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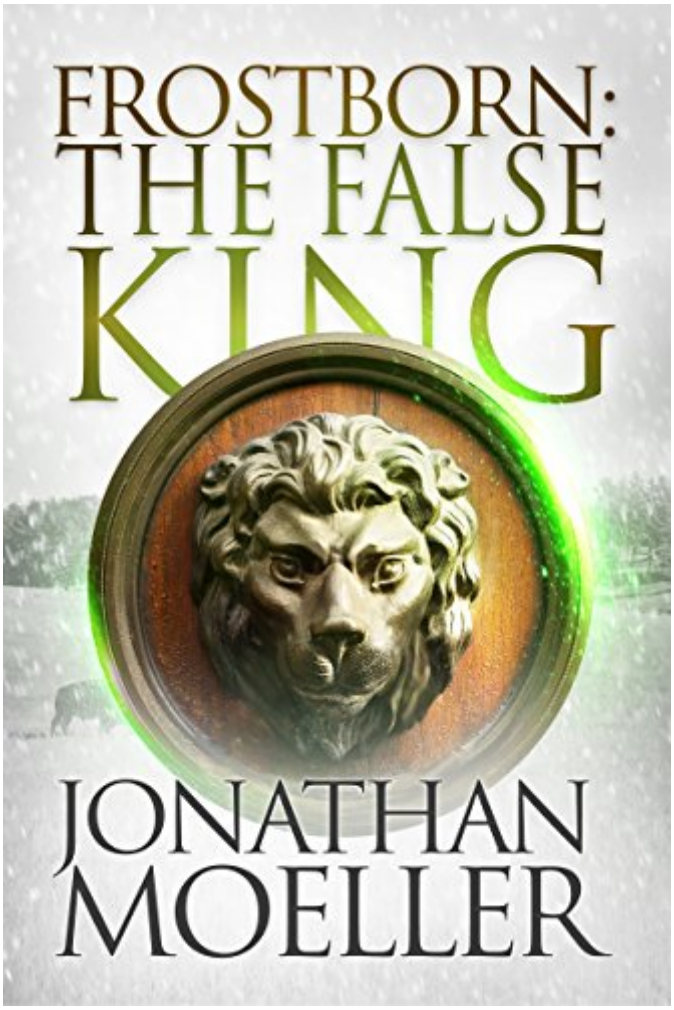
Frostborn: The False King (Frostborn #11)



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Synopsis

Ridmark Arban is the Gray Knight, leading the war against the malevolent Frostborn.After a year of battle, the war has ground to a bloody stalemate. Unless Ridmark can find new allies, the Frostborn will win through slow attrition. But the shadow of the Frostborn has fallen over all lands, and Ridmark might not live long enough to find new allies... ABOUT THE AUTHORStanding over six feet tall, USA Today bestselling author Jonathan Moeller has the piercing blue eyes of a Conan of Cimmeria, the bronze-colored hair of a Visigothic warrior-king, and the stern visage of a captain of men, none of which are useful in his career as a computer repairman, alas.He has written the DEMONSOULED series of sword-and-sorcery novels, and continues to write THE GHOSTS sequence about assassin and spy Caina Amalas, the COMPUTER BEGINNER'S GUIDE series of computer books, and numerous other works.

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Customer Reviews

This is the eleventh book of a fifteen book series. If you're like me, you enjoy a long series more

than a stand-alone novel or trilogy - IF it’s well-written and original. This one is quite different; it’s not often readers have an opportunity to discover interesting new worlds and entirely unique races, and there are many creative, unheard-of races in this series. I’d highly recommend the Frostborn series to fans of the various Forgotten Realms sagas or any other fantasy series.Problems:1 - Lack of editing. We’ve all been there. You’re losing yourself in a great story, forgetting about reality for a little while, then BAM! There’s a typo, extra word, or missing word to ruin the flow, and as you do an involuntary double take the real world comes crashing back. I’ve definitely seen much worse, but the number of errors throughout this series is still a shame. If the author would just read over it once, or send it to a beta reader before publishing, his readers would have a much more enjoyable experience.2 - Repetition. Summarizing each main character’s back story in every novel seems unnecessary; people aren’t going to start from book ten and go backwards. Also, having characters explain a situation, then restate it multiple times is annoying.3 - As others have pointed out, the hero Ridmark Arban is overused. There’s a whole group of colorful main characters here, but no matter how chaotic the fighting may become, it’s usually Ridmark who strikes down a major enemy or accomplishes something significant.PRAISE:1 - Originality! I’m 35 years old and have been an avid reader all my life, but I’ve never heard of at least half the races he introduces in this series. Bravo, Moeller! Even the races we’ve seen before are so different in this story, they easily hold the reader’s attention.2 - Character development. As the Frostborn series progresses, so do many characters’ personalities. Moeller allows readers access to their inner thoughts, feelings, and struggles so we can watch them grow. Though the repetition can be frustrating at times, I still appreciate those details and glimpses.3 - Length of series. Some reviewers have said the series is dragging on too much. Personally, I enjoy the stalling and side adventures. When I find a good series, I always hate reaching the end. Moeller keeps his characters busy with unique, entertaining dilemmas and journeys. I applaud his expertise in stretching things out while keeping his readers interested.

As has been the case with this whole series the events of this book were predictable. The Author telegraphs his twist to where there is no twist at all. You figure out in book 4 whats going to happen in book 10. Secret hidden spy, you know who it is as soon as you are told there is one. like i said you know most character and plot twist that will occur, even the ending of the series very early on. The Author also feels the needs to constantly remind you of well known character back rounds, Not just every book, but just about every chapter. It’s an ok light read. Not Tolkien by any means. The lame attempt to introduce Christianity into a science fantasy book that takes place on another world by using fictional characters from this Earth is a real stretch.

I love Jonathan Moeller's writing. This is the third series of his that I've read - I normally don't read a series that isn't finished (I am incredibly impatient when it comes to waiting for the next book) but he is very good about putting out a new book in his series (multiple). The action is fast-paced, the characters are well written and constant (they don't do things against their established character patterns). They learn, they grow, they change - they're interesting. The Frostborn series is set in another world founded by the Pendragon's so it (sort of) builds on the Arthurian legends. Ridmark is a complex hero who has been branded a coward. The first book in the series THE GRAY KNIGHT gives most of his backstory and there are several short stories giving the backstory on most of his band of "followers". One of the things I love most about Jonathan's books is the fact that his female protagonists (and antagonists, for that matter) aren't one-dimensional or weak. He writes strong, capable women who often lead the men in the books.

This is book 11. There are going to be 14 or 15 books total. Wish I had known this when I first read the trilogy that was available as a inducement purchase at $0.99 for 3. At this point, for how cheap the books have been, I have hung in there and have gotten through book 12. Story starts out interestingly enough, but by this book (11), it was clear the author started to phone it in at some points. So help me if I have to hear how the main character was banished in the first place, why he is better with his staff (giggle, giggle) than most knights are with a sword, how he got his new staff and it's magical prowess (more giggling). Seriously, by book 11 all the readers are aware of the prowess of his staff and don't need all the page filling backstory ad nauseam. Author could get rid of some of the repetitive fight moves that seem to riddle the series. As for the setting of the series, a few different creature types are available outside of the standard elves, goblins, orcs of Middle Earth and they are descriptively written and well developed. Overall, I'm through book 11 at this point and it's entertaining enough to hang in there to see how the good guys will win. And on the plus side, the author churns them out quickly, so there is not a great deal of lag time between installments. I believe book 12 is available now. You could wait until 2017 and read them all through at once as the author's projected timeline for completion is the end of 2017.**Reviewers note: sorry if this review is strikingly similar to the book 6-10 review, but the same adoration of his staff continued in this one.

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