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Kalifus Rising: Legends Of Orkney Series (The Legends Of Orkney Series)



Synopsis

Sam Baron just freed Orkney from the ravages of the Red Sun—but now, imprisoned by Catriona, leader of the Volgrim Witches, Sam finds the darker side of his half-god, half-witch heritage released, and he fears he might destroy what he saved. Unable to resist the witches' enchantments, Sam has become their most potent weapon, and is leading an army of monstrous men against Skara Brae. Sam's only hope for salvation lies with his three best friends and a mystical artifact known as the Moon Pearl. Keely travels north in search of the pearl, while Howie prepares for the gathering onslaught. Leo seeks a powerful artifact in the underworld, and faces an ancient evil that could be an even greater threat than Catriona and her cronies. As Sam's friends rush to save him, other forces are at work in Orkney's shadows—forces that could help free Sam, or condemn him to the darkness forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Action packed adventure that keeps you wanting more. Better than Red Sun. Characters you want to know. Can't wait for the next book.

The book was magnificent . I couldn't put the book down. Can't wait for future stories from this artist .

A little slower than the others but still a fun read

This is Book Two in the Legends of Orkney series. Sam Baron is imprisoned by the Volgrim Witches and their leader Catriona. Sam is half (Norse) god, half witch but his powers are just starting to be revealed to him and he is concerned that he can not control the powers and he may destroy what is important to him. The Volgrim Witches control him and they are using him in their attempt to destroy Orkney. Sam will need the help of his friends, Keely, Howie, and Leo to save Orkney from the witches - and himself. All-father Odin has given each of them an assignment and if they can each complete their mission, Orkney just may have a chance. I had not read the first book in this series, but when I saw that this had strong ties to Norse mythology I was very excited. Interest in the Norse myths has grown significantly in the past few years thanks to a number of popular authors and books. I've long been a fan of the Nordic stories, in large part because of my own heritage, so I'm always pleased to see new books working with these classic stories. The book is targeted toward a teen reading audience ... the same audience of Percy Jackson, or the current Harry Potter readers ... which is great. But early on I was distracted by the maturity or immaturity - of the characters. "What are you doing back here?" he said, planting his hands on his hips as he glared at Mavery. "None of your beeswax, Theo." "Who's your friend?" He switched his glare to Keely. "I came to help my friend, Sam," she explained. "Well I hope he dies," the boy snapped. "He ruined everything." I understand that this is a story about teens/preteens for teens/preteens and the author wants the reader to be able to identify with the characters, but this felt as though the author was writing down to the reader, rather than elevating the reader. One character tells another, "The king don't like it when you're late." This infantile behavior comes to ahead a bit later on when Howie comes in contact with an annoying creature, so the behavior here is intentional - though no less annoying because of it. But two could play at that game, and if there was one thing Howie was good at, it was being annoying. "You're a jerk," he said. "You're a jerk," it mimicked, sitting up. "No, you are." "No, you are." "I said it first." "I said it second, and two is bigger than one." It held up two spindly fingers. Howie doesn't come across particularly well so it shouldn't have been a surprise when he later says, "Evil quests, you say? So the blade is, like, enchanted?" But I was. Although I know it's not a 'fair' statement, I had the impression that this was a self-published book. What that typically means is

that it needed a stronger editing hand. There's enough here that makes this an intriguing story, but it doesn't come through as well as it could. Looking for a good book? Kalifus Rising by Alana Adams is the second book in the Legends of Orkney series and shows some promise but treats the characters as a bit too immature. I received a digital copy of this book from the publisher, through Netgalley, in exchange for an honest review.

Sam managed to deal with Orkney's poisonous red sun. He's still in Orkney, because that's where he belongs. He doesn't have much time to get to know his new home, because Catriona, an evil witch, manages to capture him. She has a terrible plan and Sam is an important part of it. She wants to use the darker side of Sam's heritage for her own purposes. The question is if Sam can stop her or not, will he stand a chance against someone so powerful and cunning? Sam's friends each get a mission to help him. Keely and Howie are being transported back to Orkney for this purpose. Together with Sam's former protector Leo they will be sent on a journey that will help them prepare for the battle against Catriona. Will they be back in time to prevent the awful witch from setting her malicious plans in motion or will they be too late to save Orkney and rescue their friend? Kalifus Rising is another amazing Legends of Orkney story. It was fun to read about Sam and his friends Keely, Howie, Leo and Mavery again. Keely and Howie have to become a lot braver in this book and I liked that very much. The characters are all evolving, which is one of the necessities of a great series for me, and I enjoyed seeing that. The power of friendship is still strong and seeing what it could withstand was fantastic. The bonds are being put to the test repeatedly this time, which was quite interesting to witness. There are even more fabulous monsters, evil characters and creepy creatures in Kalifus Rising. I love how Alana Adams describes each of her characters in a thoroughly detailed way, that makes her stories come to life incredibly well. I love her ingenuity and the way she puts a new spin on old myths is terrific. Kalifus Rising has a strong basis. Orkney is an intriguing place and I loved reading about feuds, quests and treaties. There are many fascinating details. Alana Adams creates a world where there's so much in between of being totally good or being completely bad and I loved these shades of grey. The combat scenes are exciting and I liked the spectacular way movements and weapons are being described and used. There are plenty of unexpected moments and the ending of the story is both satisfying and promising. I can't wait to read the next Legends of Orkney story.

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