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The Flesh Of War: Warsworn, Book 1



Synopsis

Forged for combat, the rock trolls have no equal. They train from birth, endure brutal conditioning, and mark their skin with every kill. They have become the very flesh of war, but their history of honor has been forgotten. Now a bounty has been issued, one which calls for the extermination of their race. To survive they must awaken to what they have lost, before their enemies begin to gather. Born in the midst of a bloody conflict, Tryton bears a heart of peace. His talent will command respect, but his nature is the true weapon. To wield it he must rise to lead them all - without sacrificing his soul. The fate of his people lies with him, but the seeds of destruction have already been sown. And the harvest has come.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ben Hale is fantastic at writing plot. All of his novels have great pacing, and this entry is no exception. This is the kind of book where you plan to read for thirty minutes before you go to bed, but the next time you look at the clock you realize that it's four hours later. Chapters build and different story threads weave together in a very satisfying way. This fantasy novel has war in its title, so it is nice that the fight scenes are well choreographed and fun to read. Despite the subject matter, the writing is very clean. If you shy away from gory descriptions, this would be a great series to add to your reading list. Standing out amid the chaos of this fantasy world is an interesting protagonist. I like the idea of a hero who wants to connect with people rather than annihilate them. For those who have read any books in The White Mage Saga or The Second Draeken War

series, you'll enjoy this book as much as you did the others even though the scope is a bit different. For those who have never read anything by Ben Hale, this is a great place to start. If you want to continue, I definitely recommend reading Elseerian next.

It was a fun book. It was interesting watching the characters learn the concept of family. I love Ben Hale and his storytelling but I always struggle trying to envision the scenes that he describes. But I believe that fault to be mine and not Ben's. I immediately purchased the second book halfway through reading the first.

I have to admit that I wasn't initially very excited about reading this book. I felt obligated to read it because I read, and enjoyed, the other Ben Hale books. Boy was I wrong! This book was truly fantastic. Tryton is probably my most favorite person ever. Do yourself a favor and read this book ASAP. You won't regret it.

The author wants to describe major revolution in a wayward society with amnesia, but there are not enough pages to bring that society to life. Most sentences are spent on bringing the hero from childhood to young adult, who is nearly perfect (ok, he's mediocre at smithing and archery, but they don't matter anyway). The other troll characters are simply cardboards. The villains are even less than that. There's magic, but its bounds and strengths are unclear. How such a society even functions is unclear. The combat is not interesting because the trolls are at such a physical advantage, so they are almost always outnumbered to make it interesting, but then the opposition always fails to take advantage of their numbers. For a nation that is obsessed with war, the trolls don't do tactics, logistics, range weapons or recon. But, their ten year olds can match wit with the adults of other races.

Discovering your purpose in life is never easy, but it is even more difficult when you are a rock troll. Tryton is an amazing character - one of my favorite literary characters of all time. He wants to change his world to save his people so he first starts with himself. A true leader lives what he believes and inspires others. Tryton never imposes his will or what he believes to be true on others, they just see his light and want that for themselves. All this soul searching and life changing happens in the middle of great action and adventure. Ben Hale has created a world that is easy to envision, yet is complex and fascinating. Good luck putting this book down, I couldn't and have a sink full of dirty dishes to prove it.

As a avid reader of both SF and Fantasy, I look for books that engage me in more than one level. When I read I want to experience action, tension, emotion, thinking. I look for connections to situations in real life or in other books that I have read. The Flesh of War (The Warsworn Trilogy Book 1) by Ben Hale is a superior book in my opinion. It is one of the few books that I have read that brought me to tears in several spots. In order to do this the author had me care about the characters in the story so much that I no longer was just reading but deeply involved in what was transpiring. I am currently reading the second book and can say that so far it is equally enjoyable to read. If you look for the same type of book that I do, then I am sure you will find the book a treasure to read.

The beginning of another series that I really enjoyed. It's not what I would call epic thoughtful... but fun. If you are looking for a quick, fun read... especially for a trip... this is a goodie. His work reminds me of David Gemmel's.

I am so glad Mr. Hale decided to write this series. I thought Tryton was an interesting character in the first series and I was very happy to read his story. I've read the whole trilogy before I wrote this review.

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