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All That Glitters (Stavin DragonBlessed Book 1)



Synopsis

This is the story of Stavin Kel'Aniston, a boy trained as a warrior, he serves his people as a caravan guard to obtain gold for their community. Stavin earned dragon-scale armor from the dragon on the mountain for his bravery, but the gift of the dragon comes at a price. Thieves, brigands, and ne'er-do-wells of every kind are attracted to Stavin. As the summer passes, Stavin fights for his life and the honor of his name. Book One in the Stavin Kel'Aniston DragonBlessed series. Author's preferred edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A cut above debutante novels, it still manages to capture something of an initial writer finding his way around a book, with some fairly quick plot changes that didn't get explained adequately. I was not certain I would finish the book at first, because of the way the plot seemed to be about a unbeatable hero, but luckily this did not turn out that way. Plus the culture was different enough to fascinate. In the end I became intrigued enough to finish the book and have just bought the sequel.

The characters were interesting, but didn't develop significantly during the course of the story. The plot was a very linear series of incidents, mostly of attacks on the main character and his fellow mercenaries. Everything came easily to the main character. With all the talk of "honor," the mercenaries were competing for kills, and their rank was determined by body count. Certainly all of the dead needed to be killed, but it is unseemly how joyfully the mercenaries counted their kills. The whole story was one long slash-fest. I finished the book, but waited in vain for something truly interesting to happen.

I enjoyed the first book, there were pros and cons to this book, as well as the entire 5 book series. The protagonist, Stavin, is our Main Character (MC), a bullied small child growing up in a not-so-nice village / city of warriors. An informal test of bravery for the village is stealing gold that supposedly belongs to a dragon living in a cave close to the village - thus, our hero starts down a path of one adventure then another etc. etc... If this is your style of novel, you will love this series. If you want world building, backfill for a magic system, descriptive weapon styles, forms, detailed story that fills pages to get you to the appropriate suspended disbelief, this isn't going to be as enjoyable for you.1.) Not necessarily good or bad -- Pretty immersive with a good reading flow, but as stated, the world building was brief, it was pretty much right to the action - i.e. this isn't Tolkien or Robert Jordan here. Think Salvatore's Drow Elf series - this is that style, albeit even more pared down.2.) Not a lot of other characters, in the sense that the story doesn't switch from one person's viewpoint to another - we're there for Stavins experience. So, don't expect a lot of background for other characters, switching back and forth each chapter, etc.3.) A pet peeve of mine is giving a MC too much power - its debatable if that's the case here, but not too bad... and there are consequences for the MC as the book progresses.4.) I usually want to see into the MCs mind, what motivates them, what changes them, etc. - not excessive here. There wasn't a lot of angst, teeth nashing, etc. - this helps me with suspension of disbelief, makes things feel real, so it would have helped out - as it is there wasn't a lot of MC depth in this 1st book of the series. The MC goes from being dead set on one girl for his wife (hes 14 or 15!), then because of his families input, proposes to another girl inside of a couple of days! Not the best usage or explanation here.5.) For the grammar nazi's - you will find the occasional misspelling, incorrect word usage, etc. - not horrible, but issues can be found. A better editor would maybe have helped, but I don't hold this against new authors. I could go on, but its not necessary I think - I don't want to keep harping on bad points, when in general I liked the book. The main reason I am only awarding 4 stars is because there are authors that write 5 star

books that are so much better e.g. WOT series from Jordan, Patrick Rothfuss's Kingkiller Chronicle series (the best series next to WOT in the past decade) - that's the bar, this doesn't rate that high - but its very very good in my opinion. Enjoy.

fun mindless romp of young badass killer who doesn't know how good he is (at killing and having high moral standards although the two should seem conflicted). Staving is the only one brave or stupid enough to stand against a dragons wave of fear magic and after impressing the dragon he is given a gift, a weapon and armor made from the dragons gold colored scales and dragon magic. In his first trip away from his sheltered home Stavin finds the shining armor attracts attention and Stavin finds himself fighting to protect himself against those who believe they can steal his armor of gold.

You know that moment when you pick up a book, and you can't just put it down. This is it. The story follows Stavin, a boy who needed to prove to himself that he is more than capable . . . only to discover how capable he is. The pacing is good, action well balanced and yet a little nostalgic for good, honour and manners to win at every turn.

This starts out as a story of a snot nose teenager who faces a dragon to impress a girl and becomes dragon blessed with golden armor. He thinks all his problems are solved, but instead he gets into more and more trouble because everyone wants what he has and he believes he is cursed. His people gives rank by combat kills, and soon he gets an impressive count but won't get his rank until he has five years under his belt. This is a very binge worthy read that is all but impossible to put down.

I honestly almost put this book down after only a few pages. I just didn't like the main character. It wasn't till I read more background information that I began to understand the main character better. The story is very decent with only a few mistakes. I can gladly recommend this book for a fun read once you get into it. I still maintain that the beginning is slightly awkward and off putting, but power through for a good tale.

I thought this was for a younger age group but with the fighting and cutting maybe not. Granted didn't go into gore detail of spurting blood but did not shy away! Or away from the days of boredom between the time of action. I read this quickly, I was so pleased at how well written and engaging I

found this book. Definitely reading the next book and if similar quality well be reading the 3rd book as well.

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