who grows up in a world where monsters, the undead, and dark magic are part of everyday life. He is forced to go on a journey to prove himself and soon discovers that his beliefs don't fit into the wider world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What I would have liked to know before I bought this book.1. Is it a serious book? If the title didn't give you a clue, no. This is a fantasy joke book. Its here for chucks and giggles.2. What is the story about? The story is about a young bumbling Dark Mage traveling the land, his adventures and his odd companion(s).3. Are the characters engaging? Are they likable? Hmm. The characters are likable but they do have static roles. I mean, its a humor book. Don't take character development too seriously with these type of reads. Enjoy it for what it is and you won't be disappointed.4. Who should buy this book? Anyone who can enjoy fantasy, wants a good laugh and generally engaging humor.5. What's the target audience? I think general male audience but this book has enough to engage some of the female audience as well. Is not serious at all and laughs are welcomed by anyone. I think. :)6. Is the book worth the price. In my personal opinion, yes. I had a good laugh and honestly felt my money wasn't wasted.In conclusion: A fun book to read that's easy on the mind. It provided soft escapism and welcomed humor. Its intention is to make the reader laugh, nothing more ... nothing less.4 stars.

Imagine, if you will, a dark mage, trained to be absolutely ruthless, cruel, and loving every minute of it, but who is unable to do anything really "bad." His powers, which are considerable, help people; he can heal severely wounded individuals. Obviously he is a real flop as a Dark Mage and is sent off by the ruling council of mages on an impossible--in the council's opinion--quest: Capture three monsters, kill a knight, and steal a dragon's egg. Waldo, our determined hero, ventures into the land beyond the borders of his dark world and promptly becomes disconcerted by the "bright thing" in the sky (sun) and terrified by a rabbit. Then he meets his first "monster," captures it, so to speak, and finds out that this whole Dark Mage thing is not as easy as it looks, especially since no one takes him seriously as an evil person. In fact, when he is thanked for a nice deed--about all he is able to perform--, he is insulted! My rating would have been five stars were it not for the many misspellings, missing words and the like. There are really too many of them in the present volume and, indeed, seem to increase in the second half of the narrative. Nonetheless, I really hated to see this book end. I enjoyed the style (in spite of my above comment), the amusing interaction between the characters, and the occasional "wow, I didn't see that coming" moment--and I am not referring merely to the final chapter. Clearly there will be a sequel, and I, for one, am looking forward to it.

I bought this book for my teenage son (close in age to the protagonist) and I to read. It spoke to us on a lot of levels and carries deep messages about today's society -- people who aren't what they seem on the surface, the fact that you can still have high morals even if you aren't fully accepted by society, the importance of being tolerant of others' values and views, to being a true coming of age kind of tale. I bought it knowing full well the "mature audience" warning, but I could not engage my son in anything of interest after he had read Ready Player One and Off To Be the Wizard. He discontinued Howey's Sand, so I was forced to take drastic measures. This he devoured (to the point of shirking his homework!) and then immediately asked for the sequel -- and I admit I was sucked in as well! However, this book and its sequel can be hard to read for the sheer lack of editing. Problems abound with typos which a spell checker will not catch, bad punctuation and grammar, and at certain points I am sure even the wrong character's name is referenced. It is often hard to follow the dialog since there is a lack of "Alice said, ..." and "Waldo replied,..." All that aside, it is a very entertaining ride which puts true human nature, in all its absurdity, on display for all to see, laugh at, and learn from. Bravo!

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